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**Regional Review
of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**

Note by the Secretariat

Regional Reviews for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

1. On 4 March 2020, the United Nations Network on Migration hosted a briefing to discuss matters related to the regional reviews of the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), pursuant to UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/73/326 ("Format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums").
2. The Network circulated the attached document entitled "Proposed Framework to assist Member States in the Organization of Regional Reviews for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration", dated 26 February 2020.
3. The documents describes the objectives and a possible roadmap for the regional reviews, while considering the following elements: the regional review is a member State-led process; multiple formats for the regional reviews are acknowledged in the GCM, however, a consistency of approach within and between regions is desirable; while the content of reviews will vary, all should seek to comply with both the GCM's 360-degree approach as well as with its vision and guiding principles.
4. In UNGA resolution 73/195, para 50 stipulates a possible role for regional Commissions as follows:
 50. Considering that most international migration takes place within regions, we invite 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.
5. Other regional commissions have started preparatory work to explore with Member States options for regional review meetings in cooperation with International Organisation for Migration (IOM), as coordinator of the Network, and with other regional actors.

In the Asia and the Pacific region, ESCAP and IOM, as coordinator of the Network, have set up a task team to support Member States in their regional review. The task team is working on draft concept note as a basis for discussions with Member States and are proposing to host a meeting in Bangkok in November this year.

In the Arab region ESCWA, IOM and the League of Arab States are working together to support the organization of the regional review, in close consultation with the regional working group on migration, and are proposing to host a meeting early December in Beirut.

In Latin America and the Caribbean ECLAC and IOM, as the coordinator of the Network are working on a concept note as a basis for discussions with Member States and are proposing to host a meeting in Santiago de Chile during the last week of November.

In the African region, discussions are still ongoing and ECA, together with IOM as the coordinator of the Network, working on a proposed roadmap for the regional review process in Africa.

6. While UNECE's mandate in the area of migration is mainly focused on migration statistics, UNECE could serve as a neutral platform to bring together interested member States and relevant stakeholders from across the region. There is no other platform or process in the region offering this unique convening capacity and the experience in organizing regional intergovernmental review meetings feeding into UN General Assembly processes.
7. Accordingly, EXCOM may wish to consider mandating the UNECE secretariat to convene, jointly with the IOM, as coordinator of the UN Network, and in close cooperation with the entities of the regional UN system and the active engagement of other relevant stakeholders, an intergovernmental meeting to review the implementation of the Global Compact within the UNECE region in the fall of 2020.
8. In preparation for the review meeting, the UNECE secretariat would facilitate the collection of voluntary inputs from its membership according to the questions stipulated in Annex II of the Framework document. Such inputs would be transmitted as received to the Regional United Nations Network on Migration as an input to the review meeting, and for dissemination online as part of the Global Knowledge Platform, in line with UN General Assembly resolution 73/326 on the *Format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums*. Any additional substantive background documentation for the review meeting would be prepared through the Regional United Nations Network on Migration. UNECE substantive contributions would be in line with its existing related mandates. There would be no financial implications for UNECE.
9. In order to ensure cost-efficiency, the review meeting could take place back-to-back with the International Dialogue on Migration in October 2020 in Geneva, to benefit from the presence of migration experts. Another option might be a fully virtual meeting. The format and agenda for the review meeting would be developed in close consultation with member States.

Draft decision for consideration:

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 73/195, para 50, EXCOM mandates the UNECE to convene, jointly with IOM, the coordinator of the UN Network, and in close cooperation with the Regional Network on Migration in Europe, an intergovernmental meeting to review the implementation of the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the UNECE region in the fall of 2020.

UNECE will facilitate the collection of voluntary inputs by member States to the review process, according to the Proposed Framework to assist Member States in the Organization of Regional Reviews for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, for onward transmission to IOM.

The modalities and agenda of the regional review meeting will be developed in close consultation with member States. There will be no financial implications for UNECE.

Substantive contributions to the regional review meeting by the UNECE secretariat will be provided within the limits of its current mandate and activities in the area of migration.

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Note on the implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Proposed framework to assist Member States in the organization of regional reviews

26 February 2020

Introduction

The regional reviews of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) present a first opportunity for a collective discussion on GCM implementation and to pave the way for the global review to be held in 2022. This note proposes a framework to assist Member States, relevant sub-regional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations Regional Economic Commissions (UNRECs), regional consultative processes, and all relevant stakeholders in the preparation and organization of the regional reviews.

In proposing this way forward, the United Nations Network on Migration (the Network) has considered the following elements: this is a Member State-led process; multiple formats for the regional reviews are acknowledged in the GCM; consistency of approach within and between regions is desirable; the reviews, while the content of reviews will vary, all should seek to comply with both the GCM's 360-degree approach as well as its vision and guiding principles.

In annexes to this note the Network proposes (a) a checklist to support the regional reviews; (b) an indicative outline to assist Member States in their review of the status of implementation of the GCM, in preparing for regional reviews; (c) an indicative outline for all relevant processes, platforms and organizations and stakeholders¹ reviewing the status of implementation of the GCM at the regional level; and (d) a tentative budget outline.

While every effort will be made by the Network to support Member States within existing resources, including through exploring holding on-line meetings where feasible, some additional funding may be necessary. These will largely focus on travel to ensure appropriate participation in the reviews in line with the GCM guiding principles.

Implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM

In resolution 73/195 (“Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”), the General Assembly:

- Committed to implementing the Global Compact at the national, regional and global levels in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders (para 41 and 44).
- Welcomed the establishment of the UN Network on Migration to ensure effective and coherent system-wide support for implementation as well as follow-up and review of the GCM (para 45).

¹ Including migrants, civil society, migrant, youth and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, employers' and workers' organizations, trade unions, parliamentarians, National Human Rights Institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders at global, regional and national levels

- Committed to conducting progress reviews at the local, national, regional and global levels in the framework of the United Nations through a State-led approach, intergovernmental in nature, and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders (para 48).

To that end the GCM:

- Created the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), which will take place every four years, beginning in 2022, to serve as the primary global platform to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the Global Compact, including as it relates to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders (para 49).
- Invited relevant sub-regional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the UN Regional Economic Commissions and regional consultative processes on migration, to review the implementation of the GCM within the respective regions, beginning in 2020, in order to effectively inform each edition of the IMRF, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders (para 50).
- Encouraged all Member States to develop practicable, ambitious national responses for the implementation of the GCM, and to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national level, such as through the voluntary elaboration and use of a national implementation plan, drawing on contributions from all relevant stakeholders (para 53).

The role of the UN Network on Migration

In resolution 73/326 (“Format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums”), the General Assembly:

- Requested the Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as Coordinator of the Network, to assist, upon the request of Member States, in the preparation and organization of regional reviews of the implementation of the GCM (para 9).
- Requested the Network, in preparation for the IMRF, to collect all inputs submitted by Member States and other relevant stakeholders from local, national, regional and global levels and to develop, as part of the global knowledge platform, a dedicated website featuring these inputs to the IMRF (para 13).

Proposed framework for the regional reviews

Resolution 73/326 does not prescribe a uniform approach to regional reviews. Accordingly, the formats of the regional reviews may differ. Regardless of their organizational arrangements, Member States may request the Network to assist in preparing and organizing the reviews, to support the development of a coherent and consistent approach across and within regions to the extent possible, noting regional specificities.

As indicated in its inaugural workplan², the Network will provide support and guidance, where appropriate, in the implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM, and will promote the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in line with the GCM vision and guiding principles (GCM paras 8-15).³

1. Objectives

The 2020 regional reviews provide an opportunity to: (1) allow Member States to undertake a first assessment of progress made in implementing the GCM within their respective regions, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders; (2) within each region highlight common challenges and opportunities, identify gaps and promising practices, discuss regional priorities and highlight resources required in implementing the GCM; (3) provide a common platform for interaction between all relevant stakeholders and exchange lessons learned and best practices between them; and, (4) facilitate the formulation of key findings and recommendations to inform the 2022 IMRF.

2. Roadmap

Preparatory process (first half of 2020)

- To reduce cost and travel, the Network will seek to provide online discussion platforms for Member States and stakeholders in preparation for the regional reviews. Those online discussion platforms could provide a space to share meeting agendas, background documents, and for Member States and stakeholders to set up video conferences.
- The Network will seek to facilitate multi-stakeholder consultations immediately prior to the regional reviews, in addition to facilitating effective multi-stakeholder participation in the regional reviews. This will allow for a more cost efficient set up and for the outcomes of the consultations to feed directly into the regional reviews. The Network will seek to ensure transparent participation among all stakeholders.
- The Network will collect all inputs received from the local, national, regional and global levels and make these available on the Global Knowledge Platform, as well as other documentation in support of the regional reviews.

Regional reviews (second half of 2020)

- As part of the review process, each region may wish to dedicate a specific meeting to its regional review in order to discuss their particular regional dynamics. The importance of the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders recognized in the resolution 73/326 should be considered. The UNRECs, through their convening power, are well placed to assist in an inclusive and transparent manner, including by facilitating the participation of other relevant sub-regional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, and relevant stakeholders
- The Network, working closely with the UNRECs as members, can ensure effective, timely and coordinated UN system wide support.
- Active consideration will be given to conducting the reviews virtually, to the extent possible.

3. Financial implications

² Available at <http://migrationnetwork.un.org/about/united-nations-network-migration-workplan>.

³ Including the GCM's 360-degree vision and guiding principles of: people-centered, international cooperation, national sovereignty, rule of law and due process, sustainable development, human rights, gender-responsive, child-sensitive, whole-of-government approach, whole-of-society approach (GCM para 15).



- In resolution 73/326, the General Assembly calls for the IMRF to be held within existing resources of the regular UN budget.⁴ The Network, including the UNRECs, has identified additional needs in support of the organization of the regional reviews of the GCM, including facilitating the participation of representatives of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and other relevant stakeholders.
- To ensure the meaningful participation of all stakeholders, it is recommended that supporting documents and discussions are translated and interpreted in the appropriate languages for each region.
- All meetings will be paperless, to the extent possible, with documentation shared electronically well in advance of the event.
- A proposed indicative budget is available in annex 4.

⁴ A/RES/73/326, para 18(a)

ANNEX 1: Suggested checklist for preparing and organizing regional reviews.

1. Preparatory process

- The reviews should be organized in line with the GCM vision and guiding principles (paras 8-15).
- Stakeholders⁵ should be meaningfully involved in preparing the reviews through appropriate methods of consultation, including by soliciting their inputs to background documents, the organization of work, the list of panellists and moderators, and by providing space for side events and other activities organized by stakeholders during the reviews.
- The Network could support governments and other stakeholders in preparing a voluntary stocktaking of the implementation of the GCM ('voluntary GCM review') to be presented during the regional review. An indicative outline is provided in annex 2.
- Relevant sub-regional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, and stakeholders active at the regional level could also be invited to submit inputs. An indicative outline is provided in annex 3.

2. Organization

To facilitate the contribution of the regional reviews to the IMRF, the organization of the reviews could broadly follow the organization of the IMRF (A/RES/73/326, para 21 to 25). In particular, it is important that:

- The reviews offer space for discussion covering all 23 objectives of the GCM with the aim of reviewing the progress made in its implementation at all levels, bearing in mind that the GCM is based on a set of cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles. This could be achieved by organizing four roundtables covering all 23 objectives as indicated in para 21(b) of resolution 73/326, while taking into account regional specificities and priorities.
- Due regard is paid to geographical and gender balance, as well as reflection of the whole-of-government and whole-of-society, in the selection of keynote speakers, panellists and moderators.
- The modalities allow for the meaningful participation of civil society and other stakeholders, as well as of relevant sub-regional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations.
- The reviews include debates that are interactive, evidence-based, and action-oriented in nature.
- When appropriate, members of the UN Network could be invited to contribute to the preparation of the reviews, including by providing inputs to background papers and concept notes, the organization of work, outreach to stakeholders, preparation of the agenda, including the list of invited panellists and moderators, and facilitating travel of delegates of least developed countries, including landlocked developing countries and relevant stakeholders.

Furthermore, and as appropriate:

- The reviews could organize a policy debate focusing on regional challenges in the implementation of the GCM, including links with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and other regional frameworks, the capacity-building mechanism and contemporary and emerging issues related to the migration dynamics in the region.

3. Report

⁵ Including migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, employers' and workers' organizations, trade unions, parliamentarians, National Human Rights Institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders at global, regional and national levels.

The regional reviews could result in a comprehensive report that will synthesize all inputs received to bring forward issues and priorities of regional importance and propose roadmaps for regional collaboration and action to advance the implementation of the GCM. Such reports will serve as an input to the 2022 IMRF. Such reports could:

- Include an outcome documents of the review capturing the regional dimensions of GCM implementation;
- Be finalized within two months after the meeting;
- Be published by the UN Network on the appropriate website; and,
- Could include the following sections:
 - (i) Introduction (regional overview and background).
 - (ii) Executive summary.
 - (iii) Key findings.
 - (iv) Selected good practices and lessons learned within the region.
 - (v) Conclusions and recommendations for implementation and future regional review.
 - (vi) Annex with organization of work and list of participants

4. Follow-up

The outcome documents of the regional reviews may inform the IMRF in 2022, in particular the inter-governmentally agreed Progress Declaration which may be considered in the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

ANNEX 2. Indicative outline for Member States to review the status of implementation of the GCM at national level, in preparing for regional reviews

1. Methodology for preparing the voluntary GCM reviews *(suggested 500 words)*

- (a) This section may discuss the methodology that was adopted for the review, including its scope, depth and limitations and how the vision and guiding principles of the GCM (paras 8 to 15) and on follow-up and review of the GCM (para 48 to 54) were applied, including whether the review was part of a process to elaborate a national implementation plan drawing on contributions from all relevant stakeholders (para 53).
- (b) Information on the process for preparation of the review may be presented, including, for example, how different relevant levels and sectors of government contributed to the responses and whether and how the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches were applied; whether parliaments and local authorities were engaged; what mechanisms have been used to engage civil society and other relevant stakeholders; how regional organisations were included and whether the UN Country Teams were engaged and how any regional dynamics may have informed the review.

2. Policy and enabling environment *(suggested 1500 words)*

- (a) The review could outline efforts made to inform all relevant stakeholders and involve them in the implementation and review of the GCM. The review could address how different stakeholders⁶ have been enabled to participate in the process and content of the review and how this engagement has been facilitated, promoting gender equality and inclusion.
- (b) Member States are encouraged to describe how the government has integrated GCM implementation into SDG implementation and other relevant processes.
- (c) Member States are encouraged to report on migration policies and other relevant policies or measures and institutional changes or barriers they have faced in putting in place such policies or measures, including the possible internal consequences of regional dynamics, policies or measures.
- (d) Member States are encouraged to review the status of implementation of regional plans and strategies on migration and to indicate the main gaps and challenges to existing regional approaches, strategies and implementation plans.

3. Progress on GCM objectives *(suggested 2000 words)*

- (a) Member States are invited to provide brief information on the country-level implementation plans and the status of implementation of all 23 objectives of the GCM, with space given to illustrating innovative policies or promising practices related to any of the objectives. Where possible, information should be based on statistical as well as qualitative data.
- (b) Member States are invited to describe what steps the government has taken to integrate the vision and cross-cutting and interdependent GCM guiding principles into the implementation plans.
- (c) Member States could present critical difficulties envisioned or encountered in reaching GCM objectives and how they could be addressed. The consideration of the objectives could focus on trends, successes, challenges, emerging issues, and lessons learned, including as impacted by regional dynamics, and describe what actions have been taken to address existing gaps and challenges.
- (d) Member States could provide examples of promising practices and lessons learned that may be relevant for other countries in the region (or across regions).

4. Means of implementation *(suggested 500 words)*

⁶ Including migrants, civil society, migrant, youth and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, employers' and workers' organizations, trade unions, parliamentarians, National Human Rights Institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders at global, regional and national levels.



- (a) Based on the challenges and trends highlighted, the review may discuss how means of implementation are mobilized, what difficulties this process faces, and what additional resources are needed to implement the GCM, including in terms of financing, capacity development and data needs, technology, and partnerships.

5. Next steps (*suggested 500 words*)

- (a) Based on the outcomes of the review, the Member State could outline what steps are planned to enhance the implementation of the GCM.
- (b) It could be indicated how the results of reviews will be disseminated and how the Member State will prepare for the first IMRF.

ANNEX 3. Indicative outline for relevant sub-regional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations and stakeholders active at the regional level reviewing the status of implementation of the GCM at the regional level.

In preparing for the review, relevant sub-regional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations and stakeholders active at the regional level could submit inputs addressing the following issues:

- (a) Update on the status of implementation of regional plans and strategies on migration, per relevant GCM objective if possible, based on statistical data, where available.
- (b) How regional bodies and processes have integrated the cross-cutting and interdependent GCM guiding principles, including the whole-of-society and whole-of-government principles, into existing plans and policies (and whether that helped address trade-offs and accelerate implementation).
- (c) What the main gaps and challenges are to existing regional approaches, strategies and implementation plans.
- (d) List some examples of promising practices and lessons learned that may be relevant for other regions (and could be presented at the IMRF).
- (e) Outline areas (GCM objectives and/or guiding principles) where the region would need support in terms of finance, capacity-building, policy advice, data gathering and analysis, technology, partnerships, etc.

ANNEX 4: Tentative budget outline (USD)

Regional Reviews of Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration																
Indicative budget structure (February 2020)																
Regional meetings*	Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)			Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)			Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)			Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)			Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)			Total Funding
	Nbr of participants	Cost per participants	Total	Nbr of participants	Cost per participants	Total	Nbr of participants	Cost per participants	Total	Nbr of participants	Cost per participants	Total	Nbr of participants	Cost per participants	Total	
Travel costs for LDCs and LLDCs (3 Days Perdiem + Flights)	36	2222.7	80,017	3	2092.3	6,277	20	1805.2	36,104	18	1700	30,600	8	2273.8	18,190	140,589
Travel costs stakeholder participants (4 Days Perdiem + Flights)	25	2222.7	55,568	20	2092.3	41,846	32	1805.2	57,766	11	1700	18,700	33	2273.8	75,035	248,915
Conference costs	100	Lump sum	30,000	100	Lump sum	30,000	100	Lump sum	30,000	100	Lump sum	30,000	100	Lump sum	30,000	150,000
Total cost		165,585			78,123			123,870			79,300			123,226		570,104

*The UNRECs and Network will contribute to the meetings based on existing resources.