



National Consultation on

**“Global Compact on Migration and Global Compact on Refugees”
08 March 2018**

PRESS RELEASE

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh Government and Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) jointly organised a National Consultation on **Global Compact on Migration and Global Compact on Refugees** on 08 March 2018 at BISS auditorium. **Mr. Gervais Appave**, Special Policy Adviser to the Director-General, International Organization for Migration (IOM), and **Mr. Andrew Mbogori**, Representative of UNHCR, delivered the addresses. **Professor Dr. Imtiaz Ahmed**, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka was present as a discussant. **Major General A K M Abdur Rahman**, ndc, psc, Director General, BISS, delivered the address of welcome. **Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque**, Foreign Secretary, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, chaired and summed up the session.

Mr. Gervais Appave argued the drivers of global migration are various and include, among other things security challenges and regional instability; deteriorating economic and social environment; poverty and unemployment and climate change, which threaten livelihoods. He emphasised that cooperation among states and proper border management can help a great extent to resolve various problems emanating from international migration and border crossing. He hoped the ongoing intergovernmental negotiation will be successful in the adoption of a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and a Global Compact On Refugees by 2018.

In his speech **Mr. Andrew Mbogori** noted that the UNHCR is working to ensure that everyone has the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another state. He mentioned different activities of UNHCR, including protection, shelter, advocacy, health, safeguarding individuals and global needs assessment.

Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque, mentioned initiatives of Bangladesh in proposing a Global Compact for migrants in the UN. Later, the diplomatic efforts of Bangladesh resulted in adoption of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. As forcibly displaced people from Myanmar is a major challenge for Bangladesh, he hoped that the international community will cooperate to resolve the problem.

Representatives from different organisations, ambassadors, officials from different ministries of Bangladesh, media, academia, and researchers participated in the open discussion and expressed their valuable opinions, observations and questions on the topic.