

## Report

# Red Talks - Africa Consultations of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement on the occasion of the 2024 GCM Regional Review

## INTRODUCTION

The global phenomenon of missing migrants represents a humanitarian crisis that transcends borders and touches the lives of countless families worldwide. Across diverse migration<sup>1</sup> routes, individuals embark on perilous journeys, often facing harsh conditions and unforeseen dangers, leading to their disappearance or loss of life. In response to this pressing issue, a series of insightful sessions convened under the banner of "Red Talks" has shed light on the multifaceted challenges surrounding missing migrants and the imperative need for effective interventions.

Two events took place ahead of the 2024 regional review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in the African region, and focused on Objective 8, which calls on States to "save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants". The events were organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the United Nations Network on Migration (UNNM), with the participation of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies from the African continent and members of UN Network on Migration.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Across the world, more than 30,000 migrants have died during migration journeys on land and at sea since the adoption of the GCM in 2018, with more than 60,000 deaths recorded in the past decade. In 2023 alone, 5,148 migrants have died. It is of foremost importance to enhance efforts in the prevention and in the response to death and disappearance along migratory route.

## RECOMMENDATIONS ON PREVENTION

### 1. Prevention of deaths, disappearances, family separation, and the violation of fundamental rights along the migration journey

Recommendations on policies and operations are listed below.

**Policy:** the prevention of disappearance is the primary responsibility of *States*. It is recommended to:

- Promote humanitarian assistance to migrants.
- Ensure that policy and legal frameworks are compliant with international law, such as regarding *non-refoulement*. Where these frameworks are adopted, their implementation and respect on the ground is essential.
- Promote regular migration pathways to prevent distress situations and the risk of disappearance in hazardous routes.

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<sup>1</sup> The Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement migration-related work is exclusively humanitarian in nature. It does not seek to encourage, discourage, or prevent migration. Rather, it assists and protects migrants in vulnerable situations irrespective of their legal status and seeks to ensure that all migrants enjoy the protection afforded to them by international law. Reflecting this needs- and vulnerability-based approach, the Movement uses a broad description of "migrants" that encompasses all those who flee or leave their habitual residence in search of safety, opportunities, and better prospects. It includes refugees and asylum-seekers and other persons in need of international protection, labour migrants and those deemed irregular by the authorities.

- Prevent the deprivation of liberty: detention should not be used as a migration management method; systematic detention on the basis on administrative status must be avoided and should be used as last resort only; children should not be detained because of their or their parents' status.

**Operations:** to prevent disappearances, *authorities* are recommended to:

- Organize Save and Rescue (SAR) operations to save lives, promote life-saving assistance for migrants in distress, and enhance the capacity of responders.
- Prevent family separation, preserve family unity, and offer services/ means to maintain family contact.
- Take the lead to raise awareness about migration hazards and to prevent/respond those hazards.
- Sustain funding mechanisms for humanitarian assistance to migrants in distress.
- Explore solutions to accept official and administrative documents backed up in different systems to support migrants' efforts to regularize their situation (e.g. scanned documents, duplicates); request embassies and consulates to collaborate with humanitarian actors, as administrative support is essential to making a difference for identification and documentation of migrants; support access to information and legal assistance.
- Provide all necessary support to humanitarian actors, reinforce cooperation and technical and administrative assistance while protecting the space for humanitarian response to migrants.
- Ensure migrants are not victims of stigmatisation nor discrimination in their administrative procedures (e.g. in opening a case for a missing relative) and in the access to services.

## 2. The provision of family communication services to prevent disappearances

The provision of Restoring Family Links (RFL)<sup>2</sup> services by *humanitarian actors* is a mean to prevent disappearances. *Humanitarian actors* involved are recommended to:

- Identify synergies among partners intervening in migration dynamics, including National Societies and local authorities, and ensure their actions are implemented in good collaboration.
- Develop and use a robust analysis of the contexts at national and regional levels to articulate an action at all decision-making levels.
- Strengthen transnational collaboration to follow cross-border movements, including through exchange of data, and ensure services are provided throughout the migratory routes.
- Consider the access to and humanitarian presence in hard-to-reach areas.
- **Countries of origin:** provide prospective migrants with messages aimed at protecting their safety through different supports (e.g. leaflets and posters), including digital innovations (e.g. the RedSafe application used in the Southern Route, power backup and solar solutions).
- **Countries of Transit:** provide migrants with family contact services such as phone calls and reiterate messages on safety.
- **Countries of Return:** provide migrants with messages tackling safety and precautions in case they intend to migrate again.

## 3. Addressing the needs of migrants in distress

To save lives and provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in distress, the following is recommended both to *authorities* and *humanitarian actors*:

- Ensure that governmental emergency systems can respond to the humanitarian needs of migrants, especially in mass displacement.
- Adopt bilateral and multilateral agreements to improve search and rescue coordination among States, including on maritime routes as per international law.

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<sup>2</sup> Restoring family links is one of the key activities of the RCRC Movement: <https://familylinks.icrc.org/>

- Implement a route-based approach to enhance the coordination of humanitarian aid to migrants in distress, notably in enhancing the information-sharing and in defining together common criteria to activate and implement the response.
- Adopt measures to separate the provision of humanitarian aid with the implementation of immigration law to ensure migrants in distress, regardless of their status, can request and receive assistance without negative consequences.
- Provide psychosocial support to people on the move in their communities of origin or transit (and to returnees for psychosocial support) in addition to economic support.
- Strengthen resilience and economic independence of migrants in transit and repatriated.
- Support humanitarian actors if authorities are unable to provide humanitarian aid.

#### 4. Advocacy with authorities

- Develop advocacy/humanitarian diplomacy engagement towards the authorities involved in the region for them to understand and to adhere to the strictly humanitarian character of the operations.

### RECOMMENDATIONS ON RESPONSE

#### 5. Search for missing migrants

The search for missing migrants is a complex endeavour that needs to be operationalized across borders due to the transnational character of migratory routes, throughout which disappearances occur. *Authorities and humanitarian actors* are recommended to:

- Enhance transnational collaboration through the identification of common goals between countries and establish clear channels of communication to maximize the exchange of information, including with countries of destination in Europe, among others.
- Favour formalized partnerships amongst stakeholders working for the search of missing migrants.
- Use adapted technologies and innovations in the search for missing migrants and in data-sharing, ensuring the sole humanitarian purpose of the exercise.
- Promote the collection of information on missing person, having a centralized register of missing persons; identify an entity responsible for this task to ensure the centralization of the collected data at central level.

In addition, *authorities* are recommended to:

- Ensure families of migrants can approach them to report cases of missing relatives without fear of stigmatization.
- Address the fragmentation of the response within and across countries.

#### 6. Identification of deceased migrants

In the process of recovering human remains and managing unidentified bodies, *forensic authorities* are recommended to:

- Ensure unidentified bodies are managed in a manner that facilitates future identification.
- Restore the identity and dignity of deceased migrants and enable the return of their human remains to their loved ones for proper burial.
- Improve the way families, public authorities and forensic practitioners share information used to search for and identify missing and deceased migrants.
- Build technical capacity among medicolegal teams. E.g. training on examination and collection of unique identifiers, and ensure the adapted equipment is available to the teams.

- Develop a harmonized cross-border data exchange system in which ante-mortem and post-mortem data can be recorded and used for comparison and develop unified and harmonized procedures to guide the process.
- Create a committee for dialogue amongst the concerned authorities to support:
  - a potential resolution of high numbers of unidentified bodies being buried annually
  - the development of forensic expertise on missing persons in the region
  - addressing the needs of families to know the fate of their loved ones

## 7. Support to families of missing migrants

Families of missing migrants have specific needs to be addressed, including the ‘Right to know’ the fate and/or the whereabouts of their missing relatives. *Authorities* are recommended to:

- Provide families of missing migrants with answers about the fate of their loved ones.
- Ensure the needs of families of missing migrants are recognised and addressed:
  - need to know
  - economic needs
  - psychosocial / psychological support to cope with the trauma caused by the uncertainty of their relative’s fate
  - legal and administrative support
  - acknowledgement of their situation and their missing relative
- Support social integration to avoid social exclusion and stigmatisation.
- Establish a referral system for health, legal counselling, administrative processes and economic support.
- Develop economic initiatives for the most vulnerable families who face the financial consequences of the breadwinner’s absence.
- Enhance the resolution of cases of missing migrants through the creation of registration units at local, regional, and national level.

## BACKGROUND

Across the world, more than 30,000 migrants have died during migration journeys on land and at sea since the adoption of the GCM in 2018, with more than 60,000 deaths recorded in the past decade. In 2023, 5,148 migrants have died, 48 per cent of them in the Mediterranean, 27 per cent in Africa, and 19 per cent in the Americas, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Missing Migrants Project.

In response to this ongoing crisis and the fact that GCM Objective 8 received few substantive responses from Member States during the 2021 regional reviews, the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) Progress Declaration requested the Secretary-General, with the support of the UNNM and other actors, to include in his next biennial report actionable recommendations on strengthening cooperation on missing migrants and providing humanitarian assistance to migrants in distress, including by collaborating with humanitarian actors, with the aim of preventing loss of life in transit. The UNNM created a workstream, co-led by ICRC, IFRC, IOM and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The workstream has developed recommendations through an extensive consultation process, including an Africa regional consultation which took place in January 2024.

## OBJECTIVE

The Red Talks consultation is an integral part of the preparatory process of the second round of GCM reviews. The main objective of the consultation is to initiate discussions among the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement) Partners on how best to implement Objectives 8 of the GCM considering their operational experience and contribute to the future implementation of **actionable recommendations on providing humanitarian assistance to migrants in distress and strengthening cooperation on missing migrants**. Its purpose is



to encourage an exchange of ideas, identify key priorities, progress, gaps on implementation, challenges or issues which require attention, and identify practices and recommendations for inclusion in the 2024 regional review.

## FULL DISCUSSION

### PREVENTION: INITIATIVES TO PREVENT DEATH, DISAPPEARANCE, FAMILY SEPARATION AND VIOLATION OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS ALONG THE MIGRATION JOURNEY

Online event: 30 April 2024

#### Opening Session: Welcoming remarks

IOM Regional Director for West and Central Africa thanked IFRC, ICRC, and the National Societies (NS) for coordinating this platform and noted that the Movement enjoys great legitimacy owing to its neutrality principle. He emphasized that efforts for the prevention of migrants going missing must never try to discourage migration as people will attempt perilous migration journeys no matter what. He emphasized the importance of going beyond data collection towards direct assistance to stranded migrants and search and rescue efforts for migrants in distress, in a coordinated partnership between governmental and non-governmental entities and across borders. He recommended that all actors involved need to be more proactive in the rescue of migrants and go beyond the mere documentation of cases and get involved in the assistance to stranded migrants by creating synergies between the IOM and the Movement which have complementary capacities and expertise.

#### Session 1: the prevention of deaths, disappearances, family separation and violation of fundamental rights along the migration journey

Session 1 highlighted the dangers and challenges faced by migrants over their journey. The session focused on how to create collaborations and mechanisms between governmental and non-governmental entities to strengthen rescue and identification operations and avoid deaths.

ICRC Regional Migration and IDP Adviser for Africa recalled the Movement's position which is to neither encourage nor discourage migration, and its commitment to the prevention of family separation, deaths and disappearances on migration routes as expressed in objective 8 of the GCM. She recalled the three pillars of action in the response to missing migrants: 1) prevention, 2) search for missing migrants and identification of the deceased, and 3) support to families, as well as the two dimensions of prevention: 1) the policy dimension, and 2) the operational dimension. Recommendations were provided on the policy and operational dimension.

IFRC Migration Advisor for Africa mentioned the IFRC's cooperation with SOS Méditerranée on the Ocean Viking, a search and rescue operation designed to aid stranded migrants in the Mediterranean. He emphasized that migrants struggle to access essential services as they travel. As such, IFRC set up safe and accessible humanitarian services points to welcome and to support migrants and host communities, to help save lives, to address vulnerabilities, to provide information, and to foster social cohesion. He then asked participants: **What is missing in Africa in terms of policy and implementation? What needs to be passed to States representatives in October?**

#### Session 2: the provision of Restoring Family Links (RFL) services to prevent disappearances

Session 2 looked at two projects on Restoring Family Links (RFL) services to prevent disappearances.

The first is on RFL antennas to prevent disappearances and loss of contact with families presented by the Niger Red Cross. Niger experiences transit migration from the main routes crossing through Agadez towards Libya and towards Algeria. The project involved the provision of phone calls for migrants, leaflets with self-care messages and prevention of contact loss. It also includes the promotion of the Trace the Face platform and follow up of some (few) search requests from Europe. The challenges of using RFL antennas are the need for constant contact with changing authorities, who need to be briefed regularly on the activities of the Niger Red Cross (RC), the

challenging multiplicity of humanitarian actors with little durability and sometimes diverging interests, and continuous efforts needed to reach migrants, through information gaps and notably language barriers.

The second is on the RedSafe App<sup>3</sup>, a digital humanitarian platform presented by the Zimbabwe Red Cross. RedSafe provides safe and secure digital services for people affected by conflict, migration and humanitarian crises in the Southern African region. The challenges of RedSafe are the difficulties in setting up the app in rural areas considering the digital literacy and age of the population as well as incompatibility of some cell phones with the app. Scarcity of financial resources and reduction of sites despite needs are other important challenges. In addition, mobile data is very expensive in Zimbabwe, which limits the access to the app, and documents stored in the app are not officially recognized.

### Session 3: Addressing the needs of migrants in distress

Session 3 looked at Humanitarian Service Points (HSP) of the Mali Red Cross and the Gambia Red Cross.

Mali is a country of origin, transit, destination, and return for migrants. For Mali RC's HSP, challenges included insufficient financial resources, complications from insecurity, limited access to migrants in the northern regions, insufficient advocacy activities, and insufficient support for returned migrants' reintegration. Best practices are: 1) Mobile HSP and development of the psychosocial services through volunteers, 2) Technical coordination group on the migration thematic, 3) Introduction of the cash initiative in migration programming, 4) Strengthening the role of NS as auxiliary to authorities.

The Gambia is a small country of origin, transit, and destination for migrants. For the Gambia RC's HSP, lessons learnt included: 1) HSP are effective in assisting and protecting migrants, notably owing to the principle of neutrality and accurate information-provision, 2) HSP require human capacity and material resource, good coordination with authorities, including with embassies.

### Session 4: Advocacy with authorities

Session 4 looked at advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy for the prevention of migrant disappearances, presented by the Senegal Red Cross.

Senegal is a country of origin, transit and destination including for transatlantic migration. The rights and dignity of migrants tend to be respected by the authorities and communities in Senegal in accordance with the Teranga principle of hospitality. However, there are the slow treatment of asylum claims and other administrative requests, and challenges regarding the provision of healthcare, documentation, education and training for migrants.

Lessons learnt by Senegal RC is that enhanced coordination with other NS through WhatsApp groups allows information-sharing across borders based on the route-based approach<sup>4</sup> and to support administrative authorities in the coordination of migration actors and organizations with regular meetings.

Challenges to their work included new migration policy in Senegal, stigmatization and discrimination of migrants, lack of international cooperation and reliable data, insufficient resources, and lack of will.

### Closing Sessions: Closing remarks

IOM's Head of Advocacy thanked participants and welcomed this extremely constructive and important exchange which emphasized one central element: the prevention of migration will not prevent migrant deaths. She recalled that the first round of regional consultations on the GCM gave very little attention to the loss of migrants' lives: it is our responsibility to translate this preoccupation into tangible action through this second round of consultation. The workgroup on migration has elaborated concrete, actionable recommendations which are firmly anchored

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.icrc.org/redsafe>

<sup>4</sup> On the basis of the Restoring Family Links Code of Conduct, such exchange of information doesn't include individual cases and data, only trends for humanitarian coordination.

into legal structures. These will ensure that our work does not stop at acknowledging the problem. The regional level will be crucial to turn these commitments and recommendations into action, to spearhead efforts, foster peer-to-peer practices and mobilize political will towards the objective. The recommendations discussed will serve to consolidate a common narrative: to act as one after discussing as one and capitalize on our comparative advantages.

RESPONSE:  
SEARCH FOR MISSING MIGRANTS AND IDENTIFICATION OF THE DECEASED, AND THE NEEDS OF  
THE MISSING MIGRANTS' FAMILIES

Online event: 17 April 2024

### Opening Session: Welcoming remarks

ICRC and IFRC, in collaboration with members of the UNNM in the West and Central Africa Region and National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, welcomed participants to the online session of the Africa Consultation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement ahead of the 2024 GCM Regional Reviews. IOM's Operations and Emergencies Officer provided the opening remarks, shared the methodology and the main objectives of the Workshop, and provided an overview of the agenda. It was stressed that during the 2021 Regional Reviews, GCM Objective 8 received relatively limited attention, and it is important to prevent this from happening in the next round of regional reviews.

### Session 1: The Search for Missing Migrants and Identification of the Deceased

Session 1 delved into the complexities of migration, highlighting the uncertainties and hazards faced by individuals along their journeys. The session emphasized the importance of robust search and identification efforts and recognizing the profound impact on families and communities left behind. It aimed to delve into the complexities of locating missing migrants, discuss recommendations and best practices for improving search efforts, and outline potential action points for moving forward.

The session was launched by acknowledging the complex challenges associated with locating missing migrants, who often find themselves on the move in hostile environments away from their home countries. It emphasized the importance of search efforts not only for the families of the missing but also for humanitarian purposes at large and of a route-based approach. The lack of identification and documentation of missing migrants, especially when human remains are recovered, adds layers of complexity to the search process.

A comprehensive exploration of the search for missing migrants unfolded, with an emphasis on the crucial role of documentation and registration of cases. The session outlined the Three Pillars of Action: 1) prevention of disappearances, 2) search for missing migrants and identification of the deceased, and 3) support to families. Participants delved into the intricate dynamics surrounding ongoing search and identification efforts, grappling with the uncertainties surrounding the status of missing individuals and the intricate web of migration routes they navigate. Throughout the discussion, participants underscored the importance of maintaining an open mindset and refraining from presumptions about the status of the missing without conclusive evidence. Concerns were articulated regarding the need for enhanced documentation, registration mechanisms, and accessible reporting systems to alleviate the psychological trauma and socioeconomic hardships faced by families of missing migrants. The broader impact on families, characterized by profound distress and formidable challenges, was a recurring theme underscoring the urgency of addressing this humanitarian crisis.

Special attention was dedicated to the imperative of transnational collaboration and strategies to strengthen this collaboration. Participants emphasized the necessity of establishing clear communication channels, formalizing partnerships, and fostering cultural sensitivity and community engagement to bolster the sustainability of search efforts. The session illuminated critical gaps in current practices, including resource deficiencies, weak implementation of legal frameworks, and inadequate data management, exacerbated by conflict and instability in regions of heightened migration risk.



As the session ended, participants articulated a collective commitment to advancing transnational cooperation and implementing actionable strategies to address the identified challenges. Establishing robust mechanisms for information sharing and case management across borders emerged as a priority, alongside the implementation of regular training and awareness campaigns to empower authorities and organizations in navigating the complexities of missing migrant cases.

In conclusion, the session underscored the pressing humanitarian imperative of addressing the challenges associated with locating missing migrants and supporting their families. By fostering transnational collaboration, enhancing data management practices, and implementing comprehensive support systems, participants expressed confidence in the potential for meaningful progress in addressing this critical humanitarian issue.

## Session 2: Missing migrants and case resolution: identification of the deceased

The second session delved into the critical issue of missing migrants in Africa, spotlighting the successful collaborative program between South Africa and Zimbabwe as a beacon of hope in addressing this humanitarian challenge. The initiative, spearheaded by ICRC, embodies a comprehensive approach encompassing data collection, training, and family support to locate missing migrants and provide closure for affected families.

ICRC's Forensic Specialist explained how migration presents unique challenges distinct from conventional humanitarian disasters, demanding a multifaceted approach due to its fluid and decentralized nature. The issue of missing migrants involves a myriad of actors both nationally and transnationally, necessitating sustained and inclusive efforts to tackle the complexities involved.

Furthermore, it was explained that the impact of missing migrants extends beyond individual families to encompass broader societal implications. Local government authorities tasked with managing these cases, alongside legislative frameworks, are profoundly affected by the unresolved status of missing individuals.

Dynamic migratory patterns in Africa underscore the urgency of addressing the plight of missing migrants and their families. The ICRC initiated a program, catalysed by appeals from Zimbabwean citizens inquiring about missing loved ones in South Africa, that aims to provide answers, restore dignity, and improve information-sharing mechanisms. The program's overarching goals include providing closure to families, restoring the dignity of deceased migrants, and enhancing information exchange among stakeholders. By complementing existing systems and resources, the initiative seeks to bridge gaps in addressing missing migrant cases. Collaboration between the ICRC and authorities in South Africa and Zimbabwe forms the cornerstone of the program, facilitating the collection of missing persons data, tracing efforts, and forensic identification processes.

The program's success is underscored by a 36 per cent reunification rate of families, shedding light on the fate of missing loved ones. Capacity building initiatives, including forensic training and equipment provisions, have bolstered identification efforts and reduced the number of unidentified bodies in mortuary facilities. Lessons learned from the pilot phase emphasize the multifaceted needs of families, the importance of comprehensive data collection, and the necessity of a two-track search process to address both living and deceased migrants. Moreover, the program underscores the importance of stakeholder engagement and cross-border collaboration to streamline information sharing and case resolution.

Moving forward, efforts will focus on formalizing cross-border mechanisms, expanding forensic capacity, and strengthening partnerships with national societies and authorities. The program aims to extend its reach across the region, ultimately serving as a model for addressing the issue of missing migrants on a continental scale.

In conclusion, Session 2 underscored the imperative of collaborative, data-driven approaches to address the humanitarian crisis of missing migrants. By leveraging partnerships, enhancing forensic capabilities, and advocating for systemic change, stakeholders can strive towards a future where the fate of missing migrants is no longer shrouded in uncertainty.



### Session 3: Responding to the needs of families of missing migrants

Session 3 highlighted the critical needs of families affected by missing migrants. By examining an accompaniment program in Senegal, the session underscored the vital role of comprehensive support, active collaboration, and community engagement in alleviating the profound hardships faced by these families.

The accompaniment program for missing migrants, implemented in Senegal in partnership between ICRC and the Senegalese Red Cross since 2015, aims to provide vital support and assistance to families grappling with the uncertainty surrounding their missing loved ones. The needs assessment conducted for families of missing migrants revealed several critical areas requiring attention. These encompass economic, psychosocial, legal, and educational support for affected families, highlighting the profound and multifaceted challenges they face. The program adopts a comprehensive support approach, encompassing legal aid, psychological counselling, and economic empowerment initiatives. Active collaboration between the Senegalese Red Cross and ICRC is central to its success, facilitating effective implementation across various migration routes. Engagement with both community and institutional stakeholders ensures a supportive network for families.

Discussions emphasized the need for early research and consistent advocacy efforts to address challenges faced by families of missing migrants. Furthermore, ensuring contextually relevant programs and developing strategies for sustained assistance beyond project closures were deemed essential. Foster peer support networks and explore technological innovations to enhance collaboration and support, along with emphasizing regional coordination and increasing state involvement, were highlighted as critical elements.

Following this, best practices were mentioned and included effective collection and monitoring of search requests and ongoing cases to assess impact and identify areas for improvement. Additionally, the implementation of various support mechanisms, including psychological support groups and legal assistance, proved effective. Continuous efforts to raise awareness among local authorities and the wider community about challenges faced by families of missing migrants were also highlighted.

### Closing session: wrap up and way forward

In the closing remarks, the Senior Policy Liaison Officer for IOM Addis Ababa emphasized key recommendations essential for addressing the challenges associated with missing migrants:

Firstly, she underscored the importance of enhancing systems by advocating for the strengthening of documentation and registration systems to facilitate improved management and traceability of missing migrants. Secondly, she highlighted the critical need to boost collaboration, emphasizing the necessity of enhancing cross-border cooperation to streamline processes and enhance search efforts across borders. Thirdly, she emphasized the urgency of closing data gaps by addressing existing deficiencies in data collection and establishing transnational partnerships to facilitate more effective data sharing and collaboration. Additionally, she stressed the significance of proactive approaches, advocating for the adoption of proactive measures to prevent incidents of missing migrants and to respond effectively to existing cases. Furthermore, she emphasized the importance of technological innovations, urging the implementation of innovative technological solutions to manage migratory routes more effectively and improve search and identification efforts.

In conclusion, she reiterated the urgency of providing holistic support systems and undertaking active search efforts to address the plight of missing migrants effectively. She emphasized that the collaborative efforts of organizations like the ICRC and the Senegalese Red Cross underscore the importance of collective action in supporting families and addressing the challenges of missing migrants comprehensively.

Collectively, these sessions underscored the urgent need for coordinated action at local, regional, and global levels to address the plight of missing migrants. From enhancing search and identification efforts to providing holistic support for affected families, the discussions emphasized the imperative of compassion, collaboration, and innovative solutions in tackling this complex humanitarian challenge. As we navigate the complexities of migration and its associated risks, these insights serve as a beacon of hope, guiding us towards a future where every migrant is accounted for, and every family finds solace and closure.