WORKSHOP ON

"THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION (GCM)"

IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ALMATY PROCESS

PARTICIPATE here.

DECEMBER 5, 2023

10:00-13:00, BAKU TIME (ZOOM)

HELD WITHIN THE REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER ON MIGRATION (RTCM)

CONCEPT NOTE

Migration is a global reality. There are an estimated 281 million international migrants worldwide, and the majority of these migrants move between countries in a safe, orderly, and regular manner. However, too many still find themselves in vulnerable situations.

If well governed, **migration is an engine of economic growth, innovation, and sustainable development**. It allows millions of people to seek new opportunities each year, creating and strengthening bonds between countries and societies. With the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in 2018, Member States committed to making migration work for all.

Rooted in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which recognizes that migration is a powerful driver of sustainable development for migrants and their communities, the **GCM present a momentous opportunity for Member States and other stakeholders to systematically integrate migration into all relevant areas and stages of their work**, in alignment with and as part of, the implementation of these two frameworks.

The importance of migration for the 2030 Agenda should not be underestimated. As a cross-cutting issue, migration is directly relevant to all the 2030 Agenda's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and many of their targets, meaning the 2030 Agenda cannot be achieved without due consideration of migrants and human mobility. Furthermore, the GCM has the potential to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by providing a comprehensive blueprint for the implementation of its migration-related aspects.

Member States reaffirmed the role of migration on the recent SDG Summit Political Declaration 2023 in which they explicitly recognized to "*the positive role and contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development in countries of origin, transit and destination*" and re-committed to strengthen international cooperation (para 29).

As an Inter-State Coordination Mechanism, the Almaty Process is a crucial platform in facilitating the implementation of the GCM at the national and regional levels, by acting as a peer-to-peer platform for exchange of information and best practices, as well as building capacities of its Member and Observer States. This workshop therefore aims to bring together Member and Observer States of the Almaty Process, as well as relevant government agencies of the countries involved in the scope of RTCM, with a refresher on the

GCM, its purpose and how it can be integrated to strengthen the complementarity between the GCM and sustainable development.

Considering the migration dynamics between participating states of the Almaty Process and the limited number of specialized educational and training platforms in the field of migration in the region, it is important to improve human and institutional potential of the relevant stakeholders of migration through a common platform and approach in order to address migration collectively and more effectively. To this end it is important to explore possibilities of using the RTCM as a specialized regional structure to contribute to training and research initiatives among participating states, foster dialogue on capacity building, work towards establishing a more coordinated and systematic data and information sharing tool.

Furthermore, taking into account that the GCM is the most comprehensive framework for cooperation on international migration, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations General Assembly, covering all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner, it is important to strive for its full implementation in order to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration and reduce the vulnerabilities of people on the move in the region. To this end, through the RTCM, Azerbaijan, as the Almaty Process Chair for 2023-2024, plans to build capacity on GCM implementation, in order to extend the role of the GCM as a tool for mainstreaming migration in regional development policies.

The workshop will therefore provide participants with an in-depth assessment of outcomes of both the first round of GCM Regional Reviews in 2020 and its first-ever global Review, the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) in 2022. Looking ahead, participants will receive a briefing on the ways in which Member States can engage and contribute ahead of the intergovernmental meeting to review the implementation of the GCM in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region, to be held back to-back with the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the ECE region in March 2024[1].

The GCM Regional Reviews can highlight regional dynamics and enhance regional cooperation on GCM implementation, including reflecting the priorities set by Member States in the IMRF Progress Declaration and the pledges made at the Forum. Additionally, they are a crucial opportunity for Member States to discuss existing regional migration governance frameworks, and possible alignment with GCM objectives and guiding principles, as well as how the GCM Capacity Building Mechanisms can support.

The workshop will therefore also provide an overview of support offered to Member States in preparation for the GCM Regional Review, as well as actions that they may undertake to ensure fruitful and engaging discussions. Indeed, ahead of the Review itself, Member States are invited to organise conversations, the GCM Talks series, that will feed into the Regional Reviews. These events offer a space where Member States and/or relevant stakeholders can map, discuss and develop concrete, actionable recommendations towards achieving effective, principled migration governance at the regional and cross-regional level. This workshop will therefore also aim to provide an overview of previous GCM Talks, as well as their objectives and structure, to support Member States as they prepare for the organization of these conversations.

Other initiatives that will be presented in light of the GCM implementation, follow-up and review, include the GCM Champion Country initiative, and a representative from the State Migration Service of Azerbaijan will share their experience as well as the benefits of the initiative, and the pledging initiative, among others.

The workshop will be held in English with simultaneous Russian interpretation.

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[1] UNECE Executive Committee 128th meeting of 15 May 2023: https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/Item%207_EXCOM%20note%20GCM%20regional%20review%20274_final_2023_26.pdf

Agenda

5 December 2023	
10:00 – 10:15	Opening Representative from c (TBC) Representative from the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Azerbaijan (TBC) **Amr TAHA,** Chief of Mission a.i., International Organization for Migration, Azerbaijan Representative from the Secretariat of the Almaty Process (TBC)
10:15 – 10:40	Session 1: Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and UN Network on Migration (UNMN) • Introduction to GCM (history, purpose, structure) • Objectives and Guiding Principles, 360-degree vision **Kanako MABUCHI,** Head of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Azerbaijan
10:40 – 11:30	Session 2: State of play, resources, and way forward • Previous GCM Reviews (*GCM Regional Review 2020, International Migration Review Forum 2022*) • Upcoming GCM Regional Review expectations and preparations (*GCM Talks, Champion Country Initiatives, Migration Network Hub, Pledging Initiative, Good Practices*) • GCM Support and Implementation resources (*GCM Implementation guide, UNMN Workstreams*) • Synergies with other summits, frameworks and fora, including the Regional Forum For Sustainable Development, and Inter-state Consultation Mechanisms (*Regional Forum for Sustainable Development, Global Forum on Migration and Development, Almaty Process*) **Amr TAHA,** Chief of Mission a.i., International Organization for Migration, Azerbaijan **Azrah KARIM RAJPUT,** Liaison and Policy Officer, United Nations Network on Migration Secretariat
11:30 – 12:00	Session 3: Chairmanship of Azerbaijan in Almaty Process: priorities and vision **Representative from the SMS – TBC**
12:00 – 12:30	Session 4: Regional Training Center on Migration and GCM **Representative of the SMS – TBC**
12:30 – 12:55	Questions and Answers
12:55 – 13:00	Closing Remarks Representative from the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan (TBC)