



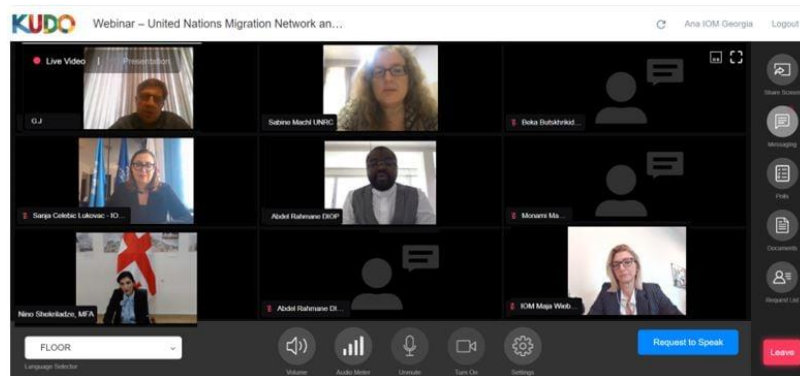
Workshop – United Nations Network on Migration and Georgian Civil Society Organizations’ Engagement in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration process

Tuesday, 16 March 2021

13:00-14:30 (Tbilisi)/10:00-11:30 (Geneva)

(KUDO online platform)

<https://live.kudoway.eu/ad/220214171502>



Minutes of the Meeting:

- **Brief introduction of the workshop by Ms. Sanja Celebic Lukovac, Chief of Mission, IOM Georgia.**
- **Introductory remarks by Ms. Sabine Machl, UN Resident Coordinator, Georgia:**
 - Outlined the importance of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) process and UN Network on Migration in terms of finding common solutions to address diverse, complex and shared migration challenges in close cooperation with the government and SCO organizations.
 - Noted that the GCM is directly framed to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) that provide an opportunity to protect and empower mobile populations to fulfill their development potential and benefit individuals, communities and countries worldwide.
 - Emphasized the importance of collaboration in order to enable inclusive recovery from the pandemic, which can bring new opportunities to all members of the society and ensures that no one is left behind
 - Thanked the Government of Georgia for their proactive, advanced and comprehensive approach in managing migration

- **Opening remarks by Ms. Sanja Celebic Lukovac, Chief of Mission, IOM Georgia**
 - Outlined the importance of establishing the UN Network on Migration with the main tasks to coordinate the UN collective contribution to migration governance in Georgia by facilitating, supporting and complementing the 2021-2030 Migration Strategy of Georgia based on the provisions of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).
 - Emphasized the significance of whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches and CSO active engagement in the GCM process.

- **Remarks by Ms. Nino Shekrladze, Head of the UN Division of the Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia:**
 - Expressed gratitude to the UN resident coordinator's office and International Organization for Migration (IOM) for the cooperation and provided assistance in addressing migration challenges through a number of capacity building and technical assistance initiatives, combating irregular migration, etc.
 - Expressed MFA's readiness to be actively engaged in the activities of UN Network on Migration in order to implement, follow up and review the GCM process.

- **Remarks by Mr. George Jashi, the Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Georgian State Commission for Migration Issues:**
 - Thanked IOM for the cooperation in advancing migration governance in Georgia. Also, recognized the efforts of the UN Network on Migration to facilitate effective, timely and coordinated support to the Government of Georgia to implement the GCM process.
 - Expressed interested in new initiatives of the Network and upcoming activities.

- **Presentation of the United Nations Network on Migration structure, Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), the regional review process, whole-of-society approach and stakeholder engagement - *Monami Maulik*, Civil Society Liaison Officer, UN Network on Migration**
 - Guideline principles (including whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches, Human rights, Sustainable development, etc.) and 23 objectives of GCM were presented and analyzed in depth.
 - Transparency, inclusivity, diversity and meaningful participation were recognized as the major principles of stakeholders' engagement in the GCM process.
 - New capacity-building mechanisms such as *MIGRATION MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND* and *GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM AND CONNECTION HUB* were presented.

- **Presentation of the Champion Countries Initiative and the Networks at regional and country levels - *Abdel Diop*, Policy officer, UN Network on Migration**

- Presented a structure and mission of the UN Network on Migration at country and regional levels.
- Outlined a leadership role of the government in developing the national implementation plans, mainstreaming migration in national development plans and encouraging coordination at different levels.
- Noted the objectives and importance of the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) in 202.
- Presented the Workplan of the UN Network on Migration, UN regional and country-level migration coordination mechanisms and GCM Champion countries initiative.

- **CSO representatives remarks and discussion**
 - CSO representatives expressed their gratitude to the Secretariat of the UN Network on Migration in Geneva for the presentation and provided information. Also, they thanked IOM Georgia for organizing the workshop.
- **Nana Todua , Association MERCURY**
 - Considering that 80% of Georgian migrants are women and that according to their statistics, many (up to 60%) women are victims of domestic violence, migration abroad for some Georgian women is a way to escape unhealthy domestic environment. In order to cut down on illegal migration, it would be important to tackle domestic violence at home in form of prevention so this would not be one of the drivers of irregular migration.
- **Anzor Khatiashvili - Tolerance and Diversity Institute**
 - Racial discrimination is a big issue in Georgia and TDI noted that the Government of Georgia could take more robust steps to tackle it. This would contribute to a safer environment in Georgia for foreign migrant where their rights would be fully protected.
- **Mariam Svimonishvili, Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA)**
 - Recognized that all the GCM objectives are relevant in Georgia context, but also indicated that more emphasis should be put on 6th, 7th, 17th and 21st objectives (*Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work, Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration, Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration, Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration*)
- **Giorgi Gogishvili, Migration Center**
 - Expressed its readiness to participate in the initiatives and mechanisms within the UN network on Migration. Noted that additional funding opportunities for CSOs would be most welcome so they can more actively engaged.
- **Nino Tsereteli, Center for Information and Counseling on Reproductive Health – Tanadgoma**

- Emphasized the importance of GCM implementation in terms of protecting the most marginalized and vulnerable social groups in Georgia.
- **Levan Gobadze, Young Scientists Union "Intellect"**
 - Greater engagement of the local governments in the migration management process at the national level is of utmost importance and can contribute to greater success.
- **Concluding remarks by Ms. Maja Wiebler, IOM Georgia**
 - Expressed gratitude to the UN resident coordinator's office, representatives of the Secretariat of the UN Network on Migration in Geneva, the Government of Georgia and Civil Society Organizations in Georgia for their participation in the workshop.
 - Recognized the need for additional meetings and emphasized the importance of future collaboration in order to achieve GCM objectives.

Participants:

UN Resident Coordinator's office, Georgia

- Sabine Machl, UN Resident Coordinator, Georgia - sabine.machl@un.org (*speaker*)
- Anna Platonova, Senior Development Coordination Officer/Economist Office - anna.platonova@un.org

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia (MFA)

- Nino Shekrladze, Head of the UN Division of the Department of International Organizations - n.shekrladze@mfa.gov.ge (*speaker*)
- Sandro Inashvili, Counselor at UN Division - sinashvili@mfa.gov.ge
- Manana Melkadze, Secretary of the Consular department - mmelkadze@mfa.gov.ge

Secretariat of State Commission on Migration Issues

- George Jashi, Executive Secretary, Secretariat of State Commission on Migration Issues - george.jashi@sda.gov.ge (*speaker*)
- Temur Goginovi, Analyst at the Secretariat of State Commission on Migration Issues - t.goginovi@sda.gov.ge
- Gvantsa Abesadze, Secretary for Legal Support at the Secretariat of State Commission on Migration Issues - g.abesadze@sda.gov.ge
- Nino Sanikidze, SCMI Expert on Research and Development - ni.sanikidze@sda.gov.ge

Secretariat of the UN Network on Migration in Geneva

- Monami Pisky Maulik, Civil Society Liaison Officer - mmaulik@iom.int (*speaker*)
- Abdel Rahmane Diop, Civil Society Liaison Officer - ardiop@iom.int (*speaker*)
- Alix Defrain Meunier, COS Intern - adefrain@iom.int
- Franz Fischer, Asc Mig Pol Off(SCT for the UN NTW on Migration)- ffischer@iom.int

Vienna RO, IOM

- Amr Taha, Senior Regional Liaison & Policy Officer - ataha@iom.int
- Peter Broomfield, Project Assistant, Policy & Liaison - pbroomfield@iom.int
- Lauranne Simon Van Asch, Junior Project Assistant - lvanasch@iom.int

IOM Georgia

- Sanja Celebic Lukovac, Chief of Mission - scelebic@iom.int (*speaker*)
- Maja Wiebler, Project Manager - mwiebler@iom.int
- Tamar Mamulashvili, Assistant to COM/Sr. PS assistant - tmamulashvil@iom.int
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UNHCR Georgia

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CSO Representatives

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- Nana Janashia, Caucasus Environmental NGO Network CENN - nana.janashia@cenn.org
- Mariam Svimonishvili, Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA) - msvimonishvili@gyla.ge