Second Regional Review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Region

> 11 March 2024 Geneva, Palais des Nations

Intergovernmental Conference Sessions № 4 GCM Objectives 1, 3, 7, 17 u 23

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen!

I am honored to represent the Government of Kazakhstan today.

Migration is a topic of great importance to Kazakhstan. We be-lieve in the importance of addressing the complexities of migration as a global community for the benefit of all.

The Global Compact for Migration presents a historic opportunity for countries to work together and create a more comprehensive approach to managing international migration.

The guiding principles and goals of **the Global Compact** have become the basis for the development and implementation of Kazakhstan's state policy in the migration sphere.

In 2018, Kazakhstan voted in favor of the Global Compact and is taking steps to integrate **all 23 goals** of the Compact into national policies.

In 2020, a VNR on implementation of the GCM at regional level was prepared by the country.

In 2022, we submitted our VNR at global level (*within the first International Migration Review Forum, New York City, 17-20 May 2022*), detai-ling our progress across **all 23 Objectives** of the GCM.

Kazakhstan recognizes that migration is a natural and inevitable part of a globalized world.

Kazakhstan has become part of the UN Network on Migration to mobilize international organizations to solve migration problems through their coordinated work.

A working group to implement the Global Compact under the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of Kazakhstan has been established. We understand the contributions of migrants who have come to Kazakhstan in search of better opportunities for themselves and their families.

We also understand the challenges that migration can bring, including issues such as the protection of migrants' rights, integration into society, and combating xenophobia and discrimination.

And I am very grateful to the moderator who offered an excellent overview of the Objectives of the session and the opportunities they bring.

Indeed, by concentrating on these Objectives, we aim to create a more inclusive and sustainable migration system that benefits migrants and host societies alike.

Migration data is essential for policymaking and regional cooperation, which is why **Objective 1** focuses on collecting accurate and disaggregated data.

Without reliable and timely data, it is difficult to develop effective policies and programmes that are also sensitive to the needs of different demographic groups, including children, women, persons with disabilities, and others.

The Bureau of National Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan generates data on the movements of Kazakhstan nationals, foreigners, and state-less persons.

Our social and labor information systems are integrated and operate within the Unified Social and Labour Information System, which includes 16 subsystems in the following areas: labour, employment, social insurance, pension and social security, social support, special social services, and migration.

To improve the collection of information, our Bureau of National Statistics integrated "Statistical Population Register".

Finally, our national population census is one of the main sources of information on migration, which includes migration-related questions across several sections.

Collecting reliable data is crucial for successful mainstreaming of migration into national and local policies and strategies.

Objective 3 emphasizes the importance of providing accurate and timely information at all stages of migration.

There have been notable improvements in our country in the initiation efforts to reduce the vulnerabilities of migrants.

Kazakhstan has implemented an electronic portal «E-Governance» to streamline public services related to migration and ensure access to essential information for migrants.

The portal provides 18 different types of public services for entering the country and obtaining Kazakhstan citizenship, and 13 types of services for traveling abroad.

This allows efficient to establish systems for collecting, verifying, and disseminating information to migrants promptly, at all stages of migration journeys, as well as offer migrants access to various public services tailored to their specific needs.

In addition, it is planned to create a Unified Information System for recording the movement of migrants.

The introduction of the mandatory generation of an individual identification number will make it possible to timely register employment contracts and temporary residence permits for a foreign person.

A unified platform will allow us to combine processes, ensure respect for the rights of both foreigners and Kazakhstanis, and eliminate disproportions in wages between foreign labor and Kazakh workers.

Collaboration between governmental and non-governmental actors to ensure migrant protection is critical.

In addressing vulnerabilities in migration (**Objective 7**), Kazakhstan has developed programs to protect migrant children's rights to deliver digital social services to vulnerable groups, including migrants and their families.

The protection of the rights of migrant children, case management is entrusted to specialized local state institutions – Centre for Adaptation of Minors and Child Support Centre - where migrant children left without parental care are placed. Also, I would like to highlight the support provided to our Government by the Multi Partner Trust Fund on accelerating digital social services delivery to address the needs of the most vulnerable.

The Government of Kazakhstan is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination and promoting a more inclusive society in our country.

We have successfully held 7 Congresses of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, which confirmed the policy of interfaith harmony, respectful, tolerant attitude to all ethnic groups, and confessions.

Additionally, at the local level, representatives of ethnic, cultural and business associations contribute to reducing discrimination against migrant workers and creating a more inclusive working environment.

The need for better coordination on the implementation of the GCM within and between governments, and other relevant stakeholders, regionally and globally, was well underscored both at the GCM Regional Review in 2020 as well as at the first International Migration Review Forum in 2022.

Strengthening international cooperation and partnerships for safe and regular migration (**Objective 23**) is crucial for addressing the root causes of migration and promoting sustainable solutions.

To that end, our government made concrete commitments to address these challenges and enhance international cooperation in the realization of the 2030 Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals.

Concrete examples of strengthened collaboration in our region include the Inter-state Consultation Mechanisms such as the Almaty Process and the Prague Process which remain important platforms to promote regional dialogue on coherent and integrated policies and practices for people on the move.

Kazakhstan also recognizes the importance of international cooperation in addressing the root causes of migration, such as poverty, conflict, and climate change.

By working together, countries can create more sustainable solutions to the challenges posed by migration.

Kazakhstan stands ready to collaborate with other countries to fulfil our obligations under the GCM and create a brighter future for all.

Let me express my gratitude to the IOM for providing support to Kazakhstan in implementing the GCM.

Thank you for your attention!