SUMMARY REPORT

4th Quarterly Meeting with Stakeholders and Partners

Tuesday, 9 November 2021
15:00-17:00 (Geneva)
Zoom online platform

OVERVIEW

On Tuesday 9 November 2021, the UN Network on Migration hosted the 4th Quarterly Meeting with Stakeholders and Partners. This was the last quarterly consultation before the Annual Meeting of the UN Network on Migration, which will take place on 9-10 December 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to provide a space for discussion and information-sharing between the UN Network on Migration and stakeholders on the forthcoming International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) to be held in May 2022.

This consultation was attended by 180 participants, including about 150 stakeholders from a diverse array of sectors (trade unions, civil society, gender, children and youth, faith-based organizations, local authorities, the private sector and others), representing all categories of stakeholders identified in the GCM (para 44), except media, joined by members of the Network.

This report outlines key points raised during the meeting on the multiple entry points for stakeholder engagement in the IMRF preparatory activities and the different components of the Forum itself, on stakeholder accreditation and registration to the IMRF, on the structure of the Forum, as well as on the key thematic priorities and emerging issues that are of significance for the different stakeholder sectors in the roundtable and policy discussions.

For ease of reference, the agenda for this meeting is available online.

ROADMAP TO THE IMRF: ENTRY POINTS FOR CIVIL SOCIETY AND STAKEHOLDERS

— The International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) will take place in six months at the United Nations Headquarters in New York for four days, on 10-13 May 2022, and will be preceded by a one-day interactive multi-stakeholder hearing on 9 May 2022.

— A proposed roadmap for the UN Network on Migration’s support to the IMRF is now available. The preparatory process of the IMRF has been designed to collectively set an ambitious agenda and enable multiple entry points for stakeholder engagement and participation. Among the opportunities for CSOs and stakeholders to engage in the IMRF are the Voluntary GCM reviews, the Secretary-General’s Report, the IMRF Dialogue Series, the Migration Network Hub’s discussion spaces and Repository of practices and the different components of the Forum itself, including a multi-stakeholder hearing:

  o Voluntary GCM reviews: 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. Some Member States have already prepared a voluntary GCM review for the regional reviews process and may wish to update and resubmit them (this is an ongoing process). Other Member States have yet to prepare one. 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.

- **Platforms for stakeholder engagement at the country and regional level:** Consultative processes at national and regional level, with support of IOM and of the Country and Regional Networks, will play an important role in providing meaningful platforms for stakeholder engagement in the preparations for the IMRF. This will also be key to highlight examples of cooperation between states, between stakeholders and states, but also gaps within regions and GCM objectives that are less well-covered.

- **IMRF Dialogue Series:** To support Member States and relevant stakeholders in preparing for the IMRF, the Network will host the Migration Dialogue Series on the Hub (December 2021 – April 2022). These webinars will provide a space where Member States and stakeholders can discuss approaches towards achieving effective, principled migration governance for the benefit of all. These deliberations are designed to assist Member States and other relevant stakeholders to prepare for the Forum’s roundtables and policy debate. They will also provide input for the background notes for each of the roundtables and for the policy debate. The Migration Dialogues will be comprised of two types of online discussions:
  (i) Webinars on the clusters of GCM objectives that will be covered under each of the four roundtables of the Forum, and
  (ii) Webinars on gaps and emerging challenges relevant to the implementation of the GCM.

- **Migration Network Hub – Discussion Spaces:** The Hub provides online discussion spaces in order to enable interaction, knowledge-sharing and learning on topics related to the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration among Member States and other stakeholders. Dedicated discussion spaces will be created on the Hub prior to each webinar as part of the IMRF Dialogue Series.

- **Migration Network Hub – Repository of Practices:** Stakeholders can submit practices pertaining to GCM implementation via the Hub. These practices will undergo a peer review process before being posted on the Hub and taking part of the growing collection of practices demonstrating what governments, organizations, and people around the world are doing to promote the well-being of migrants and their communities. The “Repository of Practices” will showcase replicable practices and serve as an inspiration for actors involved in GCM implementation at the global, national, regional, and local levels.

- **Secretary-General’s Report:** In preparing the Report, the Network consulted Member States, UN entities and stakeholders. The drafting process of the SG's report is now close to finalizing. Drawing from the inputs received during two consultations with stakeholders held by the Network in July 2021, from several subsequent consultations and from the written inputs submitted by stakeholders as part of the regional reviews process, the report will be launched in February 2022 in New York. The Network will organize a dedicated event which will represent a good opportunity to build momentum.

- **Interactive multi-stakeholder hearing prior to the IMRF:** The Network will support the Office of the President of the General Assembly (OPGA), in the organization of the informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing one day prior to the IMRF. The Network will organize an open consultation with stakeholders to receive inputs and suggestions on the organization, agenda and speakers for the multi-stakeholder hearing. A representative of civil society and stakeholders will present a summary of the hearings during the opening segment of the plenary. Stakeholders will have the chance to nominate rapporteurs within the registration forms.

**STAKEHOLDER ACCREDITATION AND REGISTRATION**

- A note on stakeholder registration and engagement in the IMRF will be released by the Office of the President of the UN General Assembly (OPGA) in the coming weeks and will be made available on the Network’s website.

- The Modalities Resolution calls for an accreditation and registration process. The following organizations are considered as already accredited to participate in the IMRF and the multi-stakeholder hearing, and will be invited to register in due course in order to participate in the forum:
o The non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

o All stakeholders that were accredited to the preparatory process of the intergovernmental consultations of the GCM or that were accredited to participate in the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the GCM (lists available here).

− Non-ECOSOC accredited NGOs and other stakeholders that have not already been accredited in the context of the GCM and that are interested in participating in the IMRF and informal multi-stakeholder hearing will be able to newly apply for accreditation to the IMRF. An open call for accreditation will be launched in mid-December and remain open until mid-January. These and subsequent dates are pending approval from the OPGA and will be clarified in a Note on Stakeholder Engagement on the IMRF to be released soon (TBC).

− The President of the General Assembly will draw up a list of other representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, academic, scientific and knowledge-based institutions, the private sector, trade unions, faith-based, migrant and youth organizations, diaspora communities and other relevant stakeholders, who may attend and participate in the Forum, taking into account the principles of transparency and of equitable geographical representation, with due regard to the meaningful participation of women. The PGA will submit the list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis, no later than three months before the IMRF.

− More information on how stakeholders will be able to express their interest to speak and to contribute in the different components of the Forum will be available in the Note released by the OPGA.

**STRUCTURE OF THE IMRF**

- **Four interactive multi-stakeholder round tables** (during the first day and the morning of the second day of the Forum).
  - All 23 objectives of the Global Compact shall be covered in the following indicative way:
    1. Round table one: objectives 2, 5, 6, 12 and 18;
    2. Round table two: objectives 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 21;
    3. Round table three: objectives 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 22;
    4. Round table four: objectives 1, 3, 7, 17 and 23.
  - Each round table will be co-chaired by two Member State representatives, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly. Adequate space should be reserved during each round table for participation of non-governmental stakeholders and representatives of local authorities, as well as of regional processes, platforms and organizations.

- **A policy debate** (in the afternoon of the second day of the Forum):
  - The technical summaries of the round tables will be presented at the beginning of the policy debate.
  - The Director General of the IOM, as Coordinator of the Network, will facilitate the policy debate focusing on challenges in the implementation of the Global Compact, including links with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
  - The policy debate will also consider possible guidance for the United Nations system to strengthen its efforts in improving system-wide effectiveness and coherence and in supporting Member States in implementing the Global Compact.

- **Plenary discussions** (during the third and fourth days of the Forum):
  - The plenary will be divided into an opening segment, a general debate and a closing segment;
SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER AND CIVIL SOCIETY INPUTS

Key thematic priorities and emerging issues

During this consultation, stakeholders have highlighted key thematic priorities and emerging issues that are of significance for their sectors in the round tables and policy discussions, such as but not limited to: climate change and migration, with an emphasis on the need to acknowledge injustices, loss and damages and to deliver funding to developing countries; adequate protection from a human rights perspective; inclusion of migrants in the pandemic recovery and response; migrant workers’ rights, freedom of expression and association; skills mobility, development and recognition; decent work and the need for a new social contract, abolishment of the sponsorship system; access to services; safe and regular pathways; mixed migration; rights and protection at borders and the need to end pushback practices; challenges linked to the temporary migration policies and the need for permanent protections; the need for coherence between the GCM and the refugee policy frameworks; the need to ensure equality, non-discrimination, racial justice and freedom from economic coercion and the need for an intersectional approach considering gender and race as central and cross-cutting aspects; the need to put an end to the dehumanization of migrants and to adopt people-centered and migrant-centered approaches.

Process

- Stakeholders stressed the need for resources, structures and coordination at the national level in order to allow a meaningful engagement of civil society and stakeholders in the preparatory phase, during the IMRF itself and beyond.

- Stakeholders questioned the limitation of selection of one rapporteur/ representative only for all of civil society and stakeholders. This rapporteur will present a summary of the hearings during the opening segment of the plenary. Some stakeholders expressed the need for more than one person to be able to speak for all of civil society. The Network responded that a dedicated discussion could be organized on this subject and that it will encourage the coordinated development of key messages among all stakeholders for the rapporteur who will deliver this summary.

- Questions and concerns have been raised by stakeholders on the registration and accreditation process, in particular for NGOs that do not have the ECOSOC status. The Network detailed the process for these organizations (see above).

- Stakeholders emphasized the need for a strong, inclusive and broad engagement of civil society and stakeholders, and for substantive and meaningful dialogues spaces, not only during the IMRF itself, but also before and after the Forum. They outlined that their engagement should not be limited to one day before the IMRF (multi-stakeholder hearing) but that it should be a long-term process. They called upon the UN Network on Migration to play an important role in facilitating the meaningful participation of CSOs and stakeholders, with a special emphasis on the participation of migrants, young, grassroots organizations, local authorities and communities. Stakeholders underlined the need for accountability mechanisms in order to go beyond the Voluntary GCM Reviews to assess progress in the implementation of the GCM. They pointed out the need to focus on GCM’s practical implementation and relevance on the ground.
LINKS

UN Network on Migration

UN Network on Migration, “Civil society and stakeholders” page
https://migrationnetwork.un.org/civil-society-and-stakeholders

Calendar of Events (regularly updated)
https://migrationnetwork.un.org/calendar-events-2021

Migration Network Hub and Repository of Practices

Migration Network Hub
https://migrationnetwork.un.org/hub

Practice Repository on the Migration Network Hub – “Share a good practice”
https://migrationnetwork.un.org/hub/repository-of-practices/about

International Migration Review Forum 2022

IMRF Roadmap

Information on the preparation and organization of the IMRF
https://migrationnetwork.un.org/international-migration-review-forum-2022

A dedicated Website is currently under construction

Modalities Resolution (A/RES/73/326), “Format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums”

GCM

Global Compact for Migration (A/RES/73/195)

GCM Objectives
https://www.migrationdataportal.org/global-compact-for-migration

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