



With the support of the IOM Regional
Office for Middle East and North Africa



8th Workshop on Voluntary National Reviews in the Arab Region Beirut and online, 17 March 2023

Draft Programme of Work

Friday 17 March 2022 – MZ conference room	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:15	<p>Welcoming remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Nada El Agizy, Director, Sustainable Development and International Cooperation, League of Arab States (LAS) Ms. Maisaa Youssef, Cluster Leader, 2030 Agenda and SDG Coordination Cluster, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
09:15 – 10:15	<p>Session 1 –The interlinkages between the 2030 Agenda and Migration</p> <p>The session will introduce and discuss the interlinkages between the 2030 Agenda and migration, recognized as a powerful driver of sustainable development. The session will also showcase national experiences from the region and beyond in addressing the migration from a development lens.</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Misato Yuasa, Regional Liaison and Policy Officer, IOM Regional Office for Middle East and North Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migration and the 2030 Agenda (10 min) <i>Mr. Ayman Zohry, Expert on Population and Migration Studies</i> Experience of Timor-Leste (5 min) <i>Ms. Brigida Soares, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Coordinator, National Agency for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Cabinet of Prime-Minister (virtual)</i> Experiences from the Arab region (5 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morocco: <i>Mr. Abdussalam Nadah, Director of Planning, High Commission for Planning</i> Oman: <i>Ms. Intisar Al Wahaibi, General Manager of Development Planning, Ministry of Economy</i> UNCT support on addressing migration in the VNR – Case of Kuwait (5 min) <i>Mr. Seung Jin Baek, Economist, UN Resident Coordinator Office in Kuwait</i> <p>Discussion</p>

10:15 – 10:30	Coffee Break
10:30 – 12:00	<p>Session 2 – Integrating migration issues in VNRs: Practical guidance (B1 floor)</p> <p>This session will offer practical guidance on addressing migration in the voluntary national review process and reporting, and how to benefit from existing processes and resources including national voluntary reporting on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). The session will include breakout groups.</p> <p>Facilitator: Ms. Sara Salman, Population Affairs Officer, ESCWA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of draft guidance note on integrating migration issues in VNRs • Breakout groups • Reporting back and open discussion
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 – 15:00	<p>Session 3 – Preparations for 2023 VNRs</p> <p>The session will include an update on the 2023 HLPF and VNRs preparations. 2023 VNR Arab countries¹ will inform on progress in the VNR process, share new approaches and tools adopted, challenges faced, and next steps.</p> <p>Moderator: ESCWA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arab 2023 VNR countries (7 min/country) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comoros: <i>Mr. Youssouf Ali Mmadi, in-charge of macroeconomic programs, General Planning Commission</i> • Kuwait: <i>Ms. Fay Al-Najadah, Researcher, National Observatory for Sustainable Development and Future Foresight, General Secretariat of the Supreme Council of Planning and Development (virtual)</i> • Bahrain: <i>Mr. Faisal Hammad, Assistant Under-Secretary, Competitiveness & Economic Indicators, Ministry of Finance and National Economy (virtual)</i> • Syrian Arab Republic: <i>Mr. Refaat Hejazi, Advisor, Planning and International Cooperation Commission (virtual)</i> • Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: <i>Mr. Abdulrahman Alarifi, Specialist, Ministry of Economy and Planning (virtual)</i> • Arab 2024 VNR countries (tbd) (10 min) • Update on HLPF 2023 (10 min) <i>Mr. Joop Theunissen, Deputy Chief, Intergovernmental Policy and Review Branch, Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination, DESA (virtual)</i> <p>Q&A</p>
15:00 – 15:15	Wrap-up and closing

¹ The list of 2023 VNR countries is available at: <https://hlpf.un.org/countries?f%5B0%5D=year%3A2023>.