![United Nations Network on Migration — Working Better Together](logo)

Summary of Network Briefing to Member States *4 March 2020*

The Coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration (Network), IOM Director General António Vitorino, briefed Member States on 4 March 2020, alongside the UN High Commissioner of the Office for Human Rights (OHCHR), Ms. Bachelet; the Deputy Director-General of International Labour Organization (ILO), Mr. Oumarou; and the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection at UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), Ms. Triggs.

The briefing was the attended by 139 participants representing Member States, UN Network representatives, civil society and other stakeholders. In his briefing, the Coordinator:

- updated on the status of the Network's workplan, more particularly with a focus on pilot or "champion" countries, key activities of the Network and the [Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund](#) (Migration MPTF);
- outlined a proposed framework to assist Member States to undertake regional reviews of the [Global Compact for safe, orderly and regular migration](#) (GCM) as set out by the UN General Assembly ([A/RES/73/326](#)); and
- flagged the process for the forthcoming preparation of the Secretary-General's report, pursuant to the GCM.

> ➢ The statement delivered by the Network Coordinator is available **[here](#)**.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights highlighted the central importance of migration. She underscored the commitment of the Network to help States develop comprehensive roadmaps to implement the Global Compact that reflect whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches. The Deputy Director-General for ILO reminded participants of the centrality of migration to the world of work, pointing to the over 164 million international migrant workers across the globe. He went on to flag the emergence of national and regional networks geared at helping deliver coordinated UN support to Member States in the implementation of the Global Compact. The UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Protection pointed to the complementarity between the GCM and the Global Compact for refugees, the need for international support for both and the importance of the UN system speaking with one voice with respect to migrants and refugees.

Representatives of the Network's core Working Groups on the Global Knowledge Platform and Connection Hub; and support at the national and regional level towards implementation of the Global Compact, also appraised participants of the status of their work. The relevant presentations are available **[here](#)**.

Several delegates expressed appreciation for the organization of the briefing, progress updates and requested more of the same in the future. The proposed framework on the regional reviews was noted by several interventions as a useful basis from which to proceed. Particular emphasis was made on the importance of updates related to the activities of the Working Groups of the Network, as well as projects to be implemented at the field level, including via the Network's website. In the discussions that ensued, the following additional issues were raised:

- The importance of periodic updates on the status of the regional review process, engagement with the UN Regional Economic Commissions (RECs)and guidance on national level implementation of the GCM. Emphasis was placed on the importance of including all stakeholders without losing the state-led nature of the GCM. Several participants flagged the value-addition of making instrumental use of RECs and ensuring the diversity of other regional players to identify gaps and solutions.

- The importance of the UN speaking with one voice as a key goal for the Network.

- The importance of a cross-fertilization and exchange of experiences, between and across nations and regions. Related to this, some concerns were raised regarding the inconsistencies in the UN system at the regional levels and the importance of a flexible approach when planning for the regional reviews.

- Several countries expressed their commitment to support the Network, IOM's Coordinator and secretariat roles of the Network and via contributions towards the Migration MPTF.

- Concerns regarding the situation in the Mediterranean and the need to invoke the Global Compact to resolve them.

The Coordinator, representatives of the Executive Committee and core Working Groups addressed the issues raised in the interactive exchange. Key outcomes flowing from the briefing include the following:

- The acceptance of El Salvador and Portugal to be champion countries.

- Ongoing efforts towards the creation of Network coordination structures at the regional and country levels and enhanced UN system coordination on migration.

- The provision of more information, including a checklist and templates on regional reviews; an initial list of champion countries on the Network's website. Several updates have been made to the website and the secretariat welcomes feedback related to this.

- The Migration MPTF Steering Committee will review the first batch of concept notes submitted by UN Country Teams with a view to deciding on the allocation of funds for the initial funding cycle.

- The Migration MPTF Steering Committee will also develop a pipeline of joint programme concept notes to be used as a fundraising tool and from which to make future allocation decisions. Concept notes will be reviewed on a rolling basis and can be added to the pipeline of projects at subsequent Steering Committee meetings.

- The Network will begin to hold informal consultations with Member States, migrants and relevant stakeholders, as well as UN country teams and regional coordination mechanisms this spring as the drafting process for the UN Secretary-General's report commences. The report will be launched in December 2020 and will also mark the second anniversary of the adoption of the Global Compact.

- Further briefings to Member States in both Geneva and New York will be organized throughout the year.

- Recognition of the importance of secondments to the work of the Network and, in this regard, acknowledgement of the UNHCR secondment and impending UNICEF secondment to the secretariat.

- Continuation of the Network's core work connected to support for the national level implementation of GCM and stronger UN system coordination and collaboration at all levels in service of this process.