

15th Coordination Meeting on International Migration

Concept note for the panel:
Towards 2018: Next steps
Thursday 16 February 2017, 4.30 - 6 pm

(a) Background

On 19 September 2016, the General Assembly (GA) held a high-level meeting to address large movements of refugees and migrants. In the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants adopted at the summit ([A/71/1](#)), Member States agreed to develop a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration through intergovernmental negotiations, to be adopted at an intergovernmental conference on international migration in 2018. Further, the [Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees](#) (UNHCR) was invited to develop a global refugee compact through a consultative process, also to be adopted in 2018. According to the modalities resolution for the negotiations of the global migration compact, these two processes are separate, distinct and independent. Member States resolved to develop voluntary guidelines on the treatment of migrants in vulnerable situations through a State-led process and recognized the work already undertaken by the Global Migration Groups (GMG) in this regard.

In Chapter X, the [Programme of Action](#), adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo (1994), provides a comprehensive text on international migration, including international migration and development, documented migrants, undocumented migrants, and refugees, asylum-seekers and displaced persons. The ICPD Programme of Action contains a preamble as well as 15 Principles. Each chapter provides a basis for action, objectives, and actions. Chapter XVI includes a comprehensive framework for follow-up, review and implementation at the national, regional and global level. The [Commission on Population and Development](#) plays a primary role in reviewing the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action.

Participants in [the 2016 Global Forum on Migration and Development](#) (Dhaka, December 2016) envisioned the global migration compact as a comprehensive framework for global governance of human mobility with the global compact on refugees and the global compact on migration mutually supportive and consistent. The meeting considered four options for the global migration compact: (a) a legally binding convention or treaty, (b) a political declaration with guiding principles, (c) concrete operational commitments with goals, targets and indicators, or (d) a combination of the three.

(b) Organization

1. The moderator will make a few introductory remarks and introduce the panellists.
2. Panellists will each make a presentation (max. 10 minutes). The panellists will provide a perspective on how they, or the entities they represent, may contribute to the follow-up of the NY Declaration and, in particular, the development of the global migration compact.
3. The moderator will manage the Q and A and make a few concluding remarks.