

# UN Working Group on Migration in Lebanon

## Terms of Reference

17 October 2022

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### **Background**

In December 2018, UN Member States endorsed the [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration](#) (GCM). The GCM is the first-ever inter-governmentally negotiated UN agreement on a common approach to governing all aspects of international migration. The GCM comprises 10 cross-cutting guiding principles and defines 23 objectives with an array of possible actions, drawn from best practice, that States may choose to utilize to implement their national migration policies. While a non-legally binding, cooperative framework, the GCM's guiding principles, objectives and actions rest on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international law, including international human rights and labour standards, and are rooted in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The UN system has committed to supporting the GCM implementation, follow-up and review. To this end, the UN Secretary-General established a global Network on Migration to ensure effective, timely and coordinated UN system-wide to Member States at country, regional and global levels.

An UN Working Group on Migration (WG) is being established in Lebanon, under the auspices of the Resident Coordinator Office. Drawing from the mandates, technical expertise and experience of relevant UN entities in Lebanon, the WG's goal is to ensure effective, timely, coordinated UN system-wide support to the Government of Lebanon in their implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM. The WG's mission, objectives, working principles, membership, and structure, draw upon the Network's [global terms of reference](#) to ensure a coherent approach at global, regional, and country levels.

## **UN Working Group on Migration Lebanon**

### **Objectives:**

The objectives of the Working Group are to:

- 1) Ensure effective, timely, coordinated UN system-wide support to the Government of Lebanon and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM in Lebanon, for the rights and wellbeing of all migrants and their communities of destination, origin, and transit;
- 2) Support coherent action by the UN system in support of the GCM objectives and national GCM priorities in Lebanon, where such action would add value, while ensuring well-defined linkages with UN structures at all levels;

- 3) Act as a source of ideas, tools, reliable data and information, analysis, and policy guidance on migration issues;
- 4) Provide leadership to mobilize coordinated and collaborative action on migration by the UNCT, including by speaking with one voice as appropriate, in accordance with the UN Charter, international law, and the mandates and technical expertise of relevant UN system entities;
- 5) Identify priority areas and mobilize funds for joint programming, including joint research, advocacy, programmes, etc., to support implementation of the GCM;
- 6) Ensure close collaboration with other existing UN system coordination mechanisms addressing migration-related issues, actively seeking out synergies and avoiding duplication;
- 7) Engage with external partners, including migrants, civil society, diaspora organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, employers' and workers' organizations, trade unions, parliamentarians, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders.

### **Membership and Structure**

**Members:** The Working Group will consist of those members of the UN system who wish to be a part of it and for whom migration is of relevance to their mandates. Participation-level of WG members will be Deputies/Senior Programme Managers or their designated representatives.

#### **Co-Chairs:**

The WG will be chaired by IOM (IOM having been designated by the UN Secretary General as Coordinator of the UN Network on Migration), the Resident Coordinator Office (RCO), and the International Labour Organization (ILO), with the possibility of other UN agencies chairing in future, and selected based on consensus.

The Co-chairs will be responsible for coordinating the work and key administrative and operational functions of the WG, by:

- 1) Fostering collaboration and consensus among WG members in all aspects of its functioning and work, and ensuring effective collaboration with existing coordination mechanisms and stakeholders;
- 2) Working with WG members to identify priorities and opportunities for action by the WG, focusing on the added value of coordinated work;
- 3) Convening and ensuring the smooth functioning of the WG,
- 4) Briefing the UN system, Lebanese government, international development partners, and other stakeholders on the activities of the WG;
- 5) Proactively identifying funding opportunities for WG operations;

- 6) Delivering joint statements in the name of the WG on specific issues at the request of its membership and after clearance on the content of the intervention by the WG membership.

**Secretariat:** IOM will act as the WG's Secretariat and assist the WG in its operation. In particular, IOM will assist in preparing and circulating draft agendas, liaising with members, disseminating meeting minutes and monitoring the implementation of the WG's decisions.

### **Decision-making**

The WG will endeavour to take all decisions by consensus.

### **Meeting Frequency**

The WG will meet on a quarterly basis.

The WG Co-Chairs or the UN Resident Coordinator can call for extraordinary meetings of the WG when necessary.

### **Work Plan and reporting**

The WG will prepare an annual workplan establishing specific deliverables to be shared with the UN Country Team.

The WG will report on its progress and activities to the UN Country Team through the Co-Chairs bi-annually.

The WG Co-Chairs will represent the WG in the Programme Management Team (PMT).

### **Validity and amendments**

These Terms of Reference are effective as soon as approved and remain operational until terminated by agreement of the UNCT. They will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

These Terms of Reference may be amended or modified in writing after consultation with, and agreement of, the WG members and submission to the Co-Chairs for review and endorsement.

## **Annex I: WG membership in Lebanon**

1. UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator (RCO)
2. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
3. International Labour Organization (ILO)
4. International Organization for Migration (IOM)
5. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
6. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
7. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
8. United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
9. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
10. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
11. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
12. World Health Organization (WHO)
13. United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-HABITAT)
14. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)