



## Summary Report

### Third Quarterly Meeting with Stakeholders and Partners

Wednesday, 22 September 2021

15:00-16:30 (Geneva)

ZOOM online platform

#### OVERVIEW

The third quarterly meeting with stakeholders and partners hosted by the UN Network on Migration was attended by **151 participants**. A **wide range of civil society organizations and stakeholders** representing the different sectors listed in [para. 44 of the GCM](#) (migrant and diaspora organizations, trade unions, faith-based organizations and the private sector, local authorities and communities, academia, National Human Rights Institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement) **across all regions** (Asia-Pacific, Africa, Arab States, Europe and North America, LAC) took part in this meeting, as well as **Network members**.

This summary report outlines the overall [UN Network on Migration workplan](#) progress assessments, with a focus on the “Core Priority area 2.1 and 2.2” on Country level implementation guide and pilot planning. It highlights key information and updates on the Capacity-Building Mechanism, with an emphasis on the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund. It also underlines a significant number of entry points for stakeholder engagement in the [International Migration Review Forum \(IMRF\)](#) to be held in the first half of 2022.

For ease of reference, the agenda for this meeting is available [online](#).

#### I. NETWORK UPDATES AND INPUTS: DEMONSTRATING IMPACT TOWARDS THE IMRF

- **Network workplan: overview of the progress**

A number of existing thematic working groups (TWGs) from the Network’s 2019 inaugural workplan are in the process of concluding their work through finalization and piloting of tools and guidance, while ensuring the sustainability of work done to date:

- The TWG on **access to services**, revamped to have a specific focus on the COVID-19 response and recovery, including access to vaccines, produced a [Network statement](#) on equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines for migrants, informally briefed a group of Member States in Geneva on migrants in national vaccine deployment and vaccination programme and is finalizing documentation on promising practices on service provision and inclusion of migrants.
- The TWG on **enhancing pathways for regular migration through bilateral labour migration agreements (BLMAs)** is finalizing its guidance on the same topic and is moving towards the piloting phase.
- The TWG on **alternatives to detention** developed and updated a [Policy Brief](#) on COVID-19 and immigration detention (see the Annex [here](#)), organized two peer-learning exchanges engaging Member States and stakeholders and has created a community of practitioners.
- The TWG on **regular pathways for migrants in vulnerable situations** launched a [guidance note](#) in July 2021, which offers specific examples and concrete steps to enhance the flexibility and accessibility of pathways of admission and stay, also looking at measures undertaken by States during the pandemic in partnership with stakeholders.
- The TWG on **safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration** is finalizing a checklist tool to assess return and sustainable reintegration practices as well as a mapping of gaps and positive practices.

A number of new thematic priorities and working groups have been identified for the Network's focus in the 2021-2022 time period, looking at demonstrating impact towards IMRF. These include:

- Two new workstreams looking at **anti-discrimination efforts with respect to migration** both from the lens of **anti-racism and gender** empowerment. These groups are currently working on advocacy tools. In addition to a [Network statement](#) released to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Network also held a high-level event to launch the UN Women [Policies and Practice Guide to Gender-Responsive Implementation of the Global Compact for Migration](#).
- A new workstream dedicated to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 21) and GCM commitments on **climate change and migration**. This group is finalizing its workplan and will hold its next stakeholder consultation on 28 September 2021 to discuss joint messaging for COP26.
- A new thematic priority on **utilizing the GCM to realize the SDGs and reduce inequalities**. In addition to the release of a [Network statement](#), this group organized a VNR Migration Lab webinar, a side event to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) and ensured the inclusion of a reference to the IMRF in the [HLPF Ministerial Declaration](#) (para. 31).
- A thematic priority aims at operationalizing the recommendations from the Network policy brief on "The impact of COVID-19 on **family remittances**". A [Network statement](#) has been released on the occasion of the International Day of Family Remittances.
- A group dedicated to the thematic priority "**Ensuring migrant protection through strengthened responses to migrant smuggling**" released a [joint statement](#) and organized a side event with the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

Please refer to the [Network website](#) to gain a fuller picture of the collaborative work undertaken by the Network.

- **Core Priorities 2.1 and 2.2 on Country level implementation guide and pilot planning**

- The **Core Priority working group 2.1 on Stronger UN system for GCM implementation** produced a [Pilot training for UN Country Teams \(UNCTs\): Integrating Migration into Common Country Analyses \(CCAs\) and Cooperation Frameworks \(UNSDCFs\)](#). This training package is being revised and finalized based on piloting experience. It will soon be available on the [Migration Network Hub](#), as well as other relevant platforms and translated into several languages.
- The **Core Priority working group 2.2 on GCM national implementation plans** produced a guide entitled "[Implementing the GCM: Guidance for Governments and all relevant stakeholders](#)" which provides an overview of the GCM, emphasizing the 360-degree vision and 10 cross-cutting interdependent guiding principles, and introduces a six-step process to support governments and other actors with GCM implementation. Another key deliverable is a [GCM Booklet](#) which provides substantive information on all 23 GCM objectives, including examples of practical applications to inspire action within one's own national context.

- **Capacity-Building Mechanism**

- The **Migration Network Hub**: a "Repository of Practices" designed to showcase examples of GCM implementation at local, national and regional levels will be launched on the Hub in the months leading up to the IMRF. This will be an opportunity to display stakeholder engagement in GCM implementation and this repository will constitute an important tool for resource sharing and knowledge dissemination. Relevant actors will be invited to provide information via the Hub: for instance, the UN Network and Mayors Mechanism will soon launch an initiative to profile promising practices related to GCM implementation by local authorities and communities and feed into the Hub Repository of Practices.

The **Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund** (MMPTF): as the first UN inter-agency pooled funding instrument focusing on migration, the MMPTF is a partnership tool owned by national governments, aligned with GCM 360-degree approach and its guiding principles. Information on the **joint programmes and pipeline projects** is available [here](#).

- The **Steering Committee (SC)** of the MMPTF is composed of 12 members representing 4 constituencies (UNNM, donors, countries of origin/transit/destination and stakeholders) on a staggered rotational basis. The current stakeholders who sit on the SC are the following: the Mayors Migrations Council, the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, and the International Detention Coalition.
- The next **Annual Consultative Forum of the MMPTF** will take place in December, a week before the meeting of the SC, to ensure inputs/recommendations are reflected in SC decisions.
- **Funding Status of the MMPTF:** (i) Strong and consistent demand from Member States (97 concept notes received to date); (ii) To date, approx. USD 20m contributed; All funds available have been programmed. Early 2020 positive momentum halted by the Covid-19 crisis, rebuilding the pre-COVID-19 momentum is critical; (iii) the IMRF is a natural platform and crucial opportunity for increasing visibility: the **funding target of 70 million USD has been set by the time of the IMRF.**

## II. THE ROAD TO THE IMRF AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- **Overall plans and developments towards the IMRF: 3 cornerstones**

- The **UN Secretary-General Report:** the Network is supporting the drafting process. This report is an opportunity to update on the work of the UN and on the progress of the implementation of the GCM. It will feed into the IMRF. Initial consultations with stakeholders have been held by the Network in July and recommendations have been taken on board. The SG report will build heavily on the outcomes of the regional reviews and inputs received in the framework of this review process. A preliminary analysis of all the Member States' reports is currently underway and some initial results can be stressed: some [GCM objectives](#) receive more attention (GCM objective 1 on data, Objective 6 on ethical recruitment, Objective 21 on reintegration, Objective 23 on strengthening partnerships) than others (GCM Objective 4 on legal identity, Objective 8 on saving lives, Objective 13 on alternatives to detention and Objective 17 on discrimination). A summary of key observations will be available soon.
- The **IMRF roundtables:** the Network secretariat will prepare the background notes and make these available before the IMRF. Consultations with stakeholders will be held in the coming weeks to discuss, in an inclusive way, the progress and organizational aspects related to these background notes and IMRF roundtables. The [Calendar of Events](#) including the dates of these consultations will soon be updated on the Network website.
- The **Policy Debate:** it will be interactive, evidence-based, and action-oriented, with participation of stakeholders. The Policy Debate will provide an opportunity to discuss the challenges in the implementation of the GCM, to examine the Capacity-Building Mechanism and it will also provide a space for Member States to formulate guidance on how the UN can strengthen its support to Member States in their follow up and review of the GCM. The Network will ensure that stakeholders are consulted and able to contribute to this process.

- **Stakeholder engagement: accreditation process and entry points**

- **Accreditation and Registration**

- A note on the accreditation and registration process to the IMRF will be released from the Office of the President of the UN General Assembly (PGA) shortly.
- The Modalities Resolution calls for an accreditation and registration process. The following groups of stakeholders are already accredited to participate in the IMRF: NGOs that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); all stakeholders that were accredited to the preparatory process of the intergovernmental consultations of the GCM or that were accredited to participate in the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the GCM in Marrakesh.
- In addition, other organizations that do not have these forms of accreditation will be able to apply for accreditation. Further information and details will follow.

### ***Participation in IMRF preparatory activities***

- The President of the General Assembly will organize and preside over a one-day informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing prior to the IMRF. A rapporteur will be selected to give a summary of this hearing at the IMRF meeting.
- In organizing the IMRF roundtables adequate space will be reserved for participation of stakeholders.
- The selection process of the rapporteur and speakers will follow the principles of transparency, openness, diversity and inclusion.

### **● *Summary of key priorities and recommendations from stakeholders***

- The broad participation both geographically and “sectorially” in this 3rd Quarterly meeting has been encouraging. Stakeholders from several sectors have shared questions, aspirations, expectations, and specific suggestions.
- Stakeholders have emphasized the importance of thinking about how the IMRF can drive change, how it can set the tone for an ambitious global agenda on migration with the GCM at its core, how it can help intensify national implementation and produce change on the ground and finally, how stakeholders can be meaningfully engaged in the process.
- They underlined the importance of understanding the scale of the human cost, suffering and challenges for migrants. The IMRF should be a space in which all actors engaged can share what has been done, what can be done, but also what are the challenges that need to be overcome.
- Stakeholders have repeatedly insisted on the need to ensure that the IMRF is not a talk-shop and that their participation in the IMRF should not be tokenistic but meaningful. In this regard, they stressed that meaningful participation should go beyond participation in roundtable discussions: the most important is to provide opportunities for stakeholders to work in advance of the IMRF with governments and in solidarity with other CSOs and stakeholders.
- Another key priority underscored by stakeholders is the need to reflect on the IMRF as a process and on what they can build beyond the 4-day IMRF meeting in New York, ahead of and after this meeting.
- They pointed out that a series of concrete, formal and informal entry points has been shared during this 3rd Quarterly Meeting with stakeholders, which takes place several months before the IMRF and gives time to engage in the consultative process for the background notes, the “Repository of practices” on the Hub, the multi-stakeholder hearing prior to the IMRF, as well as in national consultations and dialogues to discuss the underrepresented GCM objectives (see above).
- Stakeholders pointed out that it will require a collective commitment and that they need to be reactive to those opportunities offered by the Network, but that they also have a responsibility to be proactive and create the opportunities and sustainable platforms for themselves.
- Stakeholders welcomed the Network’s offer to provide both substance and technical support, as well as to provide space for multi-stakeholder consultations on substantive issues related to GCM implementation.