

Concept Note
Multi-Stakeholder Consultation
**Africa Regional Review of the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe,
Orderly and Regular Migration:**
Protecting migrants through rights-based border governance measures
July 5th, 2021
Co-leads: UNICEF & OHCHR

I. Purpose of the consultations

In line with the principles and commitments outlined in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), and in preparation for the first African regional review of the implementation of the GCM, the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in coordination with the United Nations Network on Migration (UN Network) and the African Union Commission (AUC) are jointly convening a stakeholder consultation on *Protecting migrants through rights-based border governance measures* with all relevant stakeholders for a transparent, inclusive, diverse and meaningful civil society engagement and participation in the implementation, follow-up and review of the Africa GCM. This thematic-based stakeholder consultation will be driven under the auspices of the UN Network, with particular agencies assigned co-lead roles. UNICEF and OHCHR are co-leads for this thematic issue with the support of IOM, UNECA and AUC.

II. Background

The adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in Marrakesh in 2018 marks a major paradigm shift in the global governance framework and provides a common human rights-based framework for international migration, highlighting all its dimensions. Strongly embedded in the 2030 Agenda, the GCM, with its guiding principles and 23 objectives offers a 360-degree approach and cross-cutting vision to migration, as well as presenting an opportunity to strengthen the human rights of migrants and recognize their positive contribution to sustainable development.

Given the importance of a whole of society approach as one of the guiding principles of the GCM, the UN Network on Migration and AUC are convening a stakeholder consultation on *Protecting migrants through rights-based border governance measures* in order to promote genuine and inclusive engagement of relevant stakeholders. These relevant stakeholders are in cooperation and partnership with migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, trade unions, parliamentarians, National Human Rights Institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders (para 44 of the GCM).

The following principles will guide the design and implementation of the stakeholder consultation:

- *Transparency*: Generating an open call for engagement to all relevant stakeholders and providing an open and equal channel to receive inputs.
- *Inclusivity*: Creating room for the widest possible access to all relevant stakeholders through different forms of engagement.
- *Diversity*: Ensuring non-discriminatory access to all, with particular attention to underrepresented voices and to migrants in situations of vulnerability; and
- *Meaningful participation*: Providing effective access to all preparatory and follow-up processes within the context of the regional review and encouraging the mobilization of resources to enable participation of relevant stakeholders.

The Africa Regional Review Meeting is planned to take place in August/September 2021 in Morocco and therefore it is important that the consultation on *Protecting migrants through rights-based border governance measures* takes place prior to the Review Meeting, and brings forward the key issues and salient recommendations from a wide and diverse range of stakeholders. It is also essential to ensure balanced representation of stakeholders from the entire continent.

Rights-based border governance measures are critical to protecting migrants and achieving a safe, orderly and regular migration. The GCM provides commitments to ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation (objective 4). This ensures a migrant's legal identity upon entry, during stay and for return. Africa has in recent years made considerable progress in improving access to legal identity and civil registry documents. However, proof of legal identity and adequate documentation service coverage remains very low. In the absence of safe, orderly and regular migration options, thousands of migrants from and to Africa decide to take dangerous and long journeys. While data is not often systematically collected or is largely underestimated, 99 deaths of migrants is recorded between January and April 2021¹. Through its objective 8, the GCM provides commitments to save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants. The GCM objective 9 also provides a commitment to intensify joint efforts to prevent and counter smuggling of migrants by strengthening capacities and international cooperation. Objective 10 promotes member states to take action to prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration. This remains critical noting the majority of victims of trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa especially in West Africa are children.² Through paying particular attention to the protection of women and children, the GCM provides commitments for international cooperation to investigate, prosecute and penalize trafficking in persons, discouraging demand that fosters exploitation leading to trafficking, and ending impunity of trafficking networks. The GCM objectives also promote integrated, secure, and coordinated border management (objective 11). This is of great importance for Africa and aligned with the objectives set out in the African Union Border Governance Strategy (2017)³. The GCM outlines detention of migrants to be used only as a measure of last resort (objective 13) and focus shall be made on the noncustodial alternatives to detention. Lastly, ensuring safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration is anchored through the GCM (objective 23).

¹ <https://missingmigrants.iom.int/region/africa?region=All&route=All>. Data is as of 19th April.

² https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tip/2021/GLOTiP_2020_15jan_web.pdf

³ <https://www.peaceau.org/uploads/2018-06-14-aubgs-e.pdf>

Ultimately, the contributions received from the stakeholder consultation on *Protecting migrants through rights-based border governance measures* will be included in the report that will be presented during the regional review meeting and this will serve as Africa's GCM implementation report that will feed into the International Migration Review Forum in 2022.

III. Forms of stakeholder engagement

For the review of the GCM, the UN Network on Migration, IOM, ECA and AUC will engage the relevant stakeholders in the following ways:

1. Briefing for stakeholders – There will be a briefing to inform the stakeholders on the need for, and design of, the regional stakeholder consultations; progress to date of the regional review process; and planning for the regional review meeting. The briefing will include an open Q&A session and will seek to assist stakeholders to identify entry points for their engagement in the regional review process at the sub-regional and continental levels. The briefing will take place prior to the stakeholder consultation.
2. Stakeholder consultations – The stakeholders from all the regions of Africa will discuss the following objectives of the GCM:
 - Objective 4: Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation
 - Objective 8: Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants
 - Objective 9: Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants
 - Objective 10: Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration
 - Objective 11: Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner
 - Objective 13: Use immigration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives
 - Objective 21: Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration
3. Regional Review Meeting Stakeholder Session – a session will be organized in the official program of the Regional Review Meeting. This session will serve as a platform to consolidate the contribution received from all the thematic stakeholder consultations, including other forms of submissions (written, recorded etc.).

IV. Approach of the consultations

In engaging the relevant stakeholders, the UN Network, IOM and AUC will aim to ensure balance in relation to thematic and geographic representation, types of stakeholder category/group, scope of mandate, age and gender.

V. Expected outputs

The multi-stakeholder consultation is expected to:

- assess the progress made in the implementation of the GCM objectives (4,8,9,10, 11,13 &21) in Africa
- discuss challenges and opportunities for meaningful stakeholder engagement in Africa
- formulate key messages and recommendations to inform the continental review in July 2021.

A summary report will be produced following the consultation, that will capture the key issues raised in the discussions including salient recommendations. The rapporteurs for thematic area 2 will be responsible to synthesize key messages and recommendations of the multi-stakeholder consultation. The rapporteur will present the outcome report during the continental review in August/September 2021.

VI. Organizational and administrative matters

The consultations (in virtual format) will be on July 5th 2021 from 11:00 – 15:00 pm (East Africa Time).

VII. Documentation and the language of the meeting

The documentation of the consultations will comprise of documents and materials related to the themes of the consultation and will be made available on [the UN Network Landing page for Africa](#).

The working language of the consultation is English. Simultaneous French and Arabic interpretation will be provided.

Agenda for the multi-stake holder consultations on the status of the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Africa

July 2021

Thematic area 2 (GCM objectives 4,8,9,10,11,13,21):

- Objective 4: Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation
- Objective 8: Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants
- Objective 9: Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants
- Objective 10: Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration
- Objective 11: Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner
- Objective 13: Use immigration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives
- Objective 21: Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration

Time (EAT)	Session	Facilitator
11:00 am	Start of the Webinar	Mrs Monami Maulik, Secretariat of the UN Network on Migration
11.00am-11.10am	Welcome Remarks	Dr. Edward Addai, UNICEF Representative to the AU & UN ECA
11.10am-11.20am	Overview of the GCM process, update on the recent developments & introduction of the objectives of the multi-stakeholder consultations	Mrs Monami Maulik, Secretariat of the UN Network on Migration
11.20am-11.35am	Migrant youth speech/setting the tone of the day UN Major Group on Children and Youth (UN MGCY)	Paul Mukuna Kabeya Emmanuel Clifford Gyetuah or Sidoine Felix M. Leudjie, UN MGCY
11:35am-11:40am	Introduction of the groups (each to discuss achievements, challenges, best practices & lessons learnt and proposed actions)	Charlotte Anna CAMPO, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
11.40am-13.10	Keynote speakers: (10min each) 1. Mrs Joelle Rizk, Regional Migration Advisor for Africa, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Moderated by Group 1: Nsanshya Faith Chilupula, UNICEF



Time (EAT)	Session	Facilitator
	<p>2. Mr Bubacarr Singateh, Board member of UN MGCY</p> <p>3. Dr. Ahmed Zanya Bugre, Director, Foundation for Shelter and Support to Migrants (FSM)</p> <p>Group discussions (1h)</p> <p>Group 1 (Objective 4) Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation & (Objective 8) Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants</p> <p>Group 2 (Objective 9) Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants) & (Objective 10) Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration) & (Objective 11) Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner</p> <p>Group 3 (Objective 13) Use immigration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives (Objective 21) Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration</p>	<p>Group 2: Mrs Annalisa Paucillo, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, UNODC West and Central Africa</p> <p>Group 3: Charlotte Anna Campo, OHCHR West Africa</p>
13:10-13.40	Conclusions and feedback from the group discussions in plenary	Respective group rapporteurs (10 min each)
13.40-14.30	Plenary discussions	Plenary moderated by: Thandie Mwape Villadsen, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
14.30-14.45	Summary and closure of the webinar	Manqindi Phumza, Liaison Officer, International Organization for Migration(IOM)



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ANNEX

OBJECTIVES OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT ON SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION

This stakeholder consultation focuses primary on the following objectives:

Objective 4: Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation

Objective 8: Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants

Objective 9: Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants

Objective 10: Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration

Objective 11: Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner

Objective 13: Use immigration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives

Objective 21: Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration