Excellency,

Referring to our letter on the Regional Review for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), I have the honor, in my capacity as Coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration, to submit you a concept note and draft agenda for the Regional Review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the UNECE region. It will take place on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th of November 2020, 10:00 – 15:40 CET. In view of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated travel restrictions in the UNECE region, we are proposing a virtual meeting (a logistics note will follow).

The intergovernmental meeting will consist of an opening segment, followed by four thematic roundtables, covering all 23 objectives of the GCM, and following General Assembly Resolution 73/326 on the modalities and organizational aspects of the International Migration Review Forum. It will provide Member States and stakeholders a space to present and review progress on the GCM. The outcome will be a summary report, based on the voluntary written submissions and discussions during the conference, and will inform the IMRF.

I would like to invite interested member states, stakeholders, representatives of relevant regional and cross-regional platforms and organizations to express their interest in participating in the Opening, the Closing and in each of the Roundtables as speakers and or as moderators.

Given the new date of the review, we extend the deadline for submissions of voluntary written inputs on experiences by Member States to 31 October 2020. We would be grateful if submissions, at a maximum of 5000 words, could be submitted to Ryan.Kennedy@un.org. Submissions will be made available ahead of the meeting on the website of UN Network on Migration.

I would like to take this opportunity to recall that in April 2020, the Steering Committee of the Migration MPTF endorsed revisions to the Migration MPTF Terms of Reference and its Operations Manual enabling the Fund to support the Global Compact follow-up and review processes. This support will be provided through a separate funding window specifically dedicated to this purpose (the “GCM Follow Up and Review Window”). With even a modest contribution, we can jointly assure that the first Regional Reviews around the world will be a success.

Please find attached the concept note as well as the draft agenda. A logistics note with information about the registration process will follow and will also be posted on the Network’s website: migrationnetwork.un.org.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

António Vitorino
Coordinator, UN Network on Migration and Director General, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

To: Permanent Missions of UNECE Member States

1 https://migrationnetwork.un.org/country-regional-network/europe-north-america