

06 August 2020

Excellency,

In December 2018, through the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), your Government called for the creation of a Start-up Fund, a key component of the Capacity Building Mechanism, as a means to ensure greater cooperation in implementing the objectives of that Compact. This letter serves to outline progress made to date in establishing the Fund and to appeal for its further capitalization as a vital means by which to support the commitments made in the GCM.

Pursuant to this call, we – the members of the Executive Committee of the United Nations Network on Migration – jointly established the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), which was launched in the presence of the Deputy Secretary-General at UNICEF Headquarters in New York on 16 July 2019. We are happy to report that the Migration MPTF is now fully operational. To date, eighteen UN entities are part of the Fund. A broadly representative Steering Committee has been constituted to govern it.

Worldwide, programme implementation supported by the MPTF will begin by the end of the third quarter of this year with the launch of a number of joint activities, covering a range of GCM objectives, and respecting the need for appropriate geographic balance. In light of the most recent developments, the Steering Committee has further welcomed programme proposals that provide needed support to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrants and their communities, recognizing the profound implications of this virus, and responses to it, on both.

You will find enclosed the Migration MPTF's annual report and its joint programme pipeline. While the report highlights what has already taken place and been achieved, the pipeline booklet offers a snapshot as to what the Fund could achieve if adequately resourced.

This pipeline provides a much-needed roadmap – developed by the broad UN system in close coordination with national partners and stakeholders – guiding how collectively we can bring to life through action the commitment expressed by the international community in December 2018, transforming the GCM into tangible results on the ground and concrete solutions that improve the lives of migrants and their communities. Viewed together, the selected joint programmes constitute a holistic and innovative response to migration challenges and embody the 360-degree approach at the heart of the GCM. Individually, each of the programmes fully respects the GCM's Guiding Principles.

As you will see from the great variety of organizations involved in the collective preparation of these programmes, the Migration MPTF is a powerful tool to assist the United Nations system in delivering on its commitment to support Member States in the implementation of the GCM in a coherent, joined-up manner, bringing to bear the breadth of our expertise and capacities. It is a tool that will play a crucial role in solidifying the UN Network on Migration and making it a reality at country and regional levels, in support of nationally identified migration priorities.

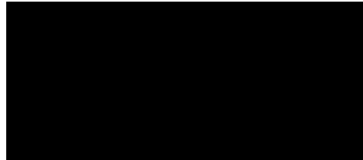
In late 2019 and early 2020, eight Member States – covering a broad range of geographical regions – contributed resources to the Migration MPTF and set it on track to meet its initial funding target (USD12 million out of a first-year goal of USD25 million). Unfortunately, the pandemic significantly impacted the Fund’s ability to mobilize additional resources. While recognizing the increased financial constraints faced by all, rebuilding the pre-COVID-19 momentum is critical for the Fund.

Through only modest contributions, we can collectively still achieve this year one goal and build this Fund into that which was the vision behind your call for it in 2018: a tool by which to enhance the more effective governance of migration, built on cooperation and for the benefit of all. We commend this pipeline to you and look forward to your continued engagement in this crucial endeavor.

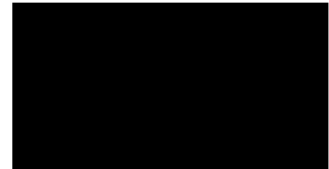
Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



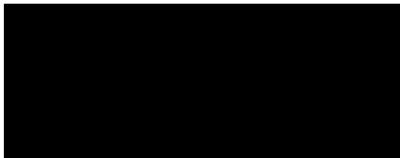
António Vitorino  
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UN Network on Migration  
and  
Director General, IOM



Liu Zhenmin  
Under-Secretary-General,  
DESA



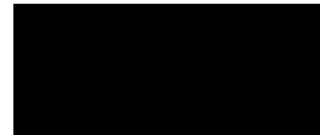
Guy Ryder  
Director-General, ILO



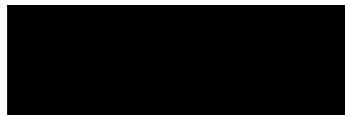
Michelle Bachelet  
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