Dear Resident Coordinators,

Almost three years after its adoption, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) is part of our international architecture. This is no small achievement, and we are extremely grateful for the efforts of Resident Coordinators and UNCTs in mobilizing and assisting Member States to fulfill their commitments to the GCM.

We are writing to request your support during the upcoming critical period for the GCM and to seek your support towards its further implementation in line with the GCM's vision and guiding principles.

On 10-13 May 2022, Member States will meet in New York for the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), a quadrennial meeting at the highest political level. The IMRF serves as the primary intergovernmental global platform for Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the GCM, including as it relates to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

The IMRF will include a plenary session, a series of roundtables and a policy debate, and culminate in a Member State-drafted Progress Declaration. It will be preceded by a report of the Secretary-General (February 2022), on the activities of the UN system, on the functioning of institutional arrangements, and setting out the Secretary-General's key priorities and recommendations for GCM implementation.

Ensuring a successful IMRF is essential to strengthening the value of the GCM. For this, the UN system must help build political momentum for concrete action, demonstrating the GCM's positive impact on the lives of migrants and their communities, showcasing the added value for Member States in using the GCM as a framework for more principled governance of international migration, and highlighting the ability of the UN system to support them in an effective and coherent manner.

The UN Network on Migration has been tasked to provide technical, substantive and administrative support to the IMRF and its preparations. To this end, the Network has developed a roadmap to help Member States, UN entities and stakeholders understand and engage constructively in this process as well as the attached IMRF guidance note for country/regional level networks and UNCTs.

At country level, the Network and UN Country Teams, under your leadership, can play a vital role in supporting Member States to prepare for the IMRF. This can include:

- The development of voluntary national reviews through a consultative process involving all relevant stakeholders;
- Facilitating the in-person participation at the IMRF of national authorities and stakeholders using an *ad hoc* funding window of the Migration Multi-partner Trust Fund (finance depending);
- Gathering and providing evidence of good practices in GCM implementation including in UNSDCFs; highlighting remaining challenges (a template will be shared shortly);

- Mobilizing governments and stakeholders to engage fully in IMRF preparations.

The UN Network, through its Executive Committee and Secretariat at national, regional and global levels, stands ready to support you. The Annex below lists support currently available.

Thanks to your efforts, the UN Network on Migration has an increasingly global footprint to support partners on the ground. It has developed an inclusive way of working, bringing together all parts of the UN system while providing space for a wide range of stakeholder voices to be heard.

Finally, we commit to keeping you and UNCTs updated on all relevant developments related to the IMRF.

Your sincerely,

Robert Piper
Assistant Secretary-General
UN Development Coordination Office

António Vitorino
Coordinator, UN Network on Migration
and Director General, IOM

CC: UNCTs and regional/country Networks

Annex

Support available to country Networks

At the time of writing, the UN has created 54 country and seven regional networks, to ensure system-wide support to Member States in their implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM. More are being established.

These country and regional-level Networks are being set up in close alignment with the Management and Accountability Framework and the UNSDG working arrangements allowing for the implementation of the GCM to be part and parcel of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, and providing the entry point through which we can together seek to generate the financial resources necessary for the work of the UN. In particular, a number of UNCTs will have already benefitted from funding through the dedicated GCM pooled-funding instrument, the Migration MPTF, while others are in the pipeline so to do.

In addition, as detailed below, the Network is developing a growing number of supporting tools and mechanisms to help RCs and UN entities in UNCT set up and manage country networks. These include direct support and thematic guidance, training tools, best practice repositories and virtual platforms for peer-to-peer exchange, and financial assistance via the Migration MPTF.

All relevant information can be found on the Network website.

a) **Direct support from the secretariat.** the secretariat was established to service all parts of the Network. It organizes regular virtual meetings with regional and country Networks and provides different types of support, including: communication (e.g. drafting statements, press releases, talking points, information material, graphic design, launch events, webinars), document review (e.g. country Network Terms of Reference), liaison with civil society and academia, preparations for the Regional Reviews and the International Migration Review Forum (please see below). The Secretariat can be contacted at: unmignet@iom.int

b) The Migration Network Hub is a virtual "one-stop-shop" where governments, stakeholders, partners, and experts can access, request and share migration-related information and services. It provides curated content, analysis, information, and interaction on all aspects of migration as defined in the GCM. We are currently developing new functionalities such as a discussion space and repository of practices.

c) **Training for UN Country Teams.** This training supports UNCTs to align implementation of the GCM with achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Taking a tailored approach to the specific country context, the training is delivered by a multi-agency facilitation team. The advanced draft of the training package has been piloted with five UNCTs globally.

The training package is currently being revised based on the piloting experience and can be accessed on the [Migration Network Hub](). Your support in integrating GCM-concerns into your respective planning cycles (CCAs and UNSDCFs) would be most welcome. For further information please contact the interagency Global Facilitation Team at [unnmglobalfacilitationteam@iom.int]().

d) **Guidance for governments and stakeholders**. The guidance has been designed as a flexible, self-guided reference document recognizing that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to GCM implementation. It provides methodology and tools to support Member States with GCM implementation, whether through the design of a dedicated national implementation plan or by integrating these efforts into other existing processes. This tool is delivered through a [Guide](), which provides an overview of the GCM and introduces a process to support governments and other actors; and [Booklet](), which provides substantive information on all 23 GCM objectives, including examples of practical applications. The GCM implementation guidance is available in English, French, and Spanish via the Migration Network Hub.

e) **Support to Champion Countries.** The UN Network on Migration host a group of Member States who lead by example in serving as "Champion countries" for the implementation of the GCM. On request, the Network will provide specific assistance as detailed in the [dedicated webpage]() of the Network.

f) **Thematic guidance & tools:**
   - [Brief on COVID-19 and Immigration Detention]() [and Annex to Brief]()
   - [Global Online Peer Learning Exchanges on Alternatives to Detention]()
   - [Guidance Note on Regular Pathways for Admission and Stay for Migrants in Situations of Vulnerability]()
   - [Position paper on Ensuring Safe and Dignified Return and Sustainable Reintegration]()
   - [Policy brief on Enhancing Access to Services for Migrants in the Context of COVID-19 Preparedness, Prevention, and Response and Beyond]()

g) **The Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (Migration MPTF),** launched in mid-2019, was called for by the Global Compact for Migration and is currently fully operational. Receiving 97 funding requests from over 60 countries and regions, there is no doubt as to the demand for such an instrument. To date, over USD 20 million have been mobilized from 12 donors[1] and resources have been allocated to 9 joint programmes,

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[1] Germany, UK, Norway, Denmark, Portugal, Sweden, Mexico, France, Philippines, Thailand, Cyprus and Turkey.

displaying both geographic and thematic diversity. With another 32 joint programmes in the pipeline, the Migration MPTF is poised to do more and its multi-stakeholder Steering Committee recently set a total capitalization target of USD 70 million by the IMRF. The Fund further represents an important tool in support of UN development system reform by fostering UN coherence, strengthening the role of the Resident Coordinators, and emphasizing the linkages between GCM objectives and the SDGs. Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams are encouraged to engage by submitting new joint programme ideas; and also, by advocating for contributions from national governments, however modest. Having a broad donor base is of political significance as it reflects the collective commitment of the international community toward the GCM. Detailed information on the Fund is available in the dedicated section of the Network's website or the UNDP MPTF Office Gateway.