UN Network on Migration in Azerbaijan
Terms of Reference

BACKGROUND

Azerbaijan is a country of both origin and destination for migrants. According to UN DESA the number of international migrants that are residing outside Azerbaijan is 1,1 million. The European Economic Area, Russian Federation, Turkey continues to be an attractive destination for migrants from Azerbaijan which not only points to transboundary economic and social ties, but also in terms of international remittance inflows to Azerbaijan, which are around USD 1 billion or 2,3 % as a share of the GDP (WB report 2019).
The estimated number of international migrants in the country according to UN DESA 2019 is 253,900 or 2,5 % of the national population.

The government in cooperation with IOM has developed the "National Strategy on Migration of the Republic of Azerbaijan" for 2020-2025 (to be adopted) to harness the migration potential through good migration governance. A diaspora mapping was developed, and more recently, since April 2020, Azerbaijan is a member of the Steering Group of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, endorsed by the GFMD Troika and Steering Group members. With this Azerbaijan will be in a good position to contribute to the work of the GFMD"

In his December 2017 report, entitled "Making Migration Work for All", the UN Secretary General outlined 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 Global Compact for Safe Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) to be adopted in 2018.

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, 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, including Azerbaijan "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.

MISSION STATEMENT

United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Azerbaijan, in December 2019, decided to initiate establishment of 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 the Azerbaijan and in line

with draft "National Strategy on Migration of the Republic of Azerbaijan" 2020-2025 where a common approach of UN system in the country would add the value and effect.

The UNMN will foster a better understanding of migration dynamics through information exchanges; contribute to the improved coordination within the UN system and strengthened national ownership over the GCM implementation; and promote the protection of the human rights of migrants in Azerbaijan.

The UNMN will work closely with the State Migration Service (SMS), and relevant governmental as well as non-governmental entities, including, but not limited to International Organizations (IOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs), Academia, Private Sector, donors and other entities dealing with migration issues in Azerbaijan, to promote effective migration management and governance, all the while supporting mechanisms to advance 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 "National Strategy on Migration of the Republic of Azerbaijan" as well as other bi-and-multilateral frameworks.

The UNMN in Azerbaijan 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.

To this end, the United Nations establishes a Network on Migration to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support in Azerbaijan. In carrying out its mandate, the Network will prioritize the rights and wellbeing of migrants and their communities of destination, origin, and transit. It will place emphasis on those issues where a common UN system approach would add value and from which results and impact can be readily gauged.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the UN Network on Migration (Network) are drawn from the Executive Committee decision of 23 May 2018 and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).

To implement its mission, the UN Network on Migration 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 information, data, statistics, documents, studies and practical information in order to foster a holistic understanding of the evolving migration dynamics in Azerbaijan, including age and gender considerations, and the linkages with regional dynamics and trends.
3. Provide leadership to mobilize 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-region specific situation in matters concerning mixed migration management and overall migration governance.
5. Act as the main interlocuter with development partners and donors in Azerbaijan on migration issues.
6. Promote cooperation and exchanges between UNMN members and external parties, primarily the State Migration Service (SMS) 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 Azerbaijan in implementation of the "National Strategy on Migration of the Republic of Azerbaijan", in line with the GCM, wherever such action would add value.
8. Identify areas where effective consideration of migration issues can accelerate SDG achievement and highlight this in the development of UN Joint Work-plans.
9. Support the Government in Azerbaijan in its participation to global initiatives relevant to migration, including but not limited to Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), The regional review process on the GCM, the Global review process of the GCM, Regional Consultative Processes, and other such regional and/or global fora. Assist the Government -at the request of the latter- in both its implementation of and reporting on the GCM specifically at the quadrennial reporting
10. Support and facilitate access to collection, analysis and dissemination and exchange of reliable data, information, statistics, 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) 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.

COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP
- Co-chairs UNRC and IOM mission in Azerbaijan
- Coordinator and Secretariat: IOM Mission in Azerbaijan (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, UNICEF, WHO, ILO, FAO, UNHCR, OHCHR, UNFPA and other interested UN Agencies.

ROLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The UN Migration Network is one of the TWGs of the UNCT and works under the overall coordination of the Programme Management Team.
The UN Migration Network will meet on a bi-annual 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 Coordinator and IOM Chief of Mission Office in Azerbaijan. 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 coordinated and/or One Voice joint statements in the name of the Network on specific issues in coordination with the UNMN Secretariat.

- Coordinate activities with the UN Migration Network Secretariat and Members.
- Galvanize coordinated support to the implementation of, and reporting on, the GCM.

IOM, in its capacity as Coordinator and Secretariat, will assist the Network in its operation. In particular, it will assist the Co-chairs in preparing and circulating draft agendas, liaising with members, disseminating meeting minutes and monitoring the implementation of decisions made by UNMN. 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 UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) to ensure strong national ownership.

All decisions will be taken in full respect of the mandates of Network members. 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 State Migration Service under the Government of Azerbaijan.
There will be at least one Annual Network Meeting of the full membership of the Network to include other relevant stakeholders, to review Network progress; explore ways to further enhance collaboration and 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, mindful of not creating any duplication and capitalizing on existing working groups where they exist. The composition of Working Groups will be drawn from Network members and may include external partners, including the SMS or other state agencies.