Workplan for the Regional United Nations Migration Network for the Arab Region

2023-2024

1. Introduction:

IOM will serve as the coordinator and co-secretariat of the Regional UN Network on Migration which was established to ensure effective and coherent system-wide support for implementation, including the capacity-building mechanism, as well as follow-up and review of the Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration (GCM), in response to the needs of Member States. The Regional UN Network on Migration will be governed by an Executive Committee in line with the global UN Network on Migration.

The Executive Committee will provide overall guidance to the work of the Network, setting strategic priorities to support Member States in the effective implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM, including in the International Migration Review Forum established by the GCM.

The following entities are the Arab Region's Network Executive Committee Members: ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNDP, UN-ESCWA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, WHO.

The Secretariat will be responsible for ensuring the timely and effective implementation of the workplan. Secretariat duties of the Regional UN Network will be undertaken by IOM and UN ESCWA.

Rather than providing a comprehensive list of what the United Nations system is doing on migration in the region, the Arab Regional Network's workplan for 2023-2024 presents a list of network-wide joint activities to be prioritized for engagement by Network members, particularly where these can add value in line with the priorities identified during the GCM regional Review for the Arab region and the Global Network workplan for 2022-2024.

2. Workplan:

a) Dialogues, regional cooperation and reporting Activities

Core Functions	Supporting the preparatory process of the GCM regional reviews, for example by organizing regional discussion spaces and dialogues
Timeline	Continuous
Activities	- Engage with Member States, regional and sub-regional entities as well as relevant stakeholders in order to support and inform priorities, including through "GCM talks", workshops, webinars and other capacity-strengthening activities on GCM objectives - Provide targeted support as relevant to the work of country-level Networks and UNCTs on implementation of the GCM

	- Provide targeted support to Member States to support them in the review, follow up and implementation of the GCM (including preparations for the upcoming GCM Regional Review) - Set up a stakeholder mechanism to amplify/unify regional stakeholder voices and work towards an inclusive and whole-of-society approach to GCM implementation
Deliverables	- Support launching of the Regional Stakeholder Advisory Group - Hold Consultation with Member States to inform them of the modalities and expectations of the upcoming GCM Regional Review in the Arab region. - Prepare and host GCM talks with relevant stakeholders (see proposal)

b) Trainings

Core Workstream	**Facilitate integration of the GCM into UN planning and programmes**
Timeline	February 2023 – August 2023
Activities	- Expand pool of trainers in the region - Prepare and Conduct "Integrating Migration into Common Country Analyses and Cooperation Frameworks" training rollouts for UNCTs
Deliverables	- ToT is completed and trainers are certified - Trainings are rolled-out across the region

c) Public advocacy and communication:

Core Workstream	**Ensure joint messaging, strengthening and promoting advocacy on issues related to migration, which would be delivered and amplified using a joined-up voice.**
Timeline	**Continuously**
Activities	Open to suggestions - Joint advocacy linked to migration to and through North Africa
Deliverables	- Joint Statement is put together and made publicly available

3. Thematic Workstreams:

Thematic workstream	**Climate Change, the GCM and the Paris Agreement**
Timeline	
Activities	**Awaiting proposals** A policy paper focusing less on the link between climate change and migration and more on what exactly we as UN agencies advise governments to do in terms of policies and programmes. - Contribution to the planned IBC policy brief on the climate change and migration nexus - Proposal for GCM Talks

Deliverables	
Lead agencies or Stakeholders	**ILO, IOM, WHO**
Participating Agencies or Stakeholders	**UNOPS, FAO, UNICEF, UNDP, WHO**

Thematic Workstream	**Enhancing pathways for regular migration through Bilateral Labor Agreements**
Timeline	
Activities	- Operationalize the global guidance on Bilateral Labor Agreements (BLAs) at the regional level - Cross-regional Network dialogue with Regional UN Networks in Africa, Europe and Asia - Proposal for GCM Talks
Deliverables	
Lead agencies or Stakeholders	**ILO, IOM**
Participating Agencies or Stakeholders	**OHCHR, UNDP, UN-ESCWA, UNHCR**

Thematic Workstream	**Alternatives to Immigration detention**
Timeline	
Activities	- Develop a proposal for an Arab Regional UNNM Peer learning platform for alternatives to detention with interest from government delegations and other agencies. - Work towards operationalizing the peer learning platform. - Proposal for GCM Talks – Libya and Yemen as potential areas of experience
Deliverables	
Lead agencies or Stakeholders	**OHCHR, UNICEF**
Participating Agencies or Stakeholders	**UNHCR, UNODC, IOM**

Thematic workstream	**Preparing for future health emergencies by mainstreaming public health considerations into migration policies and services, at national and local levels**
Timeline	

Activities	- Proposal for GCM talks? - Organized an interregional high-level meeting (AFRO/EMRO/EURO) with participation of all agencies to discuss inclusion of UHC for refugees and migrants across the routes of migration. - Participate in the Technical Assistance Plan for Jordan. This will include a public health functions assessment, report of findings and a matrix with roles and responsibilities for all stakeholders with costed activities. - Support refugees and migrants to be included in routine health information in Sudan.
Deliverables	
Lead agencies or Stakeholders	**WHO**
Participating agencies or Stakeholders	**IOM, UNOPS**

6. Annex:

Regional UN Network Functions (from the TORs)

- Allow for collaboration among its members at the global, regional and national levels to actively seek out synergies and ensure better-coordinated delivery on implementation, follow up and review of the GCM in the Arab region;
- Coordinate the quadrennial regional review and reporting processes from 2020 in the Arab region in close coordination with the IBC/M co-conveners.
- Strengthen the regional partnership and involvement of all the relevant stakeholders by engaging with other external partners to promote joint work with and involvement of partners from outside of the UN, including in policy dialogues and exchanges.
- Ensure that the regional review of the GCM is in line with the guiding principles of the GCM, provides a 360-degree reflection on progress towards implementation of the GCM, and engages with all relevant stakeholders.
- Provide information and guidance to RCs and UNCTs with regard to the establishment, transitioning, functioning and work of National UN Networks on Migration and promote peer learning among National Networks across the region in support of GCM implementation, follow-up and review upon requests from National Networks and/or RCs/UNCTs, and coordinate information sharing from Regional to National Networks and vice versa.
- Support the joint work planning and resource mobilization of the National UN Networks on Migration, inclusive of supporting of development of applications to the Multi Partner Trust Fund, and other potential project and programme funding.
- Provide support to UN Country Teams in their migration-related inputs to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in close consultation with National Networks to avoid duplication.
    - Provide technical assistance to the UN Country Teams' strategic and analytical work on migration, including the incorporation and mainstreaming of migration into National Development Plans, development of Common Country Analyses and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.

- Promote the application of relevant international and regional norms and standards relating to migration and the protection of the human rights of migrants
- Ensure coordinated public advocacy on issues related to migration in line with and support of the global UN Network on Migration.
    - Ensure joint messaging, strengthening and promoting advocacy on issues related to migration, which would be delivered and amplified using a joined-up voice.
    - Develop and promote common UN approaches to raise awareness of the rights of migrants and to counter xenophobia
- Closely collaborate and coordinate with the Working Groups and Task Forces formed under the IBC bringing together multiple stakeholders to ensure a whole of society approach to the Network's work and activities.
- Inform the Co-Conveners of its workplan and any emerging requests.
- Provide inputs and support to the global Capacity Building Mechanism's connection hub and global knowledge platform through the UN Network on Migration.
- Provide updates to the global Network and regional input to Secretary General's biennial report to the General Assembly.
- Inform national UN Networks with regards to its activities and of other regional and global processes in the area of international migration and related subjects at the national and regional levels to ensure optimal coordination, enhance information sharing, and create a community of practitioners.
- Ensure close coordination with the global UN Network on Migration, including its Coordinator Executive Committee, Secretariat and Working Groups to ensure synergies and avoid duplication.