Terms of Reference for the UN Network on Migration in Ethiopia

Mission statement

The purpose of the UN Migration Network in Ethiopia (hereinafter referred to as the Network) is to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, and to respect, protect and promote the rights and wellbeing of migrants and their families as well as communities of origin, transit and destination countries through a well-coordinated and inclusive UN system.

The Network will serve as a platform for joint UN system advocacy and as an interface with other stakeholders on pertinent migration issues in Ethiopia.

Objectives

The objectives of the Network are to:

1. Ensure effective, timely and coordinated UN Country Team (UNCT) support to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in its implementation, follow up and review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), for the rights and wellbeing of all migrants and their communities of destination, origin and transit;

2. Support the mobilization of coordinated and collaborative action on migration by the UNCT in accordance with the mandate and technical expertise of relevant UN entities;

3. Prepare an annual workplan based upon national policies and strategic priorities, and consistent with the Government of Ethiopia's commitments to international law;

4. Support the capacity building of the GoE as outlined in the GCM, including integrating migration priorities in national regulatory frameworks, development strategy, and plans;

5. Serve as a source of ideas, reliable data and information, analysis, and policy guidance on migration governance, based on Ethiopia's migration context, priorities and governance arrangements;

6. Collaborate with the Resident Coordinator and the Global UN Network on Migration to support their accountability and reporting responsibilities to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the GCM.

7. Foster collaboration with other existing coordination mechanisms[1] addressing migration-related issues to facilitate synergies and complementarity;

8. Promote the ratification, implementation, domestication and application of relevant international, continental, and regional agreements relating to migration and the protection and promotion of rights of migrants;

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[1] The National Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling Taskforce, the Humanitarian Cluster System, the Durable Solutions Working Group, the Jobs Compact Initiative, the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework Steering Committee, the EU+ forum, the Refugee Donor Group, the Development Assistance Group, programme/project related coordination mechanisms and any other relevant group.

9. Engage/collaborate with external partners, including migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, employers' and workers' organizations, trade unions, parliamentarians, National Human Rights Institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders for the purpose of fostering a whole of society approach to migration governance.

Working Principles

In its work, the Network will uphold the international principles of Human Rights, Migrants' Rights, Children's Rights, Women's Rights and labour rights, in accordance with the UN Charter, international law, international labour standards, the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, Agenda 2063 and the GCM. Implementation of Network activities will be guided by the following working principles:

- **Accountability**: The Network and its members have the responsibility to implement their decisions as agreed and will be accountable to the UN Resident Coordinator (RC), and UNCT;

- **Human rights-based, gender-responsive and child-sensitive approach**: The Network will uphold and advocate the laws and principles for the respect, protection, and fulfilment of the human and labour rights of all migrants, especially those in vulnerable situations, and communities in countries of origin, transit and destination countries;

- **Rights-based approach to labour migration**: The Network will promote migrant workers' right to obtain decent and productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security, and human dignity.

- **Coherence**: The Network will draw from the mandate, technical expertise and experience of relevant entities within the UNCT in supporting GCM implementation and promoting the overall coherence of the UN's work on migration;

- **Environmental sustainability and climate change awareness**: The Network will support and advocate for environmental sustainability and climate change awareness;

- **Unity of purpose**: All members of the Network will be jointly committed to its success, placing emphasis on the added value of their coordinated work and of collaborating to achieve common goals;

- **Efficiency**: The Network will be fully aligned with existing UN System coordination mechanisms and will adopt a streamlined and efficient approach in all its activities;

- **Inclusivity**: The Network, in its own working methods and in engaging others, will operate in an inclusive, systematic, predictable, and transparent manner;

- **Results-oriented**: The Network, through its annual workplan, will focus on supporting the progress of the GoE towards achieving implementation of the GCM;

- **Agility**: The Network will regularly review – both formally and informally – and where necessary recalibrate its methods and the focus of its work to ensure its impact is maximized; and

- **Confidentiality and data protection**: The Network will uphold the principles of confidentiality and data protection in its interventions.

Membership and structure

- The Network will consist of those members of the UN system who wish to be a part of it and for whom migration is of relevance to their mandate. An indicative list is provided in Annex I.

- Within the Network, an Executive Committee comprised of those entities with clear mandates, technical expertise and capacity in migration-related fields will be established.

- Other UN system entities may become members of the Network upon approval by the Executive Committee.

- IOM will serve as the Coordinator and Secretariat of the Network.

- When necessary, results-based thematic working groups will be established to address specific work streams.

Decision-making

The Network will endeavour to take all decisions by consensus of members. Decisions of the Network will be made by the Executive Committee. In case consensus is not reached, the matter will be tabled to the UNCT.

Coordinator

The Network Coordinator will perform the following functions:

1. Convene and chair Network meetings to foster collaboration and consensus among the members in all aspects and ensure effective coordination on joint activities;

2. Work with Network members to identify priorities and opportunities for action by the Network, focusing on the added value of coordinated work;

3. Liaise with the RC, GoE and the Global UN Network on Migration on implementation of UN system capacity building projects by The Network in line with GCM objectives, country plans, and the capacity building mechanism;[2]

4. Facilitate regular interaction between the members of the Executive Committee;

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[2] The capacity building mechanism (CBM) called for in the GCM (OP43) will serve to contribute technical, financial and human resources in order to strengthen capacities and foster multi-partner cooperation in pursuit of GCM implementation. The CBM will consist of a) a connection hub that facilitates demand-driven, tailor-made and integrated solutions, b) a global knowledge platform as an online open data source, and c) a start-up fund for initial financing to realize project-oriented solutions.

5. Provide periodic reports on Network activities to the UNCT, relevant UN system coordination structures, and the UN Network on Migration;

6. Provide regular briefings on Network activities to governmental and non-governmental coordination structures with which synergies are sought; and

7. Ensure the provision of effective secretariat support for the Network.

Executive Committee

1. Provide overall guidance to the work of the Network, setting strategic priorities to support the GoE in the effective implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM, including in the International Migration Review Forum established in the GCM;

2. Support IOM in coordinating the work of the Network, oversee coherent country-level Network support and ensure effective collaboration with existing coordination mechanisms and stakeholders;

3. Decide on the annual workplan for the Network in consultation with other members of the Network and develop collaborative processes by which to oversee its effectiveness and ongoing relevance;

4. Determine the establishment, focus, composition, and workplans of Thematic Working Groups; and

5. Ensure the Network's workplans and activities adhere to its working principles.

Secretariat

1. Provide support to all constituent parts of the Network in the discharge of their functions;

2. Coordinate the preparation of the annual workplan for the Network, in close collaboration with Network members;

3. Support collaboration between all constituent parts of the Network and between the Network members and existing UN coordination mechanisms, as well as external partners, within the framework of the Network's workplan and available resources;

4. Collage and suggest issues for action within the Network;

5. Facilitate the Network's support to the GoE through the capacity building mechanism;

6. Coordinate the preparation of the Network's periodic reports to the UNCT and GoE, in close collaboration with the Executive Committee;

7. Organize the Network's bi-monthly meeting and other additional meetings;

8. Prepare and disseminate minutes and records of meetings and decisions taken; and

9. Monitor the implementation of Network decisions.

Frequency and format of meetings

- The Network will meet on a bi-monthly basis.[3]

- The Network's meeting will be open to representatives from other migration coordination platforms as well as government and non-governmental organizations engaged in migration governance.[4] Meetings with external partners, including other coordination mechanisms addressing migration-related issues, government and non-governmental organizations may be held as necessary, as determined by the Executive Committee.

- The Network's meetings will be held at the IOM Office in Addis Ababa.

- The Coordinator of the Network, with support of the Executive Committee and in consultation with the Network members, will convene an Annual Meeting of the full membership of the Network. The Annual meeting will facilitate, among other things, review of progress on the Network's workplans, identification of opportunities to enhance coordination and collaboration, and discussion on emerging challenges and opportunities and decisions thereon.

- The Executive Committee can call for extraordinary meetings of the Network when necessary.

Specific provisions

- These Terms of Reference may be revised upon decision of the Executive Committee and in consultation with Network members.

- The Coordinator of the Network, with support of the Executive Committee and in consultation with the Network members, will ensure an ongoing process of review of the working arrangements of the Network to ensure that the Network pursues its objectives in an as effective, focused and coherent manner as possible, taking account of new developments. At a minimum, such reviews will take place every 12 months to coincide with the Network's Annual Meeting.

Reporting arrangements within the UN System

- To ensure synergies with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and the management and accountability framework of the UN development and RC system, the Network will report periodically to UNCT.

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[3] The frequency of meetings may be revised based on developments in the UN architecture resulting from the UN reform process.

[4] Migration governance involves a variety of actors across multiple levels, and platforms that facilitate interaction among governmental institutions, the private sector, multilaterals and non-governmental organizations are essential to ensuring positive outcomes. It takes institutions across different sectors into account and evaluates the effectiveness of existing mechanisms for multi-stakeholder coordination.

- The Network will support the RCO in fulfilling its GCM-related accountabilities to the UN Secretary General.

Annex I: Network membership in Ethiopia (as of October 2019)

1. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

2. **International Labour Organization (ILO) ***

3. **International Organization for Migration (IOM) ***

4. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

5. **Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) ***

6. United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

7. **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) ***

8. United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

9. **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) ***

10. United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

11. United Nations Economic, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

12. United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)

13. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

14. **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) ***

15. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

16. **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) ***

17. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

18. United Nations Volunteers (UNV)

19. World Food Programme (WFP)

20. World Health Organization (WHO)

* Members of the Network's Executive Committee (as provided in the global UN Network on Migration ToR)