



8TH SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING (SOM) OF THE ALMATY PROCESS

12 October 2023

9:00 AM

CONCEPT NOTE

Baku, Azerbaijan

Venue: Hilton Hotel, Lazurit Conference Hall

BACKGROUND

The **Almaty Process** was established in 2013 as an Inter-State Consultation Mechanism (ISCM) on the protection of international migrants and refugees to, from and within Central Asia. The Almaty Process aims to provide a forum of sustained dialogue and exchange of information on the complex dynamics of migration within Central Asia and the wider region, as well as improving regional cooperation and coordination on mixed migration.

As an ISCM, the Almaty Process facilitates the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration and Global Compact on Refugees 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. Exchange of best practices and experience lay in the heart of the Almaty Process development strategy, which considers continuous dialogue among the Member States and Observer States as a key feature.

CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVE OF THE DISCUSSION:

The 8th SOM of the Almaty Process is aimed at presenting an outlook of the Almaty Process calendar of events for 2023-2024 and set a mutually agreed direction of the platform under the Chairmanship of the Republic of Azerbaijan, in accordance with the priorities identified by the Chair. Additionally, the meeting will aim to:

- In the format of a plenary discussion, exchange experience and best practices, as well as finding areas of intersection regarding the GCM implementation across the Almaty Process Member and Observer States;
- Exchange experience and best practices in the field of migration management, as well as formulate joint potential cooperation areas in data sharing, research and capacity building.
- Exchange experience and best practices in implementation of GCR, as well as share insights related with next Global Refugee Forum.

The 8th SOM of the Almaty Process will be followed by a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) Talk on Capitalising on Human Mobility for the Advancement of Regional Cooperation and the Development of our Societies organized in a hybrid format by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan in its capacity of GCM Champion country with the support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in its capacity as Coordinator of the UN Network on Migration. The Talk will be attended in



person by Member and Observer States of the Almaty Process as well as invited parties, and open to join online for all Member States of the United Nations as well as relevant non-governmental stakeholders and Country UN Networks on Migration to discuss and exchange good practices on enhancing cooperation around labour migration, and how capitalising and managing the phenomenon well has the potential to increase regional and global cooperation.

OUTCOMES:

The SOM shall be concluded with signing of an Outcome Protocol which will highlight and report on the main takeaways of the meeting and outline Member and Observer States' commitments towards joint initiatives under the Almaty Process and its developments.

PARTICIPATION:

The SOM will be held in person. The costs of organization of the event and in-person participation of Member and Observer States will be covered by the Government of Azerbaijan and the IOM as the Secretariat. The meeting shall be attended by Senior Level Officials from Member States (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Türkiye) and Observer States (Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Pakistan, the Organization of Turkic States, and Turkmenistan). Uzbekistan shall join the meeting too as a key regional actor and a potential Member to the Almaty Process. Working languages of the meeting shall be English and Russian with provided simultaneous translation.

DRAFT AGENDA:

8TH SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING (SOM) OF THE ALMATY PROCESS	
09:00 – 09:30	Registration at the venue
09:30 – 09:50	Welcoming remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief of the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Vusal HUSEYNOV • Representative of previous Chair of the Almaty Process, Republic of Türkiye, Mr. Mehmet NASIR UÇAN • IOM Sub-Regional Coordinator for Central Asia, Chief of Mission in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, Mr. Zeynal HAJIYEV • UNHCR Representative, TBC
09:50 – 10:00	HEYDAR ALIYEV - 100 YEARS: Special tribute to the legacy of the National Leader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heydar Aliyev - development of the migration dialogue and people-to-people contacts between the countries of the Almaty Process



10:00-10:30	<p>Outlook on the priorities of Azerbaijan’s chairmanship</p> <p><i>Presented by State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan</i></p> <p>Q&A</p> <p><i>Moderator: Representative of the Chair</i></p>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 13:00	<p>Interstate cooperation in data sharing, capacity building and research: best practice and the role of the Almaty Process in harnessing opportunities for development.</p> <p>Implementation of GCR and preparation for next Global Refugee Forum: experience and best practices, as well as insights related with next GRF.</p> <p>Presentations by Member States, Observer States and Organizations, and Invited States* (5-10 minutes each)</p> <p>Member states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azerbaijan • Kazakhstan • Kyrgyzstan • Tajikistan • Türkiye <p>Observer and invited* states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Islamic Republic of Iran • Italy • Pakistan • Turkmenistan • Uzbekistan* <p>Q&A</p> <p><i>Moderator: Representative of the Chair</i></p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 14:40	<p>Presentation of the IOM – Azerbaijan joint initiative on establishment of the Regional Training Centre on Migration and discussion related to its use as a common platform for capacity building and research within the Almaty Process</p> <p>Presented by the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan</p> <p>Q&A</p> <p><i>Moderator: IOM</i></p>
14:40 – 15:00	<p>Elaboration of the Outcome Protocol</p> <p><i>Moderator: Representative of the Chair</i></p>



15:00-15:30	Migration and remittances as a tool for development in the Almaty Process region <i>Presented by Ms. Anna PROKHOROVA</i>
15:30-16:00	Signing of the Outcome Protocol Closing remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IOM Sub-Regional Coordinator for Central Asia, Chief of Mission in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, Mr. Zeynal HAJIYEV• Representative of previous Chair of the Almaty Process, Republic of Türkiye, Mr. Mehmet NASIR UÇAN• Chief of the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Vusal HUSEYNOV
16:00 – 16:15	Coffee break
16:15 – 18:00	GCM Talk: Capitalising on Human Mobility for the Advancement of Regional Cooperation and the Development of our Societies
19:00 – 20:30	Dinner hosted by the State Migration Service
13 October	
10:00	Cultural programme (TBC) and departure