

Briefing to Member States 19 October 2020
Remarks by the Co-leads of Core Working Group 2.1

Good morning to all Distinguished Delegates and Colleagues.

I am pleased to provide this update on behalf of IOM and UNDP, as co-chairs of the Core Working Group 2.1., aimed at supporting a stronger UN system for GCM implementation. The Working Group has met 9 times and we have worked together to produce guidance materials for UNCTs and adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic:

Firstly, the draft guidance material for UNCTs on how to integrate migration into Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and Cooperation Frameworks (CFs) has been produced. Initially conceived as a 2-day in person training, we have now converted the existing draft training content into an online/remote training.

Secondly, we have developed a specific COVID-19 Guidance Note for UNCTs which provides operational guidance to support UNCTs in responding to UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19, offered by the United Nations Development System (UNDS), which builds on the Secretary-General's report on the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. The guidance note articulates key migration considerations across the five pillars of the UN Framework to highlight how the GCM, including its guiding principles, commitments, objectives and actions, can inform policy and programmatic responses to COVID-19.

The WG co-leads, together with the Network Secretariat, are now working with United Nations Development Coordination Office (UNDCO) to outline and support an effective communication to support a piloting process with select Champion countries (TBC). Discussions also include considerations for how the finalized guidance material can be systematically incorporated into UNDCO processes and communication in the future (beyond the piloting stage).

In addition, the WG also supported the drafting of the note on champion countries.

I would like to acknowledge the 8 CSO and non-UN partners, alongside OHCHR, ILO and UNHCR. They are important members of CWG 2.1 who consistently participated in WG meetings and actively contributed substantively to WG discussion and guidance materials. We have also benefitted from UNICEF and UN Women's constructive inputs.

As for the next steps, we look forward to engage with Member States as part of the Network's Champion country initiative. In response to COVID-19 working modalities and considerations, the working group continues to explore innovative ways to engage with Member States and UNCTs, particularly through leveraging technology, as we roll out the guidance and training with UN DCO.