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INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE GLOBAL GOVERNANCE OF MIGRATION

This panel was convened at 9:00 a.m., Friday, April 6, 2018, by its moderator, Chantal Thomas of Cornell University Law School, who introduced the panelists: Alex Aleinikoff of the Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility, The New School; Janie Chuang of American University Washington College of Law; Jean-Christophe Dumont of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; Michelle Leighton of the International Labour Organization; and Alice Thomas of Refugees International.

Introductory Remarks by Chantal Thomas*

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Without further ado, our really fabulous group of speakers. We will begin with Professor Alex Aleinikoff. He is the university professor and director of the Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility at The New School in New York City, formerly the United Nations (UN) deputy high commissioner for Refugees, and before that dean of the Georgetown Law School here in Washington. After that we will be hearing from Alice Thomas, who is the climate displacement program manager for Refugees International. And then Michelle Leighton, who is the chief of the Labor Migration Branch of the International Labor Organization.

Then we will hear from Janie Chuang, who is professor of law at American University here in Washington. She is an expert on human trafficking and has served as an advisor to the UN, the International Labor Organization, and other international bodies. And last, but certainly not least, Jean-Christophe Dumont, who is the head of the International Migration Division at the Directorate for Employment, Labor, and Social Affairs of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Truly an illustrious and expert body. We are very much looking forward to your remarks, and I will ask Alex to begin. Thank you.

Remarks by Alex Aleinikoff†

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Thanks, Chantal, and thanks for putting together this panel. I look forward to hearing the presentations of the other panelists.

If we think about global migration law, refugee law is the place to start, since this seems to be the area in which the institutions, the norms, the system are the clearest example of a global migration law. Unlike most other migrants, refugees have their own convention and their own agency—the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) dating from 1950—and a set of regional

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