



FINAL Summary
UN Network on Migration - Executive Committee (EC) Principals Meeting
Tuesday, 15 February 2022, 16.00 – 17.00h (virtual)

Participants:

António Vitorino, Director General, IOM, Network Coordinator

Guy Ryder, Director-General, ILO

Francesca Spatolisano, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, DESA

Ilze Brands Kehris, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, OHCHR

Asako Okai, ASG, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Crisis Bureau, UNDP

Gillian Triggs, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR

Omar Abdi, Deputy Executive Director, UNICEF

John Brandolino, Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs, UNODC

Zsuzsanna Jakab, Deputy Director-General, WHO

In his opening remarks the Coordinator provided an update on his meeting with the Champion countries in New York, in which they discussed mobilizing Member States' support for the IMRF. He informed the Principals he would later that day meet with the President of the General Assembly and the two newly appointed co-facilitators for the IMRF's Progress Declaration, the Permanent Representatives of Bangladesh and of Luxembourg to the United Nations in New York. He also reported that feedback from Member States on the Secretary-General's report on the GCM had so far been positive.

The agenda of the Principals meeting included a discussion on a UN system pledge and support to the co-facilitators for the IMRF.

UN system pledge

The UN system pledge was inspired by the pledging initiative of the Global Refugee Forum. The text provided to the Principals aims to be meaningful, concrete, measurable yet sufficiently flexible to be adopted by every UN system entity according to their own priorities and mandates through an opt-in approach. The pledge therefore does not incorporate a list of thematic issues, but rather constitutes a common ground to emphasize that the UN system works and speaks with one voice, is aligned with the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General prepared for the first IMRF, and integrates the voices of stakeholders and migrants. UN system entities were invited to combine this joint pledge with their own specific pledge/s.

There was broad agreement on the UN system pledge. It was agreed that the pledge should not overlap with the one prepared in the context of the Global Compact on Refugees, that language may still be refined yet remain focused in order to not include a list of thematic issues, and that entities can still pledge other actions in accordance with their own priorities and mandates.

Action Points:

- *Final revisions to UN system common pledge from the EC to be sent in as soon as possible.*

Support to the co-facilitators for the IMRF

The Coordinator informed the meeting that both the President of the General Assembly and the newly appointed co-facilitators for the IMRF expressed a wish for Network support, both substantive and organizational, particularly to ensure broad consultations with stakeholders and with Member States. On the substance, the Network should be ready to provide recommendations in terms of language, including based on the recommendations in the report of the Secretary-General on inclusivity, saving lives, regular pathways and building capacities as well as on the outcomes from the regional reviews which may have identified gaps in implementing the GCM. Network support should also be geared towards not reopening the negotiations on the GCM, but rather provide a path forward on its implementation through the Progress Declaration. On the organizational aspects, it would be important to support the co-facilitators in their roadmap for the negotiations of the Progress Declaration to include broad-based consultations that consider inputs from Geneva and stakeholders, while recognizing that the process will be State led.

There was broad agreement for Network support to the co-facilitators to ensure a forward-looking Progress Declaration, based on substantive inputs, progress and gaps in GCM implementation and inclusive consultations with Member States and stakeholders, including migrants. DESA expressed its readiness to play an active role in supporting this process, consistent with its mandate and experience in supporting GA processes on migration. The Coordinator stressed the importance that the Network's support to co-Facilitators is coordinated and brought with one voice, while building on the expertise of individual agencies. In addition to the negotiations that will take place at UN Headquarters in New York, the Coordinator encouraged supplementary consultations in Geneva with the UN entities, stakeholders and Member States.

Action Points:

- *Coordinator to relay coordinated substantive and organizational Network support by the members and the secretariat of the Network to the President of the General Assembly and co-facilitators for the organization of the IMRF and the negotiations on the Progress Declaration.*