

UN Network Dialogue with Stakeholders in the Arab region on the International Migration Review Forum

Draft Concept Note and Agenda

I. Background

In agreeing to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), supporting States decided that the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) would serve as the primary intergovernmental global platform to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the GCM, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders. The inaugural IMRF will be held from 17 to 20 May 2022 in New York, preceded by multi-stakeholder hearings to be held on 16 May 2022. These would help attain the broadest possible participation of governments and stakeholders, in reflection of two of the guiding principles of whole of government and whole of society and thereby contribute to the success of the IMRF. The Network encourages relevant stakeholders to actively participate in its preparation at the national, regional and global levels.

This first IMRF will consist of three elements: four interactive multi-stakeholders round tables (RTs), a policy debate and a plenary session during which the Progress Declaration will be adopted.

Each RT will cover a set of specific objectives of the GCM:

- (i) Round table one: objectives 2, 5, 6, 12 and 18;
- (ii) Round table two: objectives 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 21;
- (iii) Round table three: objectives 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 22;
- (iv) Round table four: objectives 1, 3, 7, 17 and 23.

All relevant stakeholders, including national human rights institutions, as well as the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions and regional human rights institution networks, are **invited to submit their inputs to the IMRF to the secretariat of the Network** (unmignet@iom.int). Inputs received will be posted on Network's website, prior to the IMRF (<https://migrationnetwork.un.org/>).

IOM and UN ESCWA, as the co-secretariat of the Regional UN Network on Migration in the Arab Region, in partnership with the League of Arab States and members of the Regional Network, supported the GCM regional review through a number of preparatory events since the end of 2019. The organizers ensure a whole of society whole of government approach to the regional review, and the activities included a series of multistakeholder dialogues in preparation for the regional review. Following the completion of the regional review, the UN Network on Migration, including the Network in the Arab region, continue to accompany Member States as well as all stakeholders in the path leading to the IMRF.

a. Objective

As this is the first IMRF, there is a unique opportunity, within the remit set by the GCM and the attendant modalities resolution, to help set the tone and ambition of the Forum, uphold the GCM's guiding

principles, and contribute to the delineation of concrete recommendations for the following four years. To this end, the UN Network on Migration for the Arab Region will hold a briefing for all stakeholders in the region to inform on the preparations towards the IMRF, its proceedings and to contribute to ensure as wide and informed participation as possible to this important event. According to the GCM resolution (A/RES/73/195) paragraph 44, stakeholders include migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, trade unions, parliamentarians, national human rights institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders.

The briefing will aim to:

1. Provide stakeholders with an overview of and roadmap to, the IMRF in 2022;
2. Listen to the voices of different stakeholders regarding their plans of contributions to the IMRF;
3. Discuss potential support from the UN Network on Migration, including at the national, regional and global level, for optimal engagement and inputs of relevant stakeholders to the IMRF, building on lessons learnt from the GCM Regional Review in February 2021.
4. Explore different modes of engagement and contributions the stakeholders can bring to the IMRF;
5. Discuss stakeholders' contribution to the development of National efforts and Action Plans.

b. Briefing Format

In the context of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the briefing will be held online through Zoom, a virtual platform allowing for simultaneous translation in English, Arabic and French.

c. DRAFT Agenda – Cairo time

13:30-14:00	Registration
14:00-14:05	Welcoming remarks
14:05-14:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary and Lessons learnt from stakeholder engagement during the GCM Regional Review • Summary of the Stakeholders Inputs to the Regional Review and presentation of the results of the Stakeholders Survey
14:25-15:25	<p>Open Discussion: Emerging priority issues for stakeholders in GCM implementation, and gaps, challenges, best practices and way forward</p> <p>Guiding question to frame the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>What are the emerging issues and additional challenges that have been observed that require attention since the Regional Review Conference in the Arab region?</i> - <i>What is the current status of the gaps identified at the time of the Regional Review Conference? Have they been closed or worsened? If so, why?</i>

	- <i>What are the best practices and major achievements accomplished since the Regional Review and what were the roles that stakeholders played in such achievements?</i>
15:25 –15:30	Break
15:30 – 15:50	IMRF modalities and roadmap for Stakeholders This session serves to provide a brief overview of the IMRF modalities and roadmap
15:50-16:20	Open Discussion: Engagement Modalities at the IMRF Guiding questions to frame the discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>How can the widest, balanced geographical representation of stakeholders be ensured in the process?</i> - <i>Are there any types of stakeholders that would face particular difficulties participating? How to ensure participation of migrants? How to ensure balanced participation from across the region?</i> - <i>What types of inputs are envisioned to the IMRF?</i> - <i>What are the main challenges and opportunities observed by stakeholders who participated in the GCM regional review process?</i> - <i>What are some good practices and lessons learnt from the national level engagement?</i>
16:20-16:30	Closing remarks and the way forward