



## UN Migration Task Force in Moldova Terms of Reference

### BACKGROUND

Migration governance is one of the most urgent and profound tests of international cooperation in our time. The majority of migrants move between countries in a safe, orderly and regular manner, and migration itself is overwhelmingly positive for migrants and communities both of origin and destination, bringing with it added prosperity, innovation and progress. Yet migration when unregulated presents challenges for all communities, often leaving migrants vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Global Compact), adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2018, recognizes that migration is best governed through enhanced international cooperation including through the principles of a whole-of-society and a whole-of-government approach. While recognizing the sovereign prerogative of States to determine their own migration policies in accordance with their obligations under international law, the Global Compact identifies ways to enhance opportunities for safe, orderly and regular migration.

Migration is a cross-cutting phenomenon, relevant to all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and most of its 169 targets. The main reference to migration is made under Goal 10, to reduce inequality within and among countries, with target 10.7 aiming to “facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.” To ensure to leave no one behind, an approach benefitting all communities (origin, transit and destination, as well as migrants themselves) need to be adopted.

In 2019, a Start-Up Fund for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Migration MPTF) to support Member States in their implementation of the Global Compact was established.

### MOLDOVA

In Moldova, migration is primarily characterized by a widespread emigration trend. Emigration has also transformed the demography of the country with the share of persons under 15 years old decreased from 16.15 percent in 2010 to 16.00 percent in 2015, at the same time the share of elderly people increased from 20.3 percent in 2010 to 20.7 percent in 2015. The outflux is also impacting the Moldovan workforce and the quality of services with highly qualified and educated professionals leaving the country, causing so called brain drain, negatively impacting all segments of society.

---

### OBJECTIVES

The objective of the United Nations Migration Task Force (UN MTF) is to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) with regards to facilitating the implementation of the Global Compact, as well as accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda in line with the National Development Strategy (NDS) Moldova “2030” and The Republic of Moldova – United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2018–2022 (UN PFSD) and its related four thematic pillars: 1) Governance, human rights and gender equality; 2) Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth; 3) Environmental sustainability and resilience; and 4) Inclusive and equitable social development. The UN MTF will also be guided by the Delivering as One (DaO) approach.

The MTF will:

1. Facilitate joint UN projects and interventions within the framework of the Global Compact:
  - a) Facilitate and coordinate joint UN interventions related to the Global Compact, including the Start-Up Fund for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Migration MPTF).



- b) In line with the Global Compact, contribute to building partnerships with relevant actors including Government, counterparts, CSOs, to ensure effective implementation of the Global Compact.
  - c) Recognizing the importance of national migration data, identify data gaps, contributing to RC and UNCT advocacy activities aimed at addressing the identified data gaps and ensuring the availability of quality, disaggregated data to monitor the implementation of the Global Compact and the SDGs.
2. Assist the UNCT in efforts related to migration and, in this regard, provide support for the accelerated implementation of the migration related Sustainable Development Agenda by the Republic of Moldova, including by:
- a) Providing ongoing support in the process of nationalization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) relevant to migration.
  - b) Supporting government counterparts, including the State Chancellery, the National Bureau of Statistics and the SDG Coordination Council, on migration related issues, including through the implementation of innovative approaches.
  - c) Identifying capacity gaps related to migration in UNCT, government counterparts and implementing partners.

## **COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP**

The UN MTF is comprised of two rotating Co-Chairs, members of represented UN Agencies and representatives of the RCO, as well as their alternates.

- The Co-Chairs and members of the UN MTF are appointed by and accountable to the UNCT.
- UN Heads of Agencies and the RC nominate members and alternates to the UN MTF, preferably from among staff performing migration related functions within their own entities.
- Secretariat support for UN MTF is provided by IOM – the UN Migration Agency.
- The Co-Chairs may request the attendance of other internal or external participants as needed and in relation to any special considerations discussed at the UN MTF.
- The Co-Chairs, members and alternates serve for a period of one calendar year, after completion of which they may be re-appointed by the UNCT for additional terms.

## **ROLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

The Co-Chairs are responsible for:

1. Convening meetings.
2. Chairing meetings.
3. Identifying specialized resources to assist the UN MTF in discharging its duties in the most competent manner.
4. Reporting on the activities of the UN MTF to the UNCT on a quarterly basis, including on but not limited to:
  - a) Performance with respect to the implementation of joint interventions related to the Global Compact.
  - b) Process of nationalization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) relevant to migration.

The Secretary function is implemented by IOM, which is responsible for:

- a) Coordinating the schedule of the UN MTF meetings.
- b) Producing and disseminating minutes from UN MTF meetings.
- c) Overseeing the timely distribution of relevant documentation to UN MTF members.
- d) Ensuring that files of documentation pertaining to the submissions and meetings are complete.

The Members of the UN MTF are responsible for:



- a) Contributing to UN MTF discussions.
- b) Supporting key activities of the UN MTF as outlined under the responsibilities above.

The UNCT will review advice by the UN MTF and may follow or not follow specific recommendations and in the case of non-acceptance, document the motivation for this decision.

The work of the UN MTF will be guided by the principles of the Global Compact, UNPFSD, UNCT AWP and the National Priorities.

The UN MTF will meet quarterly or as often as necessary to carry out their responsibilities and as convened by the Chairperson. Based on needs, extended UN MTF meetings including Donors, CSOs, Media or other relevant actors may be organized.

The UN MTF updates the UNCT on a regular and on-demand basis. Detailed narrative report on the Annual Work Plan will be provided to UNCT, Resident Coordinator and UNDAF Steering Committee annually in January. The minutes of the UN MTF meetings should be documented by the Secretariat provided by IOM, chairing the UN MTF.

#### **ANNEXES**

1. Migration Task Force Membership List