Side Event for the Second Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Africa

GCM Preparatory Exchange: Building Bridges with Champions for Impact

Thursday 3 October 2024, 16:00 – 17.30 (EAT), 15:00 – 16:30 (CET)
online
Registration:
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErceqtrzkjGdFT3D2REZaS246X8Fl5Rm
qU

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and French

<u>Concept Note and Agenda</u>

I. Background

The African Non-State Actors Platform brings together diaspora actors, civil society and trade unions representing African-led organisations advocating for migrants' rights in global processes and frameworks[1]. The African Non-state Actors platform recognises that these championing attributes are not restricted to champion member states but require diverse actors for effective, rights-based migration governance that centers around the achievement of 'the Africa We Want'.

The African Non-State Actors Platform proposes two interlinked events, as part of the official calendar of the GCM Africa regional review in the form of a **virtual GCM Talk (this concept note) and an in-person side event in Addis Ababa**. The virtual talk will be 2 hours. The virtual technical exchange, to be hosted in English and French, will prepare African Member States ahead of the African Regional review meeting in Addis Ababa. This will build on discussions from sub-regional reviews and stakeholder consultations as well as other engagements that the platform and partners have held to prepare for the GCM. It will showcase the importance of supporting GCM champion countries through collaborative partnerships and engagements to draw collective action on pressing migration challenges and deriving the optimal benefits of the promise of migration for sustainable development

---

[1] *https://gfmdcivilsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/The-Abuja-Statement-EN-.pdf*

II. Description and Objectives

The primary objective of this series of dialogue events is to **open exchange between champion countries from the African continent, regional economic communities, local actors, youth, civil society, diaspora and trade unions**. The focus would be to tap into lower hanging fruits that are impactful and progressive in driving a regional and continental GCM agenda. The discussions will be centred around championing proactive engagement in the GCM implementation process, with the meaningful participation of Member States.

The expected outcome is to **enhance collaboration with civil society actors as a connecting bridge between migrants and state authorities but to also use the opportunity to encourage more REC and non-champion country participation in scaling up best practice on various aspects of migration governance**. Non-state Actors will also provide recommendations to African Member States in advancing transformative migration policies and frameworks and propose meaningful partnership between African Member States and the African Non-State Actors Platform

III. Agenda

90 minutes
Interpretation: English, French

16:00–16:10	**Setting the Scene**	African writer and migrant
16.10-16.15	**Welcome**	African Non-State Actors Platform
16:15-17:00	**Champions in a broader sense**	
	RECs for GCM implementation and monitoring Sharing the ECOWAS experience	Ambassador Catherine Udida, Head of Head of Migration, Nigeria's National Commission for Refugees, Migrants, and IDPs (tbc)
	Countries at work: Sharing best practices from champion countries	- Ghana/ Kenya/Zimbabwe - *East African County and Local Governments Association*
	Africa's Youth as drivers for change: Perspective from Youth Ambassador	*AU Youth Ambassador for Central Africa*
	Civil society – innovation in engagement: Perspective from global platforms	Civil Society Action Committee
17:00-17:25	**Open discussion**	*Joel Odigie,* *ITUC Africa Secretary General*
17:25-17:30	**Closing remarks**	Alex Geiger *FES Africa Migration Policy Centre*

IV. Speakers

Profiles to follow.