



13<sup>th</sup> GFMD Summit Side Event

## *Harnessing Diaspora Contributions to COVID-19 Recovery Efforts in Countries of Origin*



### **Agenda**

**19 January 2021**

**16:00 – 18:00 CET**

#### **Objective of the session**

The many ways how diasporas contribute to recovery efforts from COVID-19 in their countries and communities of origin remains largely overlooked. However, experiences show that harnessing diaspora contributions can serve to amplify the impact of national and local COVID-19 responses and recovery efforts. With concrete examples by national and local public authorities, as well as representatives from diaspora organizations, this event will be the opportunity to discuss good practices and practical approaches replicable in other contexts.

#### **Methodology**

The session will consist of two main discussions with short interventions from the panellists and interaction with the audience to discuss how different diaspora organizations around the world, in close collaboration with national and local authorities, have contributed to COVID-19 responses in their countries of origin, and how we can harness such contribution.

#### **Panellists**

- **Ms. Fawziya Abikar Nur**, Minister of Health & Social Care, Federal Republic of Somalia
- **Ms. Valentina Casian**, Mayor, Straseni, Republic of Moldova
- **Mr. Peter Kwok**, President of the Global Diaspora Association
- **Ms. Kathleen Newland**, Senior Fellow and Co-founder, Migration Policy Institute (TBC)
- **Mr. Luca Renda**, Head, Recovery Solutions and Human Mobility Team, UNDP
- **Ms. Cécile Riallant**, Head, Migration and Sustainable Development Unit, IOM

#### **Schedule**

16:00 – 16:10	Welcoming remarks
16:10 – 17:00	Part 1: How diaspora organizations have contributed to the COVID-19 response in their countries of origin
17:00 – 17:50	Part 2: Lessons learnt: How to harness diaspora contributions?
17:50 – 18:00	Concluding remarks