Framework on the preparation and organization of the Regional Reviews of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

This note outlines the framework for the second round of Regional Reviews of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), as proposed by the United Nations Network on Migration (Network)\(^1\).

The proposed framework builds on the first round of Regional Reviews that took place in 2020-2021, and the outcomes of the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) that took place in New York in May 2022.

**Regional Reviews: an opportunity for increased regional collaboration.**

The Network Coordinator is requested by the General Assembly to support Member States in the preparation and organization of the GCM Regional Reviews. Furthermore, Member States request the President of the General Assembly to hold a plenary meeting of the General Assembly in the second half of 2024 to consider the next biennial report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the GCM, as well as the outcomes of the regional reviews, presented by the Coordinator of the Network (annex 1).

To that end, the Network proposes this overall framework for the organization of the Regional Reviews, ensuring a degree of consistency and comparability across regions, as well as adherence to the GCM guiding principles.

**Framing**

The second round of Regional Reviews provides an opportunity to Member States and stakeholders to review implementation of the GCM within their respective regions, including as regards the actions set out in the Progress Declaration and to formulate critical findings and recommendations to inform the 2026 IMRF.

To that end, the Regional Reviews could include discussions on:

- Regional priorities and gaps in the implementation of the GCM based on outcomes of the first round of Regional Reviews.
- Opportunities for strengthening regional and cross-regional cooperation on migration.
- Existing regional migration governance frameworks and ways in which to further integrate the GCM objectives and guiding principles.
- Monitoring regional progress and challenges on implementing the recommended actions set out in the IMRF Progress Declaration.

\(^1\) This note will be complemented by any other notes drafted by relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions or regional consultative processes and their regional partners in preparation for the second round of Regional Reviews.
Considering that most international migration takes place within regions, all relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions (regional commissions) or regional consultative processes, are invited to contribute to the GCM Regional Reviews, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

The Network stands ready to support each subregional, regional and cross-regional process, platform and organization in the preparation and organization of their review and encourages their active contribution.

Serving as the culmination of these discussions, the regional commissions, with the support of and being a member of the Network, will each organize a meeting for their respective Member States.

In addition, the Network will organize one multi-stakeholder consultation for each of the five regions that will feed into the meetings of the respective regional commission. The Network will ensure that there is diversity of stakeholders represented, including migrant and youth representatives.

All meetings and dialogues making up the Regional Reviews will result in a summary report that will be shared with the Coordinator of the Network, including for incorporation into the next Secretary-General’s report due in 2024 and any subsequent reporting.
In order to effectively inform the next IMRF, the Coordinator of the Network will further ensure that these reports are submitted to the President of the General Assembly, and forwarded to the co-facilitators of the IMRF Progress Declaration in 2026².

**Network support**

The Network, at all levels, will support the Regional Reviews in a number of ways:

- The “GCM Talks” will offer an inclusive platform to continue discussions on how best to implement the GCM at the regional level and to provide expert inputs to all relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations as they review the implementation of the Global Compact within their respective regions.
- Its regional Networks will ensure the coordination of United Nations system support to Member States and stakeholders within their respective regions in preparation of the Regional Reviews. Contact information for each regional Network can be obtained through the Network secretariat at unmignet@iom.int.
- The Network will facilitate the meaningful engagement of all stakeholders in the process, while ensuring a coordinated overall approach.
- The Migration Network Hub will offer an easy-to-use platform where Member States and stakeholders will be able to provide inputs, and consult all information related to the Regional Reviews.
- The Network, through its secretariat and regional Networks, will promote the importance and relevance of the Regional Reviews by showcasing practices of GCM implementation on the Hub and by highlighting progress made thus far through regular communications products and updates.
- The Network will also promote pledges by Member States and other stakeholders through its Pledging Dashboard to encourage continued engagement and commitment in the run-up to the 2026 IMRF.

**Resources needed for the preparation and organization of the Regional Reviews**

While the first round of Regional Reviews largely took place virtually, it is to be expected that the next round of Reviews will be hosted both virtually and in-person or hybrid formats.

The Network will circulate a call for funding, principally for travel, under the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (M-MPTF) follow-up and review funding window, which will support the participation of least developed countries and stakeholders, as outlined in paragraphs 48 to 50 of General Assembly resolution 73/195.³

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² In addition, the 2026 IMRF Progress Declaration will be informed by Voluntary GCM Reports as submitted by Member States ahead of the Forum.
Annex 1: GCM, IMRF Modalities Resolution and Progress Declaration relevant provisions

- In the GCM, Member States commit to review the progress made at the local, national, regional and global levels in implementing the Global Compact in the framework of the United Nations through a State-led approach and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders. For follow-up and review, Member States agree on intergovernmental measures that will assist in fulfilling their objectives and commitments. (A/RES/73/195, para 48).

- The GCM invites relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions or regional consultative processes, to review the implementation of the Global Compact within the respective regions, beginning in 2020, alternating with discussions at the global level at a four-year interval, in order to effectively inform each edition of the International Migration Review Forum, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders (A/RES/73/195, para 50).

- In the resolution on the format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums, Member States request the Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as Coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration (the network), to assist, upon request by Member States, in the preparation and organization of regional reviews of the implementation of the Global Compact (A/RES/73/326, para 9).

- The IMRF Progress Declaration invites relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms, dialogues, fora and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions and regional consultative processes on migration, in reviewing the progress made in the implementation of the Global Compact at all levels, to consider ways to enhance cooperation related to its full implementation, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders and in line with a 360-degree vision (A/RES/76/266, para 68).

- In the Progress Declaration, Member States further request the President of the General Assembly to hold a plenary meeting of the General Assembly in the second half of 2024 in order to consider the next biennial report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Global Compact, as well as the outcomes of the regional reviews, presented by the Coordinator of the Network, and for Member States and stakeholders to present, on a voluntary basis, progress in implementing the pledges they have made in the context of the Forum (A/RES/76/266, para 77).