

**Asia-Pacific Regional Review of Implementation
of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**
10 to 12 March 2021, Bangkok and videoconferencing

Agenda item 3. Thematic discussions on progress and challenges with regard to implementing the Global Compact at all levels, with due respect to the cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles of the Global Compact

- (c) **Interactive Roundtable: Supporting migrants' protection, integration, and contribution to development (addressing objectives 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 22)**
14:00–15:30 hrs., 11 March 2021 (*Bangkok time*)

CONCEPT NOTE

Roundtable 3

1. Background

Migrants make essential contribution to economies and development. Remittances, sent to families and communities in countries of origin provide vital support, reducing poverty and enabling investment in health and education across millions of households across the region. In countries of destination, migrants contribute to the development through their work, often doing essential works in jobs of existential value to everyone, from families and communities to businesses and countries, at all skills levels, permanent and structurally seasonal. Respecting, protecting and fulfilling the human rights of migrants and integrating migrants into host communities not only benefit migrants but also host communities and thus promote sustainable development in the long run.

This roundtable addresses the following objectives of the Global Compact for Migration:

14. Enhance consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle
15. Provide access to basic services for migrants
16. Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion
19. Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries
20. Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants
22. Establish mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits

Governments and other stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific have worked on many of these objectives for some time. The GCM represents a landmark agreement made by Member States to cooperate at the national, regional and global levels to intensify efforts in pursuit of safe, orderly and regular migration. The Global Compact is anchored in the [Sustainable Development Agenda](#) and leverages the potential of migration to contribute to the attainment of sustainable development goals (SDGs) as a whole and catalyses the achievement of the migration-related targets of the SDGs.

2. Objectives

The purpose of the roundtable is to elicit stakeholder experiences and views around the objectives of the GCM review, namely:

- To take stock of the overall progress of implementation of objectives to date
- To identify key challenges, opportunities, gaps and emerging issues
- To identify established and emerging good practices and lessons learnt
- To formulate recommendations on way forward and key priorities

3. Organizing team

The roundtable is organized by IOM and UN Women

4. Format

Introduction (5 *minutes*), panel discussion (30 *minutes*) to generate food for thought, followed by plenary discussion (50 *minutes*), and summing up (5 *minutes*). Panel discussion and plenary discussion will be divided into two rounds.

Moderator

Mr. Mohammad Naciri, Regional Director, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Panellists

- Ms. Loretta Brunio, Chairperson, Pinoy WISE, Hong Kong, China
- H.E. Mr. Tumur Amarsanaa, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Mongolia to the Kingdom of Thailand
- Mr. Carlos Bernardo O. Abad Santos, Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the Government of the Philippines
- Ms. Noraini Roslan, Mayor of Subang Jaya, Malaysia
- Mr. Robin Gravesteyn, Lead of Data and Research on Remittance and Migration in Asia region, United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)
- Ms. Joanna Yu, Programme Assistant, Migrant Forum Asia

5. Guiding questions

- What are the key challenges that migrants face in accessing basic services and/or social protection? How are they different for migrant women and girls?
- What should be done to support migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion?
- What in your view are the conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully participate in sustainable development in countries of origin and countries of destination?
- How can remittances become faster, safer and cheaper and inclusive of building safety nets to foster gender-responsive financial and digital inclusion of migrants?
- How can consular protection, assistance and cooperation enhance migration outcomes, including for labour migrants and migrants in crisis?
- What are the good practices and steps in establishing mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits?
- Are there any best practices/ innovative solutions you can point to in supporting the integration and inclusion of migrants and their participation in development? These practices can be either small or large scale.
- Do you have any concrete recommendations for whole-of-government and whole-of-society involvement in developing solutions?

6. Background documents

[Asia Pacific Migration Report](#) (Chapter 4)

[Migration Network Hub](#)

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