

## Second Quarterly Meeting with Stakeholders and Partners Summary Report

Wednesday, 26 May 2021  
15:00-17:00 (Geneva)  
*KUDO online platform*

### OVERVIEW

The second quarterly meeting with stakeholders and partners hosted by the UN Network on Migration in May 2021 was attended by 193 participants representing civil society organizations and stakeholders - including migrant and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations, academia, trade unions and the private sector, local authorities and communities, National Human Rights Institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement - as well as members of the Executive Committee of the UN Network on Migration.

This summary report outlines entry points for stakeholder engagement in the new and ongoing thematic priorities of the Network work plan for 2021-2022 as well as proposals for next steps and the way forward towards the [International Migration Review Forum \(IMRF\)](#). It also highlights key reflections shared by participants on the regional review process, in response to the guiding questions for this consultation.

For ease of reference, the agenda for this meeting is available [online](#).

### I. NETWORK WORKPLAN UPDATES

- The meeting was an opportunity to share and discuss the new [UN Network on Migration workplan for 2021 – 2022](#), endorsed by the Principals of the Network’s Executive Committee on 5 May 2021 and to solicit interest from stakeholders in engaging in these activities.
- The Coordinator of the UN Network on Migration and Director General of IOM, António Vitorino, joined by other members of the Network, provided an update on the Network’s priorities and planning for 2021-2022. See the Coordinator’s statement [here](#).
- This workplan is the result of broad consultations within the Network and with stakeholders, launched at the last [Network Annual Meeting](#) and pursued during the first quarterly meeting with stakeholders and partners of this year. It outlines a number of new and ongoing priorities and activities to achieve in the next 12 months, before the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) to be held in 2022. This new workplan, designed as a live document, includes in particular the following new priorities discussed during this second quarterly consultation with stakeholders:
  - **Thematic Priority 1: Ensuring inclusion of migrants and the GCM in COVID-19 response and recovery efforts:** This workstream is focusing on ensuring inclusion of migrants and the GCM in COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, including access to vaccines. The new activities will be linked to the work carried out by the existing Thematic Working Group 6 on Access to services (see in particular the [policy brief](#) on access to services in the context of COVID-19 and the [statement](#) on the inclusion of migrants in vaccine rollouts).
  - **Thematic Priority 4 - Support to the implementation of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and GCM Commitments on climate change**

**and migration:** IOM and UNFCCC are co-leading this workstream with the engagement of a wide range of actors (over 35 contributions from stakeholders have been received by the UN Network on Migration secretariat following the first consultation on this new thematic priority). Migration has been integrated in the climate convention work and in a number of global policy processes for the past 20 years (Task Force on Migration at COP21, Cancun Adaptation Framework, Nansen Initiative, Sustainable Development Goals, Sendai Disaster Risk Reduction Agenda, etc.). In this context, this new thematic priority aims to provide support to the implementation of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21) and GCM commitments on climate change and migration. The COP26, which will take place in November 2021, represents a key opportunity and turning point to address key highlights related to migration and ensure policy coherence between the implementation of the Paris Agreement and of the GCM.

- **Thematic Priority 7 - Enhancing the application of anti-discrimination dimensions, including discrimination based on gender into the work of the Network:** Discussions with the Network and stakeholder partners have highlighted the importance of employing an intersectional lens in the implementation of this workplan and of fostering integration of the GCM guiding principles such as on addressing gender responsiveness. Considering that gender impacts all stages of migration, four main areas of activities have been identified for this workstream: 1) hold an anti-discrimination event series to identify challenges, develop priorities and gather promising practices, 2) develop policy and knowledge products including existing ones, 3) support GCM Champion countries to build gender responsiveness into GCM actions and 4) promote capacity-building trainings in countries/regions. During the second quarterly meeting, stakeholders delineated two issues as pressing ones that must be addressed in the work of the Network and in the activities of this new workstream: trafficking of women and girls and gender-based violence.

## II. REGIONAL REVIEWS AND ROAD TO THE IMRF

### Overview

- The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the organization of the regional reviews, which were originally planned for 2020 and emphasized the crucial importance for subregional and regional platforms to be actively engaged in the review process.
- Four out of the five regional reviews of the GCM have been held online during the first quarter of 2021, besides the first regional review in Europe which took place in November 2020. The upcoming regional review in Africa will take place in August 2021.
- The first IMRF to be held in the first half of 2022 represents a key opportunity for civil society and stakeholders to actively engage and play an important role in GCM implementation. The Network will organize two consultations with stakeholders in the coming weeks, providing a platform to share inputs on the [Secretary-General's Report](#). This report is an important tool in shaping the discussions, envisaged roundtables and policy debate during the IMRF in 2022, as well as the Progress Declaration that will be adopted during the closing session of this Review Forum.
- [52 Country Networks](#) have been established, with 14 operating in one of the [23 Champion countries](#). Along with the 6 Regional Networks, these platforms aim to strengthen coordination amongst relevant actors and provide coherent support by the UN system to Member States, stakeholders and partners in their implementation, follow-up, and review of the GCM.
- In March 2021, the Network launched the [Migration Network Hub](#), the first knowledge platform and connection hub. Intended as a tool to share migration knowledge, expertise, good practices and initiatives related to different objectives of the GCM and substantive issues, this Hub will foster the

implementation of the GCM. As a collaborative platform, it is meant to be a dynamic tool which will serve to share information in a transparent manner and help stakeholders to prepare and provide consolidated inputs towards the IMRF.

## **Europe**

- **Overview:** the first regional review of the GCM took place in Europe and North America in November 2020. Over 100 organizations participated in the first Multi-stakeholder Consultation (9 November) prior to the Regional Review of the GCM in the UNECE region (12-13 November). The GCM Follow up and Review Timeline for Europe and North America is accessible [here](#).
- **Engagement and participation of civil society and all relevant stakeholders in the regional review:** the wide and meaningful participation of stakeholders in the regional review was facilitated by the organization of two meetings dedicated to stakeholders in view of the Multi-stakeholder Consultation and the Intergovernmental Regional Review Meeting. The COVID-19 pandemic affected the organization of this meeting but stakeholders noted that online platforms enhanced transparency and facilitated access to new voices. Interpretation into Russian (among other languages), facilitating inclusion of stakeholders from Central Asia, was well received.
- **Key thematic priorities:** the summary report from the Multi-stakeholder Consultation in the UNECE region prepared by the Rapporteur has been published [here](#). One of the key issues underlined during this quarterly meeting was the violence faced by migrants: collective or summary expulsions, forced returns, pushbacks without due process, criminalization of human rights defenders and individuals who provide humanitarian assistance to undocumented migrants.

In the framework of this regional review, [17 reports](#) have been submitted by stakeholders for the UNECE region. The identification of a Rapporteur amongst civil society and stakeholders, in charge of summarizing and sharing the outputs from the Multi-stakeholder Consultation at the Intergovernmental Regional Review Meeting has been mentioned as one of the best practices by participants. The video recording of the Multi-stakeholder Consultation in the UNECE region is available at the bottom of this [page](#).

- **Suggestions to further improve engagement of stakeholders:** CSOs and stakeholders emphasized the good level of commitment of governments in this review process, but pointed out the need for a stronger engagement of Member States in the future.

## **Asia-Pacific**

- **Overview:** The regional review of the GCM in Asia-Pacific took place on 10-12 March 2021 and was preceded by a Multi-stakeholder Consultation on 4 March.
- **Engagement and participation of civil society and all relevant stakeholders in the regional review:** A series of four virtual Multi-stakeholder Consultations has been organized between October 2020 and February 2021 in Asia-Pacific, as part of the preparatory process of and leading up to the regional review. In order to ensure a whole-of-society approach, the organizers specified that the following principles were followed: transparency and inclusivity (facilitated by online meetings), diversity (new voices, sectoral and gender balance), and meaningful participation.
- **Key thematic priorities:** Stakeholder inputs have been integrated into the reports of each of the four Multi-stakeholder consultations on this [page](#). A 'summary of outcomes of the four stakeholder consultations' is available [here](#).
- **Suggestions to further improve engagement of stakeholders:** A questionnaire has been sent to stakeholders by the organizers after the review. In their responses, CSOs and stakeholders highlighted the need to have better representation by engaging more groups from different regions, in particular

migrants and grassroots organizations and providing interpretation in other languages. They underlined the need to have more time to plan and engage their networks and underscored that the process of nominating speakers during the regional review could be more transparent. A suggestion has been made on the importance to reinforce the role of Country Networks to ensure a sizable representation of stakeholders, in particular migrants, and to support CSOs to promote the GCM and its implementation into their communities.

### ***Middle East and North Africa***

- **Overview:** The Multi-stakeholder Consultation took place on 23 February 2021, followed by the Intergovernmental Regional Review Meeting on 24-25 February.
- **Engagement and participation of civil society and all relevant stakeholders in the regional review:** Two multi-stakeholder dialogues were organized in October and November 2020 and additional stakeholder dialogues took place throughout the region in February, including one on women migrant workers.
- **Key thematic priorities:** Stakeholder reports are available [here](#).
- **Suggestions to further improve engagement of stakeholders:** The important role that Country and Regional Networks can play in assisting stakeholders in the implementation of GCM has been reiterated.

### ***Americas***

- **Overview:** The Regional Review of the GCM took place in Latin America and the Caribbean from 26 to 28 April 2021, preceded by a Multi-stakeholder Consultation (13-15 April).
- **Engagement and participation of civil society and all relevant stakeholders in the regional review:** In the preparation of the regional review, six thematic webinars were held from October 2020 to January 2021 with CSOs, stakeholders, representatives of governments and of UN agencies. Two side events were organized at the Regional Review in LAC: 1) “Regularization of migrants: a tool for increased integration and access to rights”, co-organized by Colombia and Costa Rica and 2) “Gender-responsive approaches to migration: the Global Compact for Migration as a guiding framework”, co-organized by El Salvador, Canada and stakeholders (WIMN and Gender+Migration Hub).
- **Key thematic priorities:** The main conclusions from the Multi-stakeholder Consultation in LAC can be found [here](#) and stakeholder reports can be found on [this page](#). During this second quarterly meeting, CSOs and stakeholders also emphasized the need to provide access to basic services to migrants and ensure their protection.
- **Suggestions to further improve engagement of stakeholders:** CSOs and stakeholders stressed some challenges faced in terms of access and participation in the regional review meetings. They called upon the organizers to meaningfully engage stakeholders in supporting the preparation and organization of the future reviews through consultations accessible to all relevant actors, including by soliciting their inputs to the agenda and to the list of speakers and moderators for the Multi-stakeholder Consultation. Ensure more interactive discussions, include diaspora representation and migrant voices and make sure that no part of the continent is left behind were three other main recommendations shared by participants. CSOs and stakeholders finally highlighted the need for a transparent and inclusive regional review process building on the existing Regional Networks on Migration.

### ***Africa***

- Information on the upcoming regional review in Africa can be found [here](#).