

15th Coordination Meeting on International Migration

Concept note for the panel:

The global compact on migration: Regional and human rights dimensions

Thursday 16 February 2017, 3 - 4.30 pm

(a) Background

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants ([A/71/1](#)) affirms that both refugees and migrants, while their treatment is governed by separate legal frameworks, have the same universal human rights and fundamental freedoms, that they often face the same challenges and have similar vulnerabilities. In the Declaration, Member States agreed to three sets of commitments: one for refugees, one for migrants, and one that applies to both groups.

Member States also agreed implement the [campaign](#) to counter xenophobia as proposed by the Secretary-General in his report “In safety and dignity: addressing large movements of refugees and migrants”, prepared for the 19 September Summit ([A/70/59](#)).

The modalities for the negotiations on the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration ([A/71/L.58](#)) tasks the regional economic commissions of the United Nations Secretariat to support the development of the global migration compact by organizing discussions and examining regional and sub-regional dimensions of migration. Moreover, national human rights institutions are invited participate in the intergovernmental conference and its preparatory process, while the [Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions](#) and regional human rights institution networks are invited to organize global and regional consultations.

In his report to the 71st session of the General Assembly ([A/71/285](#)), the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants made concrete recommendations on how to integrate a human rights perspective in developing the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

The past few decades have witnessed the emergence of numerous [regional consultative processes on migration](#). These processes, organized outside the United Nations, promote informal dialogue and cooperation on migration. Today, regional consultative processes on migration can be found in most regions of the world. The draft modalities resolution invites regional and sub-regional consultative processes on migration to contribute to the preparatory process.

(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. Panelists will be invited to be as concrete as possible in presenting activities, including venues and dates.
3. The moderator will manage the Q and A and make a few concluding remarks.