



United Nations  
Network on Migration

*Working Better Together*

## **Summary Report of Outcomes and Next Steps Consultation of the UN Network on Migration with Civil Society and other Stakeholders**

**International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG), Room 4**

**Rue de Varembe 17, 1211 Genève**

**4 April 2019**

**9:00-17:30**

### **OVERVIEW**

The Consultation was attended by 96 participants representing civil society organizations and other stakeholders, including trade unions, the private sector and business, national human rights institutions, the IFRC and ICRC, and the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, as well as members of the Executive Committee of the UN Network on Migration (list of participants enclosed). The programme of work was developed in coordination with partners both within and beyond the Network and will be the first of many such exchanges to follow.

This summary delineates select key recommendations in response to the framing questions for the Consultation and outlines proposals for the next steps and the way forward. An audio recording of the full Consultation is available at: [https://iomint-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/ffischer\\_iom\\_int/Emx-XuO-RSxJuN5VQ8mR9y4BIDSblmqLXYCtfevrpohkzA?e=lc9RJS](https://iomint-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/ffischer_iom_int/Emx-XuO-RSxJuN5VQ8mR9y4BIDSblmqLXYCtfevrpohkzA?e=lc9RJS)

### **WORKING SESSION 1: ENSURING, EFFECTIVE ON-GOING ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN THE NETWORK AND CIVIL SOCIETY**

- The meeting was one of many opportunities for engagement between the Network, civil society and other stakeholders. The Network will seek to develop an on-going dialogue with civil society and other stakeholders beyond the respective UN headquarters locations – at the regional, national and local levels, as appropriate – and include stakeholder constituencies of all UN partners beyond CSOs and stakeholders working specifically on migration. The Network will share advance notice of future planned events/ initiatives and welcomes the same from civil society and other stakeholders.
- The Network will consider the suggested mechanisms and strategies to ensure effective on-going engagement with civil society and other stakeholders as envisaged in the Network's terms of reference (ToRs) to facilitate the meaningful, timely, inclusive and transparent engagement of CSOs and other stakeholders, in the design and implementation of the Network's work plan.
- The Network will reflect the proposals put forward for the Liaison Officer in the respective TORs as well as in the recruitment process – which will be open, transparent, with due regard to gender and geographic balance considerations. CSOs and other stakeholders are invited to widely disseminate the vacancy notice beyond the standard UN platforms and send any proposals of platforms to the Network secretariat at [unmignet@iom.int](mailto:unmignet@iom.int).
- There is an open invitation to CSOs and other stakeholders to continue to contribute proposals for the Network's consideration – whether situation-specific or thematic – as well as to share information about actions undertaken by CSOs and other stakeholders within their respective networks on the implementation of the GCM, bearing in mind the heterogenous nature of the work of CSOs and other specific stakeholders.

- The Network has a role to play in supporting the work of CSOs and other stakeholders on the ground in supporting GCM implementation, including by considering advocating on their behalf in contexts where space for civil society and other stakeholders is constrained. This will be done within the parameters of the Network's TORs.

### **WORKING SESSION 2: THE WORK PLAN AND PRIORITIES OF THE NETWORK<sup>1</sup>**

- The Network will take into account the proposals flowing from the Consultation and those submitted to the Network's secretariat and members of the Executive Committee in further developing the workplan. Civil society and other stakeholders made specific suggestions to include stronger links in the work plan to gender, mixed migration, non-discrimination and to add language that better reflects a migrant-centered and human rights based approach in implementing the GCM.
- Additional proposals for consideration by the Network include: efforts to ensure complementarity between the GCM-related work and that is being undertaken in the context of the Global Compact on Refugees; alignment with 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and SDG implementation plans; address racism and xenophobia; a balanced approach to the security aspects of migration; access to justice; the direct relationship between labour mobility and economic growth, prosperity and human rights as well as the value of human mobility for its own sake; regularization and regular migration pathways; sustainable integration and reintegration; health and migration; decent work and labour rights; migrant children and youth; climate change; saving the lives of migrants; responsible engagement with private sector, such as on digital technologies; and data protection.
- The work plan will be iterative – evolving over time and detailing both the immediate priorities for action as well as the long-term activities and objectives. The Network remains open to suggestions, ideas and dialogue on the work plan, canvassing initiatives already underway, and those that could be taken on in the short-medium/ long term, as well as with respect to harnessing existing or potential synergies. This will be a key component of the annual meetings of the Network with a range of stakeholders as well as the dedicated discussions and consultations to be had with specific actors in varying contexts. More updates will be provided on this as these plans develop.

### **WORKING SESSION 3: THE START-UP FUND OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING MECHANISM**

- The Fund will be established through memorandums of understanding (MoUs) to be signed by the relevant UN agencies and MPTFO. The envisaged next steps are outlined below and include:
- Formal outreach by Network Coordinator to donor capitals based on earlier consultations, with an initial target for the first year of the Fund a goal of US \$25 million. This would allow for the development of at least one meaningful project under each of the five thematic areas outlined the terms of reference.
- Key actions in the short-medium term include efforts to establish the Steering Committee of the Fund; develop a manual of standard operating procedures to set out more details on the Fund.
- Civil society and other stakeholders will contribute to and participate in the Fund's Steering Committee, within the parameters set out in the Fund's TORs.

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<sup>1</sup> The draft work plan of the Network was shared with participants ahead of the meeting.

All colleagues were invited to engage clearly and consistently with stakeholders, partners and counterparts at the national level on the Fund and to provide further contributions in writing.

#### **WORKING SESSION 4: FOCUSED PLENARY DISCUSSIONS ON KEY WORK STREAMS**

##### **I. The ‘voice’ of the Network: when, how, it might speak on behalf of the UN system – views as well as proposals on when the ‘voice’ of the Network should be raised:**

- There were proposals to develop the voice of the Network as an important priority, and for the Network to consider demonstrating a whole-of-system ‘one-UN’ approach, drawing on lessons learnt from the past successful experiences and be proactive in developing strong and principled public statements on the human rights of migrants and the relevance of the GCM to States, particularly in contexts where rights are not being respected or where CSOs have limited civic space to operate.
- A communication strategy will be developed as part of Network’s work plan that draws on the proposals made and adopts a principled, human rights-based and pragmatic approach on when and how the voice of the Network is raised.

##### **II. The IMRF: models to consider**

IMRF co-facilitators (Spain and Bangladesh) plan to convene a meeting of mayors and local authorities in Geneva – more details to follow, ahead of the dissemination of the zero draft, which is expected in May 2019.

- The Network, together with civil society and other stakeholders, will work to ensure that we give effect to the GCM’s paragraph 53 which calls for multi-stakeholder involvement in the IMRF at all levels, including those entities or partners that may not have ECOSOC accreditation.
- Important to consider lessons from existing international reporting and review processes and to explore the extent of the Network’s support to facilitate opportunities, including at regional level, for CSOs and other stakeholders’ involvement.
- Provide all written comments on the IMRF to [unmigny@iom.int](mailto:unmigny@iom.int) on an ongoing basis.

##### **III. Articulating a strategy by which to deliver on the connection hub and knowledge platform, called for in the GCM**

- The Network will review the proposals made and will consider creating a dedicated work stream on this issue, involving Network members (both within and beyond the Executive Committee), civil society and other stakeholders. There is scope for strengthened engagement with civil society and other stakeholders in standing up the knowledge platform and connection hub.

##### **IV. Contributions to the implementation, follow up and review of the GCM at global, regional and national levels**

- There will be ongoing exchanges on this and other discussion points, including all Network members, civil society and other stakeholders – especially at the national and local levels, where the bulk of the implementation will take place.