

TOWARDS A GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION

1. Introduction

- 1.1 We commit to launch a process of intergovernmental negotiations leading to the adoption of a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.
- 1.2 This Global Compact would set out a range of principles and understandings among UN Member States regarding international migration in all its dimensions. It would make an important contribution to global governance on international migration. It would present a framework for comprehensive international cooperation on migrants and human mobility. It would deal with the humanitarian, developmental, human rights-related and other aspects of migration and would be rooted in the 2030 Agenda.

2. Content

2.1 Elements for the Global Compact would include the following:

- International migration as a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination (as recognized in the 2030 Agenda) as well as a potential source of opportunity for migrants and their families.
- The contribution made by migrants to sustainable development and the complex interrelationship between migration and development.
- The impact of migration on human capital in countries of origin.
- Remittances as an important contribution to development and a source of private capital; and in this regard, call for developing channels for cheaper, faster, and more reliable and transparent transfer channels for remittances in both source and recipient countries, creating enabling conditions for knowledge and skills exchange, investment, and enhancing the developmental impact of remittances.
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- A holistic view of migration in all its dimensions.
- Effective protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, especially women and children, regardless of their migratory status. The specific needs of migrants in vulnerable situations. This should build on the existing international normative framework to respect, protect, and fulfil at all times the rights of migrants which they derive from international human rights law, international refugee law, labour law, international humanitarian law, maritime law, law of the sea, transnational criminal law and applicable national law provisions. We must acknowledge that migrants are human beings entitled to enjoy their rights in a non-discriminatory manner, regardless of location, administrative status, and with consideration of the particular needs of some, such as women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities.

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- Border management. Humane border management that facilitates authorized migration, identifies persons in need of international protection as refugees or otherwise in need of protection and assistance, and treats fairly and with due process of law those persons not authorized to enter.
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- Combatting human trafficking and migrant smuggling. Trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, and other forms of exploitation and abuse must be combatted, the perpetrators brought to justice and the victims identified and protected.
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- Promotion of the inclusion of migrants in host societies. This would include successful socio-economic and cultural integration of migrants in host societies. Elements to do this would include, among other things, pre-departure and/or post-arrival orientation, language and skills training, cultural orientation with emphasis on rights and responsibilities, recognition of foreign qualifications and competencies, and options for remedy and redress mechanisms. Integration should be considered within the broader context of social cohesion and transnationalism. National policies on migrant integration need to be developed and implemented, including access to education, health and social welfare, and measures to combat xenophobia and racism targeted at migrants, and ensuring effective operationalization at local level. This would help ensure that communities are better prepared to receive migrants by promoting tolerance and understanding, and by being equipped with the tools to promote integration. Special attention should be given to promoting diversity to counter growing anti-migrant sentiment and xenophobia.
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- The facilitation of safe, orderly and regular migration; the creation and expansion of safe, regular pathways for migration-, including labour migration at all skills levels, family and education-related. The Global Compact could include measures to develop regularization schemes. Such pathways should also encompass increased avenues for temporary and migration on humanitarian grounds, while ensuring protection needs are met. This should include protection against forced return, in appropriate circumstances, particularly for long-staying migrants who are well-integrated in their host societies economically and socially.
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- Reduction of the incidence and impacts of irregular migration.
- Addressing the migration dimensions of crises, ensuring that humanitarian preparedness and response mechanisms take account of the specific vulnerabilities and needs of migrants and provide the flexibility to ensure migrant-sensitive responses. In this regard, we support the proposal in the outcome document to develop guidelines for migrants in vulnerable situations, in a state-led process inclusive of all relevant stakeholders, as evidenced by the successful Migrants in Countries in Crisis initiative. IOM is prepared to act as the secretariat for such an initiative.

- A framework for greater international cooperation to improve migration governance.
- Data on international migration, to facilitate the design of evidence-based policy and decision-making as well as to promote the protection and inclusion of migrants.

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3. *The way forward*

- 3.1 The Global Compact would be elaborated through a process of intergovernmental negotiations. This process, which will begin in the coming months, will culminate in an intergovernmental conference on international migration in 2018 at which the Global Compact would be adopted.
- 3.2 The President of the General Assembly is invited to make arrangements for the determination of the modalities, timeline, possible preparatory conferences and other practicalities relating to the intergovernmental negotiations, including the integration of Geneva-based migration expertise.
- 3.3 As the Third High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development is to be held in New York "no later than 2019," a role should be envisaged for the High-Level Dialogue in the process.
- 3.4 The UN Secretariat and the International Organization for Migration would provide support for the negotiations. The Global Forum for Migration and Development and the Global Migration Group would also make contributions, as would the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration.
- 3.5 Regional consultations in support of the negotiations would be desirable.
- 3.6 Civil society, the private sector, diaspora communities and migrants themselves would contribute to the process for the preparation of the Global Compact.