



UNITED NATIONS NETWORK ON MIGRATION

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Background

TERMS OF REFERENCE

On 19 September 2016, 193 UN Member states adopted New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants during UN General Assembly which reflected the willingness of the states to enhance global cooperation in this field and adopt a more comprehensive approach to migration governance. The Declaration led to the development and adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM) which was approved by Member States on 10 December 2018. The ultimate goal of GCM is to advocate for worldwide cooperation on migration governance and aims to achieve this goal through the implementation of 23 objectives and the application of 10 guiding principles.

In June 2018, the UN established a Network on Migration consisting of key UN Agencies, to ensure the successful implementation of the Global Compact and to provide a unified UN system support for governments to follow up and monitor the process. In 2022, the UN General Assembly observed the first International Migration Review Forum as the next step toward a greater degree of international collaboration for orderly, safe, and regular migration. The discussions gave an opportunity for member States and stakeholders to flag the issues of concern in the migration field. The Progress Declaration A/RES/76/266 put forward 53 actionable recommendations for the next four years period and the work of the UN Network on Migration was highlighted. In addition, the United Nations Climate Change Conference- COP27 in 2022 concluded with Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan (-/CP.27) noted the grave importance of effective response to displacement and human mobility caused by the adverse effects of climate change. As a result, the UN Migration Network has emphasized the importance of a larger number of countries committing to a specific action plan aligned with GCM objectives in order to achieve a higher level of global cooperation and holistic action to address major migration-related issues that remain on the international agenda.¹

As the Pacific's largest, most populated, and economically powerful country, Papua New Guinea (PNG) plays a significant role in migration issues. PNG is a country of origin, transit, and destination for a variety of internal and international migratory configurations, including labour migration, undocumented or irregular migration, internal displacements, forcible displacements of persons in need of or seeking international protection, human trafficking, and small-scale migration of skilled professionals and students. According to the Immigration and Citizenship Services Authority (ICSA) records, the number of migrants in PNG has been steadily increasing, with migrant workers making up the majority of those entering the country. Being a part of the global human mobility processes, PNG was an active supporter of the global common action for a harmonized approach to migration governance based on the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and was one of the active countries that adopted the Global Compact. By incorporating migration into its development agenda and introducing the Migration Governance Index, PNG has demonstrated a commitment to delivering tangible results.

National UN Migration Network in Papua New Guinea

The Papua New Guinea United Nations Network on Migration (PNG UNNM) established by the UN Country Team (UNCT) will function as a part of the larger United Nations Network on Migration (UNNM). The ultimate objective of the Network is to enable the UNCT to provide the government of

¹ International Migration Needs More Than Just Collective Attention; It Needs Collective Action. Retrieved from: <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/statements/international-migration-needs-more-just-collective-attention-it-needs-collective-action>



PNG necessary assistance to support implementing the GCM and national agenda on strengthening migration governance.

The PNG UNNM will follow the objectives set by the Terms of Reference of the global UN Network on Migration:

1. Ensure provision of effective, timely, coordinated UN country team-wide support to the Government in the implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM, for the rights and wellbeing of all migrants and their communities of destination, origin, and transit;
2. Promote holistic action by the UN Country Team (UNCT), including coordination and linkage with regional and global initiatives in support of GCM implementation as well as development, implementation, and monitoring of PNG's action plan on incorporating of GCM into national migration policy;
3. Provide international expertise, tools, reliable data and information, analysis, and policy guidance on migration issues, including through the capacity-building mechanism established in the GCM (e.g. Migration Multi-partner Trust Fund (MPTF)/Start-up Fund; Global Knowledge Platform and Connection Hub);
4. Foster continuous application by the Government of PNG of the relevant international and regional norms and standards with a focus on migration and protection of the human rights of migrants, and engagement with relevant UN human rights mechanisms;
5. Encourage the UNCT to take a coordinated approach to migration and mobilize coordinated and collaborative action on the issue, strengthening identification and referral mechanisms, in conformity with the UN Charter, international/national laws, and the mandates/technical expertise of relevant UNCT entities, ensuring effective coordination extends to mixed movements of migrants, refugees and other forcibly displaced populations;
6. Promote close collaboration with UNCT, the UN system coordination mechanisms and other coordination mechanisms actively engaged in migration management on national, regional and/or global level, and the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration to address migration-related issues, explore synergies, complement joint initiatives and avoid duplications;
7. Advocate core and thematic priorities and assist in the capacity building, as stipulated in GCM, as well as support the capacity-building and awareness-raising initiatives on GCM objectives and their implementation;
8. Collaborate with national and international stakeholders (migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, central and provincial authorities, and local communities, social partners, parliamentarians, academia, media etc.) and increase their role and participation in promoting safe, orderly, and regular migration and further improving migration governance, as outlined in GCM; and to explore the aforementioned stakeholders' potential in taking a larger role;
9. Act as a platform facilitating provision and exchange of the information on the migration related issues and policies within the UNCT, between the UNCT and Government of Papua New Guinea, as well as with other states' UN Networks on Migration.

Working Principles

To achieve its goals, the Network shall be guided by the principles specified in the Terms of Reference of the global UN Network on Migration. Following these principles, the Network should:

- implement decisions as agreed and **accountable** for the actions,



- ensure **human rights-based, gender-responsive and child-sensitive approach**,
- promote the **coherence** of the migration-related efforts,
- prioritize **the unity of purpose** and achievement of common goal,
- ensure **efficiency and non-duplication** by putting in place a system that is completely integrated with existing UN system coordination mechanisms and follows a streamlined and efficient approach in all of its actions;
- guarantee **inclusivity** by working and engaging with others in a manner that is inclusive, methodical, predictable, and transparent;
- employ a **results-oriented** strategy, with a focus on assisting the government in the implementation of the GCM;
- support **agility** by evaluating the efficiency of employed methods on a regular basis and, if required, recalibrating methods to maximize impact.

Membership and Structure

Members: The Network will consist of the members of the UN system functioning in Papua New Guinea who are interested in becoming a part of it and who have a mandate related to migration issues.

IOM will act as the **Coordinator and Secretariat** of the Network and all constituent parts of the Network.

The Network will be chaired by IOM and co-chaired by the RC. The Co-chair will rotate every two years in order to maximize the representation of UNCT members in the work of UNNM.

All members of the Network will meet in coordination meeting to:

- consult about objectives and overall work of UNNM
- provide recommendations to Executive Committee
- propose discussion subjects for Thematic Working Groups
- promote joint programming on migration related areas

UNNM structure will contain Executive Committee and Thematic Working Groups (see the Annex 1 for Organizational chart)

Executive Committee: An Executive Committee will be formed within the Network, consisting of entities with explicit mandates, technical expertise, and capacity in migration-related fields. Executive Committee will make decisions on following issues:

- accession of new members to the UNNM
- rotation of co-chairs of UNNM
- establishment of new Thematic Working Groups

Working Groups will be established by the Executive Committee on migration related issues with the participation of UNNM members and different stakeholders can be invited for participation Working Group(s) with the Executive Committee's approval and agreement of other relevant Network members.

Duties and Responsibilities

IOM acting as Network **Coordinator** will ensure fulfilment of the following duties:

- Fostering cooperation and unanimity among Network members in all aspects of the organization's operation and activities, as well as ensuring effective collaboration with existing coordination mechanisms and stakeholders;



- Coordinating with Network members to identify priorities and opportunities for action by the Network;
- Convening and maintaining the Network's effective functioning, including the capacity building mechanism;
- Facilitating frequent interaction between the members of the Executive Committee;
- Reporting to the UNCT, applicable UN system coordination structures, and the global UN Network on Migration on the activities of the Network;
- Proactively seeking funding opportunities for Network operations, with the Executive Committee's assistance;
- Maintaining a well-functioning Secretariat in place to assist the Network.

The Network's **Secretariat** is in charge of supporting the Network's work. As a result, all obligations and tasks assuring the Network's day-to-day operation are included in its functions:

- Assisting all constituent parts of the Network in performing their functions;
- Fostering collaboration between all constituent parts of the Network and between the Network members and existing UN system coordination mechanisms, as well as external partners;
- Gathering and proposing issues to be addressed within the Network ;
- Coordinating the preparation of the Network's annual work plan, based on the feedback received from Network members;
- Facilitating the Network's assistance to the capacity-building mechanism of the Government of PNG;
- Overseeing the drafting of the Network's report produced based on input from Network members and in close coordination with the Executive Committee for the submission to the UNCT and the Government of PNG;
- Organizing scheduled and additional meetings of the Network and its Executive Committee;
- To coordinate the amendment process to the UNNM ToR upon the proposal of any member Agency;
- Facilitating the Network's support to PNG to follow-up and review the GCM;
- Distributing minutes and records of conducted meetings and adopted decisions in a timely manner
- Timely update the UNNM member agencies and partnering stakeholders on Regional Reviews of GCM implementation, as well as the International Migration Review Forums and participation modalities.

Monitoring the implementation of decisions adopted in UNNM meetings. **Executive Committee's** duties and responsibilities include:

- Providing overall guidance to the work of the Network through setting strategic priorities to support the PNG Government of in the effective implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM;
- Assisting IOM as the Network Coordinator and Secretariat in coordinating the work of the Network, overseeing coherent country-level Network support, and ensuring effective collaboration with existing coordination mechanisms and stakeholders;



- Deciding on the annual workplan for the Network in coordination with other members of the Network;
- Determining the formation, scope, and composition of the Working Groups, including their chairing arrangements;
- Guaranteeing shared and joint responsibility among members of the Network for achieving objectives of the Network and adhering to its working principles.

Working Groups

The Network may include **Working Groups** with IOM serving as their Secretariat. Participation of other partners in a Working Group can be established upon the agreement of the Executive Committee, in consultation with other relevant members of the Network. The Working Groups can be dissolved and replaced by new Working Groups based on changing needs and consensus.

The Working Groups will focus on specific issues and employ a results-oriented approach. The main objective is to deliver technical advice and recommendations to the Network as a whole, provide tools and guidelines, and facilitate collaborative action at the country and regional level. The Working Groups will be functioning based on the work plan created in coordination with the Executive Committee and aligned with the work plan of the Network.

Working Groups will aim to employ an inclusive approach to the GCM's implementation by including civil society and other stakeholders in the process. In order to provide technical support to the Network, Working Groups should produce policy briefs, analytical reports and action plans, when necessary. These groups should seek available programming opportunities (including joint research, advocacy, designing of new and innovative solutions and programs), which contribute to GCM implementation and further develop migration governance.

Meeting modalities of the Network

Participation Level: The UNNM general coordination meetings should be attended by the Heads/Deputy Heads of Missions or their designated representatives. The meetings can also be attended by representatives from the government and other relevant stakeholders whom the Network has invited to present inputs on the topics included in the agenda. This inclusivity will ensure that all significant factors impacting migration governance at the national and regional levels are involved in the process.

The Executive Committee meetings should be attended by Heads/Deputy Heads of Missions or their designated representatives and decisions will be reached via consensus of representatives.

The Thematic Working Groups can be conducted with participation of representatives from UNNM member Agencies and other partnering stakeholders.

Meeting Frequency: The Network coordination meeting and Executive Committee meetings will be called **twice a year and can meet in ad hoc base as well**. The Thematic Working Groups will be meeting upon the request of each participating agency when necessary.

Amendment to the current Terms of Reference:

The provisions of the current Terms of Reference are subject to any amendment adopted by an absolute majority of its Members.

The amendment to the ToR can be proposed by any Member with the notice submitted to the Secretariat at least 3 months before the Executive Committee meeting.



Annex 1

