

June 23rd, 2021

Dear Data Stakeholders,

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 Regional review of the implementation of the GCM in Africa the United Nations Network on Migration (UNNM) and the African Union Commission (AUC) are jointly convening a stakeholder consultation 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 consultations will be driven under the auspices of the UNNM with agencies assigned co-lead roles.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Union Commission (AUC), have the honor to invite you to the first Africa Stakeholder Consultations for the Africa Regional Review of the Implementation of the GCM on the thematic of **“Improving value-driven and evidence-based policymaking and public debate and enhancing cooperation on migration”** on Tuesday July 6th, 2021, 10-12 am (GMT).

The purpose of this stakeholder consultations is to facilitate and expand collaboration and participation in the regional and continental review process, and to elicit stakeholder experiences and views around the review objectives, namely:

- To take stock of the overall progress of implementation of objectives to date;
- Identify key challenges, opportunities, gaps and emerging issues;
- Identify established and emerging good practices and lessons learnt;
- Identify resource requirements and capacity building needs
- Formulate recommendations.

This stakeholder consultation will focus on the GCM objective centered on data and evidence, particularly:

- **GCM Objective 1:** Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
- **GCM Objective 3:** Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
- **GCM Objective 7:** Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration
- **GCM Objective 17:** Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration
- **GCM Objective 23:** Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration

As a result, we invite you to register online and participate through a virtual meeting. For this purpose, we are delighted to share the draft agenda for this stakeholder consultation (annex 1), the enclosed concept note (Annex 2) and a short descriptive of the Regional review of the implementation of the GCM.

The link for the meeting:

Registration here : https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_z333Guc_TayfojUoOPNYeg Meeting ID: 933 5797 2269

Translation in English, French and Arabic will be made available



Annex 1 – Agenda of the stakeholder consultation:

Tuesday July 6th, 2021, 10-12am (GMT) Online Session (Zoom)	
1000 – 1005	Welcome - introduction
1005 – 1020	GCM – Setting the scene
1020 – 1025	Improving value-driven and evidence-based policymaking and public debate and enhancing cooperation on migration – Introduction to GCM data thematic
1025 – 1050	Presentation followed by Q&A & Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data availability, disaggregation, and use (25’);• Diversity, inclusion and social cohesion (25’);• Capacity Building (25’);
1050 – 1115	
1115 – 1140	
1140 – 1150	Synthesis & Conclusions
1150 – 1200	Recommendations & Way forward

Annex 2 – Stakeholder consultation Concept Note:

Stakeholder Consultations for the Africa Regional Review of the Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

“Improving value-driven and evidence-based policymaking and public debate and enhancing cooperation on migration”

(addressing GCM objectives 1, 3, 7, 17 and 23)

6 July 2021, 10-12 am (GMT) Online Session (Zoom)

Concept Note

1. Introduction

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 United Nations Network on Migration (UNNM) and the African Union Commission (AUC) are jointly convening a stakeholder consultation 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 consultations will be driven under the auspices of the UNNM with agencies assigned co-lead roles.

Groups were established around the four thematic areas:

- Thematic Area 1: Ensuring that migration is voluntary, orderly, and regular (addressing GCM objectives 2, 5, 6, 12, 18)
- Thematic Area 2: Protecting migrants through rights-based border governance measures (addressing GCM objectives 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 21)
- Thematic Area 3: Supporting the integration of migrants and their contribution to development (addressing GCM objective 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 22)
- **Thematic Area 4: Improving value-driven and evidence-based policymaking and public debate and enhancing cooperation on migration (addressing GCM objectives 1, 3, 7, 17 and 23)**

This concept note focuses on the stakeholder consultations for the thematic area 4. IOM is co-leading the Thematic Area 4 in collaboration with AUC and UNECA and the taskforce. This group will focus on the “Improving value-driven and evidence-based policymaking and public debate and enhancing cooperation on migration”. This stakeholder consultation will address the following GCM objectives 1, 3, 7, 17 and 23:

- **GCM Objective 1**: Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
- **GCM Objective 3**: Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
- **GCM Objective 7**: Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration



- GCM **Objective 17**: Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration
- GCM **Objective 23**: Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration

Improving data driven decision making on migration and ensuring a strong collaboration among migration data stakeholders is at the core of the GCM. The first objective of the GCM is focused on improving migration data standards. The international community is in need of a reliable and nuanced evidence base that reflects the rich complexity and fast-paced dynamics of the movement of people and which informs policies, practices and public opinion on migration, as well as in development, humanitarian and other related fields.

In line with the GCM objectives, the AUC, IOM-GMDAC, the OECD and Statistics Sweden established in 2021, the Africa Migration Data Network (AMDN). The AMDN aims to promote a continental exchange of good practices on migration data issues, facilitate coordination and collaboration among members of the network in the implementation of migration data-related initiatives, and improve their effectiveness through dissemination and outreach.

2. Objectives of the consultations

The purpose of the stakeholder consultations is to facilitate and expand collaboration and participation in the regional and continental review process, and to elicit stakeholder experiences and views around the review objectives, namely:

- To take stock of the overall progress of implementation of objectives to date;
- Identify key challenges, opportunities, gaps and emerging issues;
- Identify established and emerging good practices and lessons learnt;
- Identify resource requirements and capacity building needs
- Formulate recommendations.

3. Content and format

The consultation will consist of an opening plenary, followed by three presentations followed by Q&As on topics pre-identified.

- i. Welcome - introduction (Context/Objectives/Orientation) (5');
- ii. GCM introduction (15');
- iii. Thematic Area 4 introduction (5');
- iv. Presentation followed by Q&A & Recommendations:
 - **Data availability, disaggregation, and use (25');**
 - **Diversity, inclusion and social cohesion (25');**
 - **Capacity Building (25');**
- v. Synthesis & Conclusions (10');
- vi. Recommendations & Way forward (10').

The 'Presentations' will address all five GCM objectives relevant to this consultation, with objective 23 featuring in both groups given its broad and encompassing nature. Presentations will be made by 2 stakeholders for each topic. A 5 to 7 min presentation is expected for each stakeholder so as to leave 10 minutes to discuss and ask questions. The 'Presentations' sessions will aim at responding to the following questions:

- a) Where do we stand on objectives X and X at continental level?
- b) What are the main challenges in implementation these objectives X and X?
- c) Have any good practices and lessons emerged since the start of the GCM?
- d) What are ongoing projects and resources that could support the achievement of these objectives?
- e) What are the recommendations for the implementation of objectives X and X for the next 12 months?

A summary note of the consultation will be drafted and made publicly available after the consultation.

4. Organizing team

This stakeholder consultation is co-designed and implemented by a sub-team of the taskforce on stakeholder engagement and the committed UN agencies. This group is led by IOM and co-led by AUC and UNECA with the support of UNNM.

5. Participants

Participation in the stakeholders' consultation should be balanced regarding geography/region, gender and area of work/sector (*i.e. data officers/data units at ECA, AU/STATAFRIC, RECs*). According to the paragraph 44 of the GCM, stakeholders includes: 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. Stakeholders should be free to forward the invitation to colleagues and partners.

6. Expected outcomes and next steps

Meaningful, inclusive, transparent and diverse participation by stakeholders with respect to reviewing progress towards GCM objectives 1, 3, 7, 17 and 23 in the Africa. A summary report will be drafted by the Regional taskforce, the United Nations Network on Migration (with inputs from stakeholders participating in the consultation), to be posted on the United Nations Network on Migration (UNNM) webpage.

List of participants: Master List of participants GCM _multi-stakeholder_meeting_8-9_December 2020.xlsx

7. Background documents



- GCM (Global Compact for Migration)
- GCR (Global Compact for Refugee)
- GCM Regional Review Concept Note
- Consultation & Report Aide-Memoire: Africa Regional Review of the Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
- Migration Policy Framework for Africa
- IOM Migration Data Strategy
- Africa Migration Data Network (AMDN) webpage ([here](#))
- GMDAC Building Migration Data Capacity ([here](#))
- Diversity, Inclusion and Social Cohesion - Initiative Core Resources ([DISC Digests](#))
- Global Migration Media Academy ([here](#))

8. Guidance principles of the consultation process:

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.



Annex 3 - Background on the Regional review of the implementation of the GCM:

The conference on the Regional review of the implementation of the GCM aims to provide a platform for Member States and all relevant stakeholders to review the implementation of the GCM and assess the progress made in implementing the GCM within the region, highlight challenges, opportunities and good practices, identify gaps, discuss regional priorities and resource required in implementing the GCM.

The consultation will bring stakeholders together to:

- a) Assess the progress made in the implementation of the GCM in the region, in line with the guiding principles laid down in resolution 73/195;
- b) Discuss challenges and opportunities for meaningful stakeholder engagement in the region; and
- c) formulate key messages and recommendations to inform the Regional Review Conference as well as the 2022 International Migration Review Forum.