Note on the implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)

Proposed roadmap for the UN Network on Migration's support to the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF)

1. Introduction

The United Nations Network on Migration (the Network) will ensure effective and coherent support in the implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM, and will promote the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in line with the GCM vision and guiding principles (GCM paras 8-15).[1]

This note outlines Network support to both Member States and stakeholders at the country, regional and global levels, and will be complemented by dedicated guidance on stakeholder engagement and registration.

2. The IMRF

The IMRF will (1) provide an opportunity for Member States and other relevant stakeholders to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the GCM; (2) provide a space for a policy debate focusing on challenges in the implementation of the GCM; and (3) result in a Progress Declaration.

3. Roadmap

Voluntary GCM reviews

- The Network stands ready to assist governments in conducting reviews of progress at national and regional levels, including by supporting voluntary stocktaking of the implementation of the GCM ('voluntary GCM review'), to inform the participation of Member States at the IMRF.
- Member States that have already prepared voluntary GCM reviews for the regional reviews process may wish to, as appropriate, update and resubmit them in line with the template provided in annex 1. Member States that have yet to prepare a voluntary GCM review are invited to consider using the same proposed template.
- In assisting Member States in elaborating, revising or updating voluntary GCM reviews, the Network recommends the meaningful inclusion of stakeholders' perspectives in these reviews, in line with the GCM guiding principles.
- Member States are invited to send their voluntary GCM reviews and national implementation plans to the secretariat of the Network (unmignet@iom.int) after which they will be posted on the Network's website (https://migrationnetwork.un.org/)
- All relevant stakeholders, including national human rights institutions, as well as the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions and regional human rights institution networks, are invited to submit their inputs to the IMRF to the secretariat of the Network (unmignet@iom.int) after which they will be posted on Network's website, prior to the IMRF.
- The Network will post information on the preparation and organization of the IMRF on the dedicated IMRF website: www.un.org/migration2022 (activated in November 2021).

Secretary-General Report

- The Network will consult Member States, UN entities and stakeholders in preparing the UN Secretary-General report on the GCM, through informal briefings in Geneva and New

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[1] Including the GCM's 360-degree vision and guiding principles: people-centered, international cooperation, national sovereignty, rule of law and due process, sustainable development, human rights, gender-responsive, child-sensitive, whole-of-government approach, whole-of-society approach (GCM para 15).

York; and will draw on submissions to, and outcomes from, the preceding regional reviews process.
- The Network will organize a dedicated event to launch the Secretary-General's report in February 2022.

IMRF policy debate and round tables

- The Network will consult Member States, UN entities and stakeholders in drafting the background notes for each roundtable of the IMRF.
- The Network will coordinate the preparation of a separate background note for the IMRF policy debate.
- UN entities will organize substantive, preparatory, multi-stakeholder events and prepare technical materials to assist Member States and stakeholders in their preparations for the IMRF round tables and policy debate. These events will be posted on the Migration Network Hub (https://migrationnetwork.un.org/hub).

Multi-stakeholder hearing

- The Network will support the Office of the President of the General Assembly (OPGA), as requested, in the organization of the informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing one day prior to the IMRF.
- The Network will support the UN Secretariat and OPGA to draft a note on stakeholder accreditation and registration. The note will be made available on the Network's website.

Communications

- The Network will develop a communications plan, to be launched at least six months before the IMRF. This plan will make use of the Migration Network Hub's Repository of Practices showcasing examples of GCM implementation at local, national and regional levels, as well as on the creation of a space where Member States and stakeholders can connect and discuss the IMRF ("the Hub's discussion spaces".).
- The Network will maintain a calendar of events on the Network's website.
- The Network will send monthly updates on the IMRF preparatory process.
- The Network will launch a Dialogue series, consisting of webinars on selected themes. The series will be organized until the IMRF, and include multi-stakeholder discussions in preparation for the four IMRF roundtables

In preparing for the first IMRF, the Network will take into account other relevant[2] processes, including, but not limited to:

- The United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
- The Human Rights Council
- The COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference
- The Global Forum on Migration and Development, including its civil society, business and mayoral mechanisms
- The IOM International Dialogue on Migration
- Regional consultative processes on migration

4. Financial implications

- In resolution 73/326, the General Assembly calls for the IMRF to be held within existing resources of the regular UN budget.[3]
- Subject to funding, the Migration MPTF will provide support to the GCM follow-up and review processes outlined under articles 48, 49 and 50 of the GCM. This support will be provided through a separate funding window dedicated to this purpose (the "GCM Follow-Up and Review Window").

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[2] In A/RES/73/326, the General Assembly invites the Global Forum on Migration and Development, including its civil society, business and mayoral mechanisms, as well as forums such as the IOM International Dialogue on Migration, regional consultative processes on migration and others to contribute to each forum (para 11 and 12).
[3] A/RES/73/326, para 18(a)

- The activities funded by the GCM Follow-Up and Review Window will focus primarily on facilitating the participation of representatives of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, and relevant stakeholders.

For further questions on the proposed roadmap, please reach out to the secretariat of the Network (unmignet@iom.int).

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ANNEX 1 Indicative template for Member States to review the status of implementation of the GCM at national level, in preparing for the IMRF.

This template is based on the one that was developed in the context of the preparations for the GCM regional review process. However, the specific references to the regional reviews have been omitted.

Note that this template does not include a specific section on the GCM guiding principles. Member states are however encouraged to discuss how the 10 GCM guiding principles (people-centred, international cooperation, national sovereignty, rule of law and due process, sustainable development, human rights, gender-responsive, child-sensitive, whole-of-government and whole-of-society) are reflected in their policies and practices. Guidance on the implementation of these Principles can be found at https://migrationnetwork.un.org/core-working-group-22-gcm-national-implementation-plans .

Note also that, as outlined in the preamble of the GCM, migrants and refugees are distinct groups governed by separate legal frameworks. The GCM refers to migrants and presents a cooperative framework addressing migration in all its dimensions. Reporting on GCM implementation should therefore focus on migrants and not on refugees and asylum seekers who are covered by the Global Compact on Refugees.

For further questions on the template, please reach out to the secretariat of the Network (unmignet@iom.int) or the focal point for the UN Network in your country.

1. Methodology for preparing the voluntary GCM reviews *(suggested 500 words)*

(a) Information on the process for preparation of the review may be presented, including, for example, how different relevant levels and sectors of government contributed to the responses and whether and how the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches were applied; whether parliaments, local authorities and NHRIs were engaged; what mechanisms have been used to engage civil society and other relevant stakeholders; and whether the UN Country Teams were engaged.
(b) Information on how the review builds on the deliberations during the GCM regional review process, as well as the review of migration-related SDGs.

2. Policy and enabling environment *(suggested 500 words)*

(a) Member States are encouraged to describe efforts to leverage synergies across the various reporting mechanisms of other international agreements, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
(b) Member States are encouraged to describe efforts, as well as existing challenges, towards the development of GCM national implementation plans, including strategies, policies or measures and institutional changes on migration.

3. Progress on GCM objectives *(suggested 5000 words)*

(a) Member States are invited to provide brief information on the country-level implementation plans and the status of implementation of all 23 objectives of the GCM, with space given to illustrating innovative policies or promising practices related to any of the objectives. Where possible, information should be based on statistical as well as qualitative data.
(b) Member States are invited to upload their policies and practices to the Migration Network Hub Repository of Practices, in keeping with the criteria for the identification of existing practices that have been developed by the Network.
(c) Member States are invited to describe the steps taken to integrate the vision and cross-cutting and interdependent GCM guiding principles into the implementation plans.
(d) Member States could present critical difficulties envisioned or encountered in reaching GCM objectives and how they could be addressed. The consideration of the objectives could focus on trends, successes, challenges, emerging issues, and lessons learned, including as impacted by regional dynamics, and describe what actions have been taken to address existing gaps and challenges.

4. Means of implementation *(suggested 500 words)*

(a) Member States may discuss how means of implementation and resources are mobilized, and what additional resources are needed to implement the GCM, including in terms of financing, capacity development and data needs, technology, and partnerships.

5. Next steps *(suggested 500 words)*

(a) Based on the outcomes of the review, the Member State could outline what steps are planned to enhance the implementation of the GCM.
(b) It could be indicated how the results of reviews will strengthen GCM implementation.

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ANNEX 2: Background

In resolution 73/195 ("Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration"), the General Assembly, inter alia:

- Commits to implementing the Global Compact at the national, regional and global levels in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders (para 41 and 44);
- Welcomed the establishment of the UN Network on Migration to ensure effective and coherent system-wide support for implementation as well as follow-up and review of the GCM (para 45); and,
- Commits to conducting progress reviews at the local, national, regional and global levels in the framework of the United Nations through a State-led approach, intergovernmental in nature, and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders (para 48).

To that end the GCM:

- Creates the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), which will take place every four years, beginning in 2022, to serve as the primary intergovernmental global platform for Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the Global Compact, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, and which will result in an intergovernmentally agreed Progress Declaration that may be taken into consideration by the high-level political forum on sustainable development (para 49); and,
- Invites relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions or regional consultative processes, to review the implementation of the Global Compact within their respective regions, beginning in 2020, alternating with discussions at the global level at a four-year interval, in order to effectively inform each edition of the IMRF, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders (para 50).
- Encourages all Member States to develop ambitious national responses for the implementation of the GCM, and to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national level, such as through the voluntary elaboration and use of a national implementation plan. Such reviews should draw on contributions from all relevant stakeholders, as well as parliaments and local authorities, and serve to effectively inform the participation of Member States in the International Migration Review Forum and other relevant forums (para 53).

The role of the UN Network on Migration

In resolution 73/326 ("Format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums"), the General Assembly:

- Reiterates the importance of the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders in the forums, and invites non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as all stakeholders that were accredited to the preparatory process of the intergovernmental consultations of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration or that were accredited to participate in the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, and encourages them to register with the Secretariat in order to participate in the forums; (para 4)
- Invites national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles to register with the Secretariat in order to participate in the forums, including the informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearings described in paragraph 15 below, and invites the institutions, as well as the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions and regional human rights institution networks, to submit inputs prior to the forums; (para 6)
- Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the expertise of the UN system as a whole, including specialized agencies, funds and programmes related organizations and regional economic commissions, as well as all relevant special procedures mandate holders and treaty bodies, in accordance with their respective mandates, giving due regard to Geneva-based expertise, is coordinated to support the State-led forums and to facilitate their participation therein (para 7);
- Requests the Network, in preparation for the IMRF, to collect all inputs submitted by Member States and other relevant stakeholders from local, national, regional and global levels and to develop, as part of the global knowledge platform, a dedicated website featuring these inputs to the IMRF (para 13);
- Requests the Secretary-General, as part of the biennial report preceding each forum, drawing on the Network, to provide guidance for the deliberations during the forum, including the envisaged round tables and policy debate, and to make the report available at least 12 weeks ahead of each forum (para 14);
- Requests the President of the General Assembly to organize and to preside over one day of informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearings one day prior to each forum with all relevant

stakeholders, as listed in paragraphs 4 to 7, and also requests the President of the General Assembly to invite the representative of civil society to present a summary of the hearings during the opening segment of the plenary (para 15);

- Takes note of the establishment of the Start-Up Fund for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and requested the Secretary-General to facilitate the participation of representatives of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, and other relevant stakeholders (para 16 and 17);

- Requests the Secretary-General, with input from the Network, to prepare a background note for each round table to be circulated at least six weeks prior to each forum (para 22); and,

- Requests the Director General of the IOM, as Coordinator of the Network, to facilitate the policy debate focusing on challenges in the implementation of the Global Compact, (para. 23).