UN Migration Network in Zambia

Terms of Reference

Background

On 10-11 December 2018, recalling the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and determined to make an important contribution to enhanced cooperation on international migration in all its dimensions, Member States endorsed the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)¹. The Global Compact sets out a range of principles, commitments and understandings among Member States regarding international migration in all its dimensions.

To this end, the United Nations established a Network on Migration at the global level to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to Member States. 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 areas where a common UN system approach would add value and from which results and impact can be readily gauged. In Zambia, the UN established a national Migration Network to ensure coordinated UN Country Team-wide support to the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) in implementing the GCM and other relevant policies.

National UN Migration Network

Whilst being tailored to local needs and priorities, the terms of reference (ToRs) of the national UN Migration Network in Zambia are fully aligned with the global Network ToRs.

Objectives:

1. Ensure effective, timely, coordinated UN country team-wide support to the Government of Zambia in their implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM, for the rights and wellbeing of all migrants and their communities of destination, origin, and transit.
2. Support coherent action by the UN Country Team (UNCT), including coordination and linkage with regional and global initiatives in support of GCM implementation as well as preparation, implementation and monitoring of a GCM Action Plan for the country.
3. Act as a source of ideas, tools, reliable data and information, analysis, and policy guidance on migration issues, including through the capacity-building mechanism established in the GCM.
4. Promote the application of relevant international and regional norms and standards relating to migration and the protection of the human rights of migrants, and engagement with UN human rights mechanisms relating to migration²;
5. Provide leadership to mobilize coordinated and collaborative action on migration by the UNCT, including by speaking with one voice as appropriate, in accordance with the UN Charter, international/ national laws, and mandates/ technical expertise of relevant UNCT entities.

¹ Full text available at: https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180711_final_draft_0.pdf
² e.g. the UN Committee on the Rights of Migrant Workers, the Human Rights Council’s Special Rapporteurs on Migrants, on Trafficking, and other special procedures, and the Universal Periodic Review.
6. Establish and provide guidance to a Technical Working Group (TWG) dealing with a specific matter.
7. In carrying out these objectives, the Network and its TWGs will ensure close collaboration with other existing UNCT and national coordination mechanisms (including the SDPF Results Groups, under the umbrella of the Leave No One Behind Theme Group) addressing migration-related issues, actively seeking out synergies and avoiding duplication;
8. Establish and provide support to the capacity building mechanisms established in the GCM and the UN Migration Network.
9. Ensure effective, open and ongoing engagement with external partners, migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, employers’ and workers’ organizations, parliamentarians, National Human Rights Commission, human rights-based organizations, trade union/employers’ association, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders at national and local levels to feed into national, regional and global processes for GCM through migration forum;
10. Update the UN Network on Migration at the regional and global level, relevant GRZ committees and UNCT on migration issues on a regular basis.

Coordinator and Secretariat: IOM (in line with global ToRs, IOM wills serve as the Coordinator and Secretariat of all constituent parts of the Network).

Members: IOM (Coordinator), UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, ILO, UNODC, UNFPA, UNAIDS and other interested UN agencies.

Participation Level: Migration focal points

Meeting Frequency: Quarterly and as needed.
Annex: Objectives for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

1) Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
2) Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin
3) Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
4) Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation
5) Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration
6) Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work
7) Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration
8) Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants
9) Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants
10) Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration
11) Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner
12) Strengthen certainty and predictability in migration procedures for appropriate screening, assessment and referral
13) Use migration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives
14) Enhance consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle
15) Provide access to basic services for migrants
16) Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion
17) Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration
18) Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences
19) Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries
20) Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants
21) Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration
22) Establish mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits
23) Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration