

United Nations (UN) Network on Migration in Kazakhstan Terms of Reference

Background

In his December 2017 report, entitled “Making Migration Work for All”, the UN Secretary General outline his vision on strengthening the UN system’s coordination on migration, to enable the UN to act as a source of ideas and policy guidance, as well as convener, for the implementation of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and the GCM to be adopted in 2018.¹

Following extensive system-wide consultations and the proposal by the Deputy Secretary-General and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration, the Secretary-General decided, at a meeting of the Executive Committee on 23 May 2018, to establish a UN Network on Migration (the Network), as a successor to the Global Migration Group, to ensure effective, coordinated system-wide support to the implementation of the GCM.

In the GCM, Member States “welcome the decision of the Secretary-General to establish a UN Network on migration to ensure effective and coherent system-wide support to implementation, including the capacity-building mechanism, as well as follow-up and review of the Global Compact, in response to the needs of the Member States. (para 44-45 GCM)” The GCM further notes that a) IOM will serve as the coordinator and secretariat of the Network; b) the Network will fully draw from the technical expertise and experience of relevant entities within the UN system; and c) the work of the Network will be fully aligned with existing coordination mechanisms and the repositioning of the UN Development System.

In Kazakhstan the Network was launched in March 2020 for UNCT, the Government of Kazakhstan, Academia, Civil Society Organizations.

Mission Statement

United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Kazakhstan establishes the United Nations Migration Network (UNMN) to facilitate effective, timely and coordinated United Nations (UN) system-wide actions supporting and contributing to effective migration management in Kazakhstan in line with national 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development where a common approach of UN system in the country would add the value and effect.

UN Migration Network will foster a better understanding of migration dynamics through information exchanges, will contribute to the improved coordination within the UN system and strengthened national

¹ [A 72/643](#), “Making Migration Work for All”, *Report of the Secretary-General*, 12 December 2017, para 70, p.17.

ownership over the GCM implementation and the protection of the human rights of migrants in Kazakhstan.

UN Migration Network will work closely with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (MOL), and all relevant Governmental entities, International Organizations (IOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs) and other entities dealing with migration issues in Kazakhstan, to promote effective migration management, and mechanisms to support the protection of the rights and well-being of migrants and communities in a coherent, holistic manner, in line with the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and in accordance with the Concept of State Migration Policy.

The Migration Network will align itself, in its structure and working methods, with the composition and terms of reference of the global UN Network on Migration. In all its actions, the Migration Network will be guided, inter alia, by the UN Charter, international law, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in addition to the GCM .

Objectives and tasks of the UN Migration Network

To implement its mission, the Migration Network commits to carry out the following duties:

1. Promote the application of relevant international and national norms and standards related to migration and the protection of the human rights of migrants and advocate for greater transparency and accountability in migration policy and related activities.
2. Share regular updates on key, emerging migration issues, research and activities with the Network members, including data, documents, studies and practical information in order to foster a holistic understanding of the evolving migration dynamics in Kazakhstan, including age and gender considerations, and the linkages with regional dynamics and trends.
3. Ensure coordinated and collaborative action on migration by the UN Country Team (UNCT), including by speaking with one voice as appropriate, in accordance with the mandates and technical expertise of relevant UN system entities;
4. Promote a comprehensive and coordinated approach in mobilizing resources to address a country or region specific situation in matters concerning mixed migration management, including the issues of irregular migration and trafficking in people.
5. Coordination with development partners and donors in Kazakhstan that are active in migrants and migration related issues.
6. Promote cooperation and exchanges between Migration Network members and external parties, primarily the MOL and with other governmental bodies and stakeholders. The latter could include migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, employers' and workers' organizations, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders.
7. Promote and ensure effective, timely and coordinated UN Country Team (UNCT) support to the Government of Kazakhstan in implementation of the State Migration Policy, in line with the GCM, wherever such action would add value. Identify areas where effective consideration of migration issues can accelerate SDG achievement and highlight this in the development of UN Joint Work-plans.

8. Support global and regional initiatives relevant for the Government of Kazakhstan, such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), Almaty Process on Refugee Protection and International Migration, Prague Process, etc. in their effort to progress the GCM in the national and regional context
9. Facilitate access to and exchange of reliable data, information, tools, innovative research, good practices, and policy guidance on migration issues, including through the capacity-building mechanisms established in the GCM (e.g. Migration Multi-partner Trust Fund (MPTF)/Start-up Fund; Global Knowledge Platform and Connection Hub)
10. Support and facilitate the collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, up-to-date and disaggregated migration related data and knowledge on migration in the country.
11. Provide support to the national capacity building mechanism, as outlined in the GCM.
12. Support any exchange and collaboration with other UN Networks on Migration in the region as needed and relevant, including through RCPs.

Composition and Membership

- **Coordinator and Secretariat:** IOM Mission in Kazakhstan (in line with the designation of IOM by the UN Secretary General as Coordinator of the global UN Network on Migration)
- **Members:** UN Resident Coordinator Office (RCO), IOM, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, DGC/UNIC, UNRCCA, UNODC, UNESCO and other interested UN Agencies.

Roles and Organizational Arrangements

The UN Migration Network is one of the TWGs of the UNCT and works under the overall coordination of the UNRC.

The UN Migration Network will meet on a quarterly basis, or upon request by its members, whenever possible in conjunction with the UN Country Team meetings.

The Network will be co-chaired by the UN Resident Co-ordinator and the Sub-regional Co-ordinator of IOM Central Asia based in Kazakhstan. The **co-chairs** will:

- Convene and chair meetings to ensure the smooth functioning of the Network;
- Facilitate regular interaction between the members of the Network;
- Deliver co-ordinated and/or One Voice joint statements in the name of the Network on specific issues;
- Coordinate activities with the UN Migration Network Secretariat and Members;

IOM, acting as Coordinator and Secretariat assists the Network in its operation. In particular, it assists the Co-chair in preparing and circulating draft agendas, liaising with members, disseminating meeting minutes and monitoring the implementation of decisions. IOM will maintain the member list and share it regularly.

All information exchanged within the Network meetings is meant for internal use only, unless explicitly stated and agreed otherwise.

Members of the Network will contribute to design and implementation of the Network's objectives and workplan, provide advice on strategic direction and share information and knowledge about their migration related work. Members will promote coherence of migration-related activities within the UN system contribute to reviewing the progress made by the Network, making recommendations for necessary actions. Engagement at the national level will, where relevant, be anchored in the UNSDCF to ensure strong national ownership.

Decisions relevant to the work of the Network will be made by consensus based on consultations with all Network Members, and, on all issues relevant to or of concern to the state, with the MOL. Each member shall be represented at meetings of the Network.

All decisions will be taken in full respect of the mandates of Network members.

There will be at least one **Annual Network Meeting** of the full membership of the Network to include other relevant stakeholders, in order to review Network progress; explore ways to further enhance collaboration; identify emerging challenges.

Working Groups can be established on a permanent or ad-hoc basis, to focus on specific issues, depending on the needs and opportunities. The composition of Working Groups will be drawn from Network members and may include external partners, including the MOL, MFA or other state actors.