

**FIFTEENTH COORDINATION MEETING ON  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Population Division  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations Secretariat  
New York, 16-17 February 2017

**CONTRIBUTION  
TO THE FIFTEENTH COORDINATION MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION<sup>1</sup>**

*Global Coalition on Migration (GCM)*

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<sup>1</sup> The views expressed in the paper do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the United Nations Secretariat.

The Global Coalition on Migration<sup>1</sup> (<http://gcmigration.org>) is a multi-sectoral coalition of 16 civil society organizations, most of which are migrant or migrant-led. These include large regional networks of migrant/migrant-led organizations in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas, together with labor, policy, and faith-based organizations. The Coalition serves to bridge its members' work at national and regional levels with global governance processes, and was conceived in 2011 out of existing collaboration among its original members to increase civil society interaction with the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

The coalition and its members take leading roles organizing and participating in both the GFMD Civil Society Days and the People's Global Action for Migration, Development and Human Rights (PGA). As part of its work bridging global processes with those at national and regional levels, GCM organized regional civil society consultations as part of the preparatory process for the 2013 High Level Dialogue. In 2015-2016, GCM coordinated parallel regional civil society consultations in conjunction with the MICIC process, with civil society rapporteurs bringing these inputs into the state-led MICIC process. In 2016, staff and members also participated in the June OHCHR expert consultation and subsequent meetings related to the preparation of the principles and practical guidance on the protection of the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations.

In 2016 in Dhaka, GCM organized working sessions on global governance of migration in both the GFMD Civil Society Days and the People's Global Action, and its members were represented among presenters and/or rapporteurs in virtually every session. The coalition and several of its members are regular participants in DESA's annual coordination meetings as well as IOM's International Dialogues on Migration.

With staff in New York, GCM was an active member of the self-organized civil society Action Committee (convened by one of its members, the International Catholic Migration Commission, ICMC) during the negotiation of the New York Declaration in the summer of 2016. Some 20-25 representatives of member organizations participated in the NGLS-organized civil society consultation in July 2016 and/or attended the 19 September Summit. Its Secretariat staff have continued to participate in the civil society Action Committee and to engage with governments during the negotiation of the Global Compact modalities on behalf of member organizations.

#### A. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING 2016 TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MIGRATION-RELATED COMMITMENTS OF THE 2030 AGENDA

GCM and many of its members participated in the 2016 IDM on the Sustainable Development Goals. For the most part, GCM members' work on the SDGs is informed by an understanding of the commitment to sustainable development made by UN Member States in 2015 as being broader and more transformative than is typically captured in discussions in the "migration and development" context. The work of several GCM members including the Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA), Global Migration Policy Associates (GMPA) and the Women In Migration Network (WIMN) in particular reflects this orientation.<sup>2</sup> GCM members support an approach that looks at Goal 10, Reducing Inequality Within and Among Countries, in its entirety rather than focusing exclusively on 10.7, with the understanding that migration governance must address a wide range of causes of inequalities, including but not limited to income inequalities, and that Goal 10's emphasis on countering discrimination and reforming institutions is fundamental. Moreover, in addition to the specific

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<sup>2</sup> GMPA continues to work on these intersections for which an initial version was presented at the coordination meeting last year (see [http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/events/coordination/14/documents/backgrounddocs/GMPA\\_14CM.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/events/coordination/14/documents/backgrounddocs/GMPA_14CM.pdf)) and an updated document will be submitted for the 15CM.

references to migration in the targets referring to decent work; to combatting trafficking; to safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration; and to including migratory status in data collection, there are broad and critically important intersections with targets in Goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, and 17. Our labor members participate in Alliance 8.7.

#### B. INITIATIVES THAT WILL BE UNDERTAKEN DURING 2017 TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW YORK DECLARATION FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

GCM has been actively planning for the upcoming shift from modalities to substantive consultations as well as the to the subsequent negotiating process leading to the adoption of a Global Compact on Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration in September 2018. In 2017-18, one of GCM's main areas of work will be to engage with the Co-Facilitators, States, UN agencies, IOM and other stakeholders to facilitate inclusion of civil society, especially migrant and migrant-led organizations, in the consultations and negotiations toward the compact; ensuring adequate funding for civil society participation will be an essential part of this effort.

A successful compact will require the inclusion of civil society perspectives, especially those of migrants and migrant organizations, in both thematic and regional consultation processes—as members of planning committees, as contributors of expert papers and briefs, and as panelists for thematic consultations. GCM and its members are preparing to play a leading role in this process and we welcome opportunities to partner with the UN Secretariat, IOM, UN agencies and other stakeholders to do so.

A core of GCM members, together with Secretariat staff, have formed a Global Compact Working Group to guide our efforts to leverage member engagement and expertise for input into the compact process. We will draw on GCM's experience organizing regional civil society consultations for the 2013 HLD and for MICIC in 2015-16, as well as drawing on our individual members' substantial experience and networks at national and regional levels. Our aim is to ensure that across regions, broad participation from the communities most affected by migration and migration policy is incorporated into the consultation process, including the six thematic as well as regional consultations. In the context of the 2017 consultations, GCM seeks to increase capacity of civil society *outside* of New York and Geneva, in a variety of different regional and corridor contexts, with a variety of specific issues and priorities, to engage in global governance processes, and specifically in the process of consultations and negotiations leading to the adoption of the Global Compact.

GCM is preparing an outreach program of webinars. The first of these will be an orientation to the compact process in general, followed up by a series of webinars that are specifically oriented to the themes being addressed to be addressed in thematic consultations. In the dialogue that comes out of the webinars, we will be soliciting inputs from our members' networks that give regionally-specific and on-the-ground accounts of how migrants and migrant organizations perceive the barriers to safe, regular, orderly, rights protecting migration opportunities and experiences, as well as recommendations to overcome these barriers. We will be feeding these into the thematic consultations, while also equipping these civil society organizations to engage in national and regional consultations.

Beyond these outreach efforts and along the lines of the civil society consultations in conjunction with the 2013 HLD and MICIC, GCM is seeking resources to hold parallel GCM consultations as well as advocating for funded participation of GCM members to engage in existing consultations.

Our specific program includes the following:

1. In keeping with states' commitment in the New York Declaration, to demonstrate civil society commitment to uphold existing human rights norms and instruments, to engage with states and other stakeholders to support their effective implementation, and to oppose inclusion in the compact of measures that would undermine these norms and their implementation-- particularly in the context detention, returns, trafficking and smuggling.
2. To proactively offer practical recommendations based in existing member expertise as well as in dialogues stimulated by our webinars and related outreach processes, on issues of critical importance to our members including on labor rights, increased regular migration pathways, regularization, firewalls, ending child detention.
3. To equip GCM members and other organizations on the ground, across regions, with accessible information and tools to be able to make effective interventions in the various consultations this year, as well as to participate in the multistakeholder hearings at the end of the year and into 2018.

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<sup>1</sup> **Global Coalition on Migration Member Organizations**

These organizations form the core of the **Global Coalition on Migration**. They represent regional and international networks of migrant associations, migrant rights organizations and advocates, trade unions, faith groups and academia, covering every region of the world.

- Alianza Americas (formerly NALACC)
- Bank Information Center (BIC) *observer*
- Espacio Sin Fronteras (ESF)
- Global Migration Policy Associates (GMPA)
- International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)
- International Network on Migration and Development (INMD)
- International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
- La Via Campesina (LVC) *observer*
- Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA)
- Migrants Rights International (MRI)
- National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR)
- Pan-African Network in Defense of Migrants Rights (PANiDMR)
- Platform for the International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)
- Solidarity Center
- Transnational Migrant Platform (TMP)
- Women in Migration Network (WIMN, *formerly Women & Global Migration Working Group, WGMWG*)