

# RESULT OF THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL REVIEW OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION

## In preparation for FIRST REGIONAL REVIEW OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION

Using the  
Guiding template for the review of the implementation of the GCM

This template is in line with the UN Network on Migration proposed framework to assist Member States in conducting reviews of GCM implementation at the national level, in preparation for regional reviews. It is intended to provide an outline and elements that Member States could consider when preparing the national review. The template serves to promote consistency and comparability between reviews in the Arab and Africa regions. This review is voluntary in nature, and countries have the flexibility to adapt it to their national context and priorities.

### I. Methodology (*should not exceed 500 words*)

Describe the methodology followed to prepare the national review of the GCM:

- a. Did you establish a mechanism responsible for coordinating the review? **Ans: Yes a national consultation for the review of the GCM was convened.** Which entities were represented in the coordination mechanism? **Ans: Entities represented in the review process are state and non-state actors involved in migration management in the country under the migration governance architecture.** Does it have a chair? **Ans: The chair was National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons, (NCFRMI), the coordinating agency of migration issues in the country and chair of the technical working group of the Nigerian migration governance.**
- b. If you did not establish a specific mechanism, who was responsible for the review? **Ans: N/A**
- c. Which government entities were involved in the review process? **Ans. All the relevant government ministries, departments and Agencies (MDAs) working in any migration-related areas including, Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development (FMHDMSD); Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA); Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment (FMLE); Federal Ministry of Education (FMEd); Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning (FMBNP); National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI); Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS); National Population Commission (NPC); National Bureau of Statistics (NBS); National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP); Nigeria National Volunteer Service (NNVS), of the Office of the Secretary of the Federal Government (OSGF); Office of the Speaker, House of Representatives (National Assembly)**

- d. Did you consult with local-level authorities during the review process (such as municipalities or governorates)? **Yes the some MDAs in the review committee included representatives of states such as Delta State Task Force against Human Trafficking.**
- e. Did you engage with different non-governmental stakeholders (such as the private sector, trade unions, civil society organizations, academia, migrant communities, etc.)? if **Ans: Yes**, who did you engage with and how? **Ans: The following CSOs, academia and Unions were members of the review committee, Africa Youth Growth Foundation (AYGF); Childhood Advancement Response and Empowerment Initiative; Civil Society Network on Migration and Development (CSOnetMADE); Dev Train; Human Support Services (HSS); Human Mobility for Development Initiative (HUMDEV); Pan African Network for Migration and Development; Policy Consult; Web of Hearts Foundation; Women Infants and Children Care Initiative (WICCI); Centre for Migration Studies (CMS), Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka; University of Ibadan; Usman Dan Fodio University, Sokoto and Association of Medical Social Workers of Nigeria (AMSWON).**
- f. Were you able to review all of the objectives, or did you choose to focus on specific ones that are of priority to your country? Why are they a priority? **Ans: We looked at the entire 23 objectives**
- g. Did you receive any support from the UN country teams? **Ans: Yes, technical support was sought and provided by International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN country team head.**

## II. Policy and enabling environment (*should not exceed 1500 words*)

- a. Has the government collaborated with different stakeholders in implementing the GCM (such as in developing migration-relevant policies, designing and implementing migration-relevant projects, encouraging multi-stakeholder dialogue, etc.)? If yes, please list the stakeholders involved (e.g recruiting agencies, migrant organizations ...).  
**Ans: Yes, the government has collaborated with various stakeholders such as National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI), National Population Commission, Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment (FMLE), Federal Ministry of Health (FMH), Federal Ministry of Education (FME), National Emergency Management Agency, (NEMA), Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NiDCOM), Central Bank of Nigeria, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour and Productivity, Ministry of Women Affairs, National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), National Bureau of Statistics, National Planning Commission, National Population Commission, Nigeria Immigration Service, Nigeria National Volunteer Service, Office of the Special Assistant to the Vice-President on Youth, Migration and Humanitarian Services, University of Ibadan, CSOs, Academia, European Commission, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), UN and other international Agencies such as International Organization for Migration (IOM); International Labour Organization (ILO), International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) etc.**

- b. Has the government integrated GCM implementation into SDG and Agenda 2063 implementation and other relevant processes? If so, how?

Ans: Yes the Government has integrated GCM implementation into SDGs but there is nothing yet for Agenda 2063. The action plan for the national implementation of the GCM had significant reference to the SDGs especially as pertaining to the specific migration-related SDGs targets.

- c. What migration-relevant policies have you developed since the adoption of the GCM in December in 2018? Did you reform existing policies in line with the GCM? Ans: The Government of Nigeria in a bid to domesticate and institutionalize the 23 objective of the GCM has ensured development of the National Diaspora Policy (NDP) 2019 draft. Likewise, the government has reviewed some existing policies for example, the National Policy on Labour Migration (NPLM) and its implementation Action Plan 2020. Similarly, the National Migration Policy's Implementation Action Plan was reviewed to reflect the GCM objectives (2019).

- d. What challenges and barriers did you face in developing or reforming those policies?

Some Challenges were encountered during the development and reform of the above policies especially in the area of political will and appropriate financial support. For instance, the National Diaspora Policy 2019 though validated has not been endorsed by Federal Executive Council (FEC).

- e. Can you elaborate on any policies and/or provisions in policies you have developed or incorporated in relation to women migrant workers, child migrants, undocumented migrants or any other category of migrants? Ans; National Policy on Labour Migration elaborated on the area of women and children migrant workers; while National Diaspora Policy emphasized the inclusive participation of diasporas in the political process of the country. The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has included diaspora voting as part of its projects for the next national general election.

- f. Did you have to adopt new policies or measures as a result of regional migration dynamics, policies or measures? Ans: Yes, the newly developed and reviewed policies and their Implementation Action Plans such as the National Diaspora Policy, National Policy on Labour Migration, and the Action Plan for the implementation of the National Migration Policy as well as the National Migration Profile accommodated regional migration dynamics, policies and measures.

- g. Did you adopt any institutional reforms to respond to the GCM? (did you establish new bodies or mechanisms, or restructure existing ones? Did you change working procedures? Ans; As it stands there has not been any visible institutional reform whether by establishing new bodies, or mechanisms or restructuring of existing ones, made with direct intent to respond to the GCM. Nevertheless, the Government's establishment of a national

Humanitarian Ministry with the mandate including to oversee the activities of NCFRMI, the coordinating agency of all migration issues, has been viewed as having subtle influence from Nigeria's participation in the GCM processes. This Humanitarian Ministry ensures coordination and change in the modus of operation of some institutions that are positively impacting migration management in the country.

- h.** What are the relevant regional, sub-regional and cross-regional strategies, frameworks, and implementation plans? How have you contributed to implementing them? What are the main gaps and challenges you face in implementing them? **Ans:** Nigeria participated in the inter-ministerial meeting in Lusaka, to develop the African 3 year implementation plan of action for the GCM. Also Nigeria is an active participant at the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Migration Dialogue (MIDWA). The recent MIDWA event held in July 2020 focused on implementation of regional legal instruments on free movement of persons while strengthening the existing synergies between the Ministers responsible for security and interior in order to facilitate the application of regional instruments relating to migration in the light of new realities and frameworks such as GCM. However, some challenges including those of finance, continue to hinder effectiveness implementation of these regional, and sub-regional frameworks and implementation plans.

**III.** Progress on GCM objectives (*should not exceed 2000 words*)

- a.** Did your government develop implementation plans for the GCM?  
If yes, what is the status of implementation of all 23 objectives of the GCM?

**Ans:** Yes; the government has developed various and diverse implementation plans for the GCM which include: a national action plan which has been validated by stakeholders. Following the Action Plan, eight projects were identified and prioritized by stakeholders for applying for seed money from the Migration Trust Fund.

Please highlight innovative policies or promising practices related to any of the objectives, especially those targeting categories of migrants who are more vulnerable. Where possible, information should be based on statistical as well as qualitative data.

**Ans:** The innovative policies includes: migration data collection platform has been institutionalized, the National Database was updated and launched Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2019. All officers from relevant agencies have been trained. Protection of Vulnerable Groups is ensured through the establishment and strengthening of ministries, departments or agencies such as FMHADMSD, NAPTIP, NCFRMI, NIDCOM, as well as other existing relevant MDAs. Bilateral Agreement with neighboring countries and collaborative partnerships with international organizations for more efficient border management have yielded to an

improved border management that ensures the protection of all migrants especially the most vulnerable.

- b. What steps has the government taken to integrate the GCM guiding principles into migration governance frameworks and GCM implementation plans?

Ans: The steps include: National stakeholders' consultative meetings to develop the GCM Action Plan for national implementation, review of the country's national migration profile, review of the action plan of the national migration policy, expansion of the Standard Operative Procedure (SOP) for the safe Return, Readmission and Rehabilitation (RRR), establishment of MIDAS (Migration Information and Data Analysis System) at 23 borders across Nigeria. A regional institute for Migration based at Tuga, Kebbi state was recently established to standardize migration and border management in West Africa. Likewise, Centre for Migration Studies at the Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka was recently established. There is a continuous effort in the institutionalization of migration governance as well as harmonization of the Governance Framework and Structure as exemplified in the strengthening of NCFRMI as the coordinating agency and the establishment of the new federal ministry, FMHADMSD to supervise NCFRMI and other related agencies.

c. What challenges do you face in reaching GCM objectives? What potential risks do you foresee? How could they be addressed? Have you taken any mitigation measures? (please highlight any trends, successes, challenges, emerging issues, including as impacted by regional dynamics). Ans: the major challenges include inadequate funding – due to lack of independent budget line for relevant MDAs to manage migration aspects of their mandates, overlapping of mandates in some MDAs and lack of synergy amongst the MDAs, and more so, the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. The potential risks foreseen are: inadequate capacity building, poor implementation, persistence of COVID-19 might lead to more movement restrictions. Also insecurity arising from increased displacement due to violent conflicts, climate change/natural disaster (flooding, desertification).

They these risks can be addressed through: institutionalization and decentralization of migration governance, proper coordination, adequate budgetary provisions and awareness creation.

- c. Please describe any promising practices and lessons learned that may be relevant for other countries in the region (or across regions).

Ans: promising practices and lessons learned that may be relevant for other countries in the region (or across regions) include: border management strategy 2019 – 2023, MIDAS Technology, E-based facilities and the Nigerian passports which have been uploaded on the intercom data base etc. Above all, the migration governance structure in the country has been responsible for the few achievements so far recorded.

IV. Means of implementation *(should not exceed 500 words)*

- a. How are you mobilizing means of implementation to ensure the achievement of the GCM objectives (for example, allocating budgets, building partnerships, collecting data, and building capacities)? What challenges do you face in mobilizing means of implementation? What additional resources do you need? Do you have a plan to mobilize them?

Answer: A number of means are on ground to ensure implementation of the GCM objectives. These include prioritizing migration governance and development issues in various government's development plans and programmes, inclusion of appropriate budgetary provisions, inclusive participation of stakeholders at all levels, training of state and non-state actors, and improved migration data management. Also building more and strengthening existing partnerships from migration perspective is another means of implementing the GCM. Nigeria has built partnerships that mainstreamed migration into bilateral and multilateral agreements with ally countries development partners.

There have been challenges encountered in mobilizing means of implementation. They include: inadequate budgetary allocation, inadequate institutional capacity and lack of political will.

The additional resources and plans needed for mobilization of the implementation include: sourcing for local financial and technical resources. The plans to mobilize them include engagement of private sectors and Academia.

V. Next steps *(should not exceed 500 words)*

Based on the outcomes of this review, what steps are you planning to enhance the implementation of the GCM? How will the results of the review be disseminated? What additional actions will you take in preparation for the first IMRF that will be held in 2022?

Ans:

Based on the outcomes of this review, a number of steps are planned to ensure and enhance implementation of the GCM. The steps include reviewing and operationalizing all relevant migration instruments – policies, projects, proposals such as the National Migration Policy and its action plan. Most important, the step must include institutional reform of all migration-related institutions for effective implementation of GCM. It will also involve more migration research and data gathering, sharing, analysis, archiving, and dissemination. Also another step is education and awareness campaign on the GCM. This can be done through appropriate information and communication strategies e.g. stakeholders consultation and community dialogue. Further review and development of country's position and mobilizing resources for participation of stakeholders in constructive engagement in national and regional GCM processes will be a relevant plan in ensuring a better implementation

of the GCM. More so, advocacy, capacity building, mobilization of resources are another set of steps in this direction.

The result of the review will be disseminated through the national migration governance structure using the technical working group (TWG) space. Other means are platforms like national migration dialogue and its decentralization process as well as CSO and other relevant platforms.

The additional actions to be taken in preparation for the first IMRF that will be held in 2022 will be ensuring the articulation and implementation of the review at the national level and regular meeting for reporting purpose before 2022.