The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

National Report on the Implementation of the Global Compact on Migration

For the International Organization for Migration (IOM)

National Partnership Coalition (NPC)

Addis Ababa March, 2022

Introduction

Ethiopia has been instrumental in the ratification process of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) from its inception. The GCM was signed on 10 and 11 December 2018 in Marrakesh, Morocco, in the presence of Heads of State and senior representatives of various member states, recognizing the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and acknowledging its multifaceted contribution to strengthening international migration management, cooperation and coordination. The GCM was also endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly on 18 December 2018. During the development and adoption processes, the country which was represented by a High-Level Government of Ethiopia (GoE) delegation, acknowledged the importance of the Compact, and accepted its goals and committed to implementing them, considering the immense contribution they can make to the various national migration programmes and strategies. Based on this, the country has been working to identify ten priority GCM goals and was recently recognized as a GCM Champion country in East Africa; this was confirmed by an official letter of approval sent to the International Organization for Migration Headquarters by the GoE.

As per article 50 of the GCM, the implementation of GCM objectives is being reviewed by the United Nations Regional Economic Commission as well as the relevant regional, areal and sub-regional institutions in accordance with the guidelines. Consequently, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has been reviewing the activities conducted in Ethiopia since the adoption of the compact. This second national report was developed in collaboration with a broad range of stakeholders at all levels of governance. It is as follows.

I. Methodology

The methodology we used to prepare the second report on national review of the GCM is as follows.

a. Establishment of a technical drafting team

- Relevant stakeholders who are members of the National Partnership Coalition (NPC) and custodians of migration governance were assigned by consensus as the main producers of the report (drafting team), with the Ministry of Justice assuming the leading role as the coordinator of the NPC. These included the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of labour and skill, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Immigration and Nationality Service, Ethiopian Statistics Service (ESC), and International Organization for Migration (IOM).

- Relevant stakeholders collected and reviewed related documents, including plans and reports.

- The drafting team discussed with relevant officials and professionals at all levels and prepared an initial draft report to be discussed at a multi-stakeholder consultation event.

b. Multi-stakeholder consultation

- Ethiopia being one of the first signatories of the GCM, various activities have been carried out in the implementation of this document. In the country, a number of governmental, non-governmental, international and domestic charity organizations have been involved in the implementation of the GCM. Extensive discussions were held to provide information to stakeholders involved in the preparation and development of a high-quality and second explanatory national report on the issue. Below are the steps that were followed in the development of the report:

- Stakeholders were sent the draft document in advance to make the necessary preparations and their feedback was collected at a two-day multi-stakeholder consultation event on the draft report on 24 February 2022.

- The final report was prepared by incorporating the inputs collected from the multi-stakeholder consultation event.

c. The review was conducted as per the above by using a participatory approach. The stakeholders were selected to reflect the whole of government and whole of society approaches to migration governance that the GoE is firmly committed to. The stakeholders who participated in the review are the following:

- **Participant government agencies:** Ministry Of Justice, Ministry of labour and skill, MOFA, Ministry of Peace (MOP), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), Ministry of Plan and development, Immigration, Ethiopian Diaspora Agency, Ministry of Education, Refugees

and returnees Service, the Ministry of Women and social Affair, the Federal Police Commission and the Ethiopian Statistics Service.

- **Participant non-governmental organizations:** Ethiopian Youth Federation, Ethiopian Women's Federation, Ethiopian Employers' Federation, Ethiopian Workers' Confederation.

- **International Organizations:** IOM, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Labour Organization (ILO)

- **Religious Institutions:** The Inter-Religious Council of Ethiopia represented various religious institutions.

- **Media:** The Ethiopian News Agency and the Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation.

- **Local Charitable Organizations:** Agar Ethiopia Charitable Society, Good Samaritan Association and the Organization for Prevention, Rehabilitation and Integration of Female Street children (OPRIFS) participated.

d. The following information was used to conduct the review.

- The Ten-Year Perspective Plan for Ethiopia (2020/21-2030/31);

- Key Performance Indicators designed by the National Planning Commission of Ethiopia;

- The Five-year Strategic Plan (2021-2025) of the National Partnership Coalition on Migration.

- The Fiscal Year Plan of the National Partnership Coalition (NPC) and its periodic performance reports;

- Migration-related annual plans and documents prepared by the different NPC thematic working groups based on the roles and responsibilities assigned to them by Proclamation 1178/2020 and its subsidiary regulation and directives.

e. IOM provided technical and financial support starting from the inception until the final publication of this second national report. The GoE expressed its deepest gratitude for this kind of support and cooperation. In addition, the UN Migration Network for Ethiopia (UNMNE) provided technical support in organizing the national review workshops which have supported the GoE in prioritizing GCM objectives.

I. Policy and enabling environment

a. To implement the GCM, the government works in partnership with various stakeholders who are directly or indirectly involved in migration management interventions. These include governmental and non-governmental organizations, international organizations, religious institutions, the media, private employment agencies and various domestic charitable organizations.

Table 1: Stakeholders with whom the GoE is collaborating in implementing the GCM

Governmental organizations	Non-Governmental Organizations	International Organizations
▪ Refugee and Returnee Service ▪ Ministry of Justice ▪ Ethiopian Statistics Service ▪ Civil Society Organizations Authority ▪ Ethiopian Diaspora Service ▪ Federal Police Commission, ▪ Ethiopian Enterprises Development ▪ Immigration and Nationality Services ▪ Ministry of Labor and Skill ▪ Ministry of Agriculture ▪ Ministry of Culture and Sport ▪ Ministry of Education ▪ Ministry of Foreign Affairs ▪ Ministry of Health ▪ Ministry of Women and Social Affairs, ▪ Ministry of Peace ▪ Ministry of Plan and Development ▪ National Bank of Ethiopia ▪ National Disaster Risk Management Commission ▪ National Financial Information Center ▪ National Intelligence and Security Service	▪ Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Association; ▪ Ethiopian Employers Federation, ▪ Ethiopian Trade Union Confederation ▪ Private Employment Agencies and Confederation	▪ African Union (AU) ▪ East African Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) ▪ European Union ▪ German Development Agency (GIZ) ▪ International Labour Organization ▪ International Organization for Migration ▪ United Nations Children's Fund ▪ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees ▪ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
Religious Institutions	Media Institutions	Domestic Charities

Christian and Islamic Religious Institutions in their denominations Inter-Religious Council of Ethiopia	Electronic and Press Media Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation Public and State Media,	Special projects on migration and other migration related topics have been designed and implemented in collaboration with: Agar Ethiopia Charitable Society Association for Women's Sanctuary and Development (AWSAD) Catholic Church Shelter Comunita Volontari Per Il Mondo (CVM) Ethiopia Good Samaritan Association Organization for Prevention, Rehabilitation and Integration of Female Street Children (OPRIFS)

b. Ethiopia is implementing the GCM in conjunction with sustainable development goals (SDGs) and other relevant processes. In addition to raising awareness among relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations starting from the adoption of the GCM in Morocco in late 2018, the government has given directions to mainstream it into the country's second five-year Growth and Transformation Strategic Plan and its implementation (GTP II) (2015/16-2019/20) and the Ten Year Development plan. Both the GCM and GCR frameworks are expected to be instrumental to the country's efforts in alleviating poverty. Therefore, a national system has been set up for the concerned agencies to mainstream the GCM in their respective planning processes, as well as follow up and report on their implementation to the government.

In addition, during the preparation of the country's ten-year development plan (2020/21-2030/31), the Ministry of Planning and Development developed Key Performance Indicators to assess performance against migration-related national priorities and assigned the Ethiopian Statistics Service to develop its own strategic plan to evaluate the inclusion of these indicators and performance in implementing GoE organizations. To strengthen the mainstreaming process, the GoE, in collaboration with IOM, have trained the planning department heads of each of the agencies on how to integrate migration issues into their respective development plans. In addition, a study was conducted on the role of agencies with migration management related mandates in mainstreaming migration issues into their planning towards sustainable development goals.

C. Since the adoption of the GCM, various practices, proclamations, directives, and policies have been developed and revised to respond to various migration issues in the country. The following are the major changes that can be mentioned:

- In Ethiopia, the government has given its green light to develop a National Migration Policy based on research recommendations and feedback gathered from stakeholders at various national and sub-national consultations on migration. Therefore, the government formed a technical working group composed of relevant stakeholders and recruited a consultancy team to prepare this policy, which is currently developed final draft policy document and consultation forum is underway.

- Refugees Proclamation No. 1110/2019 has replaced Proclamation 409/2004 and is currently in force. It aims to guaranty better access to rights and safety for refugees.

- Ethiopian overseas Employment Proclamation (No. 923/2016) amended and ratified by Proclamation No. 1246/2021and implemented.

- Following the Proclamation No. 1178/2020 of the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Persons, a directive issued to determine the organization and operation of the National Partnership Coalition and a draft regulation for the Rehabilitation of Victims Fund has been prepared.

- The previous Labour Proclamation No. 377/2004 was repealed and replaced by Proclamation No. 1156/2019.

- In 2019, a directive was issued to determine how private employment agencies should provide employment services in the country.

- A draft directive underway to the implementation of revised overseas employment proclamation No. 1246/2021.

- A new draft directive prepared, to repeal the directive No. 65/2011 of Rehabilitation of Victims of Returnees.

- The 'Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community Relating to Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Right of Establishment' (Free Movement Protocol) is signed at the Ministry level in IGAD cooperation and is in the process of making it part of the country's law.

- The Ministry of Labor and Skills (MoLS) has been set up to include different institutions in a new way. Thus, the migration-related activities that were scattered across different institutions were combined

- In 2019 and 2020, the Government developed a manual for providing standardized life skill training to returnees, a booklet to support the provision of economic support to victims of trafficking (VoTs) and other vulnerable migrants, as well as a series of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on migrants protection and assistance, including on 1) the provision of specialized services to returnees; 2) the protection and support to unaccompanied migrant children (UMC); and 3) a National Referral Mechanism System for the support and rehabilitation of returnees/migrants.

- The government developed a Training Manual on Job Creation and Planning in 2019.

- The Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation and the United Nations Country Team in Ethiopia signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2020-2025). It is the first time that migration and durable solutions are mainstreamed in the document.

- In 2018, Ethiopia ratified the Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention). A study has been started to develop an independent legal framework in Ethiopia.

- The National Disaster Risk and Management Commission, which was previously responsible for the Ministry of Peace, has been reorganized and is responsible for the Office of the Prime Minister. This shows the focus of the issue and, on the other hand, is being discussed in developing a preparedness policy related to internally displaced persons (IDPs).

- Structural reform of governmental institutions, both directly and indirectly, into the issue of migration as a result of structural changes in the structure and organization of the new government formed following the recent elections in the country. The National Disaster Risk and Management Commission, which was accountable to the Ministry of Peace, was reorganized and accountable to the Office of the Prime Minister.

- An Ethiopian Migrants Data Management System has been set up under the Ministry of Labour and Skills to fully capture information on citizens going abroad for work and to make protection and assistance services more efficient and accessible to them.

- The government has also enacted new laws and amended others focusing on human rights, which have an impact on migration management. New laws include the Civil Societies Proclamation (No. 1113/2020) and the Investment Proclamation (No. 1180/2020), while amended laws include the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission Establishment Proclamation (210/2000), and Freedom of the Mass Media and Access to Information Proclamation (No. 590/2008).

a. The challenges encountered during implementation of the GCM are the following:

- There is limited collaboration and coordination among relevant government agencies and stakeholders despite the high level of coordination required for effective migration governance.

- Lack of regional partnership coalition established to facilitate and coordinate migration related activities despite significant efforts.

- Lack of central migration information flow or exchange system and limited monitoring and evaluation process.

- Lack of timely completion of a consistent, centralized and quality information management system related to migration.

b. The above-mentioned frameworks cover a broad range of migrant vulnerabilities including VoTs, vulnerable returnees, returnees, refugees coming to Ethiopia from various countries, migrant workers, people seeking and working in the country, children separated from their families, asylum seekers, women, children, child workers, etc.

c. In response to the Global Compact for Migration (GCM), the GoE has established and implemented institutional procedural and structural reforms, among which are:.

- According to the Proclamation 1178/2020, the Taskforce grew into a National Partnership Coalition (NPC) and the existing four working groups were organized by directive No. 563/2021 into six working groups (Awareness and Foreign Employment, Law Enforcement, Returnees Protection and Rehabilitation, Diaspora Participation and Development, Migration Information Management, Research and Investigation Teams).

- The Ministry of Labour and Skills, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is in the process of appointing labour attachés in prominent hosting countries of destination for Ethiopian migrant workers to protect their rights, dignity, security and interests.

- A directorate has been set up under the Ethiopia Statistics Service (ESS) to collect, organize and analyze comprehensive information on migration and disseminate information appropriately.

- The Immigration Nationality Service (INS) has been restructured and implementing by Regulation No. 449/2019. This regulation focuses on the powers and functions of the agency.

- The government has taken bold steps towards empowering women, e.g. the appointment of a gender balanced government following the reform.

- New institutional reforms have been established in a way that has taken into account the displacement and migration conditions that are visible in the country.

- Structural changes in government agencies directly or indirectly involved in migration management have been operated following the administration change in the country. For example, the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC accountable to the Prim Minister office.

- The UN system has also gone under structural reforms to consolidate the support mechanism to the GoE in implementing the GCM. From a UN Migration Working Group serving mostly as an information sharing mechanism, the main UN agencies and programmes with migration management mandates decided to form a UN Migration Network for Ethiopia (UNMNE), which aspires to be more action and capacity development oriented. Chaired by IOM, the UNMNE reports to the UN Country Team and aims to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to the GoE to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, and to respect, protect and promote the rights and wellbeing of migrants and their families as well as communities of origin, transit and destination countries through a well-coordinated and inclusive UN system. The UNMNE has 20 member agencies/programmes, seven of which are members of the UNMNE Executive Committee. Over the reporting period, the UNMNE has submitted four concept notes for Joint Programmes on Migration Management to the GCM's Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF). One has been funded and two are currently in the pipeline.

1. The African Union and IGAD regional migration policy frameworks prepared for the implementation of the GCM, the five-year Strategic Plan issued by the National Council (2016-2020), the NPC's plan for the Ethiopian fiscal year, and the respective strategic

plans of agencies with migration management mandates are all in place. In addition, the formation of NCM networking in the IGAD region is on the way whereby the National Partnership Coalition Structures of each country in the region are holding experience sharing sessions on migration.

2. A specialized technical team for migration information has been established by the Pan-African Institute for Statistics (STATAFRIC) under the auspices of the African Union. Ethiopia is participating as a member of this technical working group. As per the decision made by the IGAD at a Regional Migration Data Harmonization Workshop held in Uganda, a Technical Working Group for IGAD Migration Data Harmonization has been set up and terms of reference were developed.

3. Major challenges faced to implement these frameworks:

   - The resources allocated by the government to deal with migration and migration-related issues are not sufficient considering the scale of the problem;

   - Lack of a strong border management system to prevent and control irregular migration and gaps in the cooperation and coordination with neighboring countries;

   - Lack of access to information on migration and the lack of organization of existing resources;

   - Imbalances between demand for foreign employment and the limited number of overseas employment destination countries. In addition, the Ethiopian overseas employment focused on low skilled migrants not involves semi-skilled and high skilled people.

II. Progress on GCM objectives

   a. To achieve the goals of the GCM, the government is undertaking activities such as allocating budget, strengthening stakeholders' coordination systems, collecting, organizing and analyzing data, and implementing capacity development activities.

Priority objectives for the GoE:

   - The work to achieve GCM objectives requires the cooperation and collaboration of various agencies. At the federal level, various governmental and non-governmental organizations are working together to create a strong partnership. In addition, efforts have been made by regional and city administrations, particularly Regional Council and

Partnership Coalition, to strengthen their mutual cooperation and collaboration to achieve GCM objectives.

Cross-cutting achievements

- Finalizing the development of a comprehensive National Migration Policy.
- Developed the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) to assist the development of the National Migration Policy with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice and IOM.
- Updated the national migration profile of Ethiopia.
- Proclamation 1178/2020 has led to key structural changes in the country's migration governance architecture. The National Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling Taskforce was dissolved, leaving space to a new structure: the National Partnership Coalition (NPC). With new members agencies such as e.g. the Diaspora Service, National Bank, and other Institutions), the NPC is meant to focus on the whole range of migration issues, while its mandate was formerly restricted to the counter-trafficking response. The NPC ensures the presence of a whole of government and whole of society approach to migration management, with members ranging from government agencies to non-government organizations, faith-based organizations and UN agencies, spread across six thematic working groups (Awareness and Overseas Employment, Crime Prevention and Law Enforcement, Victims Protection and Reintegration, Diaspora Engagement and Development, Migration Data Governance, Migration Research and Study). The NPC structure is cascaded down to all regional states and City Administration in collaboration with IOM.

Objective 1: Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies

- Migration data collection and dissemination was previously dispersed across various governmental and non-governmental organizations. To address this challenge, Ethiopian Statistics Service (ESS) is working to integrate migration related information into the national statistics system. As a result, migration has been mainstreamed it in the ten-year Strategic Master Plan for Statistics and in the National Statistics for Development Strategy Three (NSDS III).

- Agencies are working with their respective entities to establish a migration information system based on their management records in order to coordinate the production of data in their daily activities.

- For the first time, mainstreaming of migration indicators in important national sample studies. Work is underway to integrate the topic of international migration into the National Labour Survey. In addition, to achieve GCM objectives, the National Partnership Coalition is carrying out capacity building activities at various levels of the local and national actors working on migration in coordination with governmental and non-governmental organizations.

- Work to launch national migration database under the coordination of the ESS.

- "Under its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), IOM collecting Flow Monitoring Registry and Flow Monitoring Survey data to better inform migration policies in Ethiopia. As of January 2022, DTM has 5 Flow Monitoring Points in Dewale, Togwajale, Galafi, Moyale, and Metema."
  Humera FMP is no longer active due to the conflict in Northern Ethiopia

Objective 2: Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin

- There have been remarkable efforts by the government to better understand the situation and challenges of people who want to leave the country. From these resulted a strategy to provide an appropriate and multi-faceted response and transformation to these challenges by involving various bodies. As part of this, the country has recently launched a 10-year national development plan which focuses on youth employment, worked on legal/policy reforms to expand and diversify overseas employment opportunities, and conducted nationwide awareness and information campaigns to inform the youth the available local options and job opportunities.

- In order to streamline its behavioral change communication interventions on irregular migration and promotion of safe labour migration, the GoE in collaboration with IOM finalizing a National Communication Strategy aimed at raising awareness on the causes and consequences associated with irregular migration and TIP as well as promoting safe labour migration and alternative livelihood options. The strategy will enable GoE,

through the NPC, to: 1) Develop key awareness and behavior change objectives to reduce irregular migration patterns and promote safe, regular, and orderly migration options; 2) Identify target audiences that play a key role in ensuring the protection of potential migrants; 3) Identify key messages that can be harmonized and are tailored to different target audiences; 4) Identify communication channels based on media consumption habits of potential target audiences; and 5) Set key baseline and outcome indicators to monitor and assess implementation.

- Together with IOM, the GoE has been implementing programmes aiming at supporting Ethiopian diaspora entrepreneurs to promote the development of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise sector in Ethiopia whereby 20 members of the Ethiopian diaspora in the Netherlands have been provided with consecutive capacity building interventions to enhance their entrepreneurship skills. The diaspora entrepreneurs have also been provided with the opportunity to scan the business environment in Ethiopia, facilitating their onward engagement in various investment activities in their country of origin.

Objective 10: Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons (TIP) in the context of international migration and Objective 9: Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants (SoM)

- Proclamation No. 1178/2012 institutionalizes the existence of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for VoTs and other vulnerable migrants, making this mechanism legally binding. As a consequence, the GoE has endorsed a Directive operationalizing the NRM. Therefore, the directive will be operationalized and cascaded down to the regional and local levels, for increased access to standardized services for VoTs and other vulnerable migrants. The new Proclamation addresses key gaps observed in previous legal instruments and provides for the criminalization and prosecution of both human trafficking and migrant smuggling thus recognizing the interlinkage of both. It covers internal trafficking as well as transnational dimension. The enactment of Proclamation No 1178/2020 lies in the criminalization of the unlawful sending of persons abroad for work and related crimes.
- Victims Fund Administration Regulation has been drafted.

Objective 5: Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration / Objective 18: Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications, and competences

- Although the government is making great strides for citizens to work and witness change in their own country, for citizens who opt to travel abroad for work, the government has taken a series of measures to ensure the dignity and safety of its citizens. These include:
  - o Signing a series Bilateral Labour Agreements (BLAs) with four destination countries (the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan and Qatar) and work in progress to enter into BLAs with other three Middle Eastern countries;
  - o Amendment of overseas employment proclamation and institutional reforms to further facilitate regular labour migration.
  - o Exploring options to have access to other non-traditional labour markets in other counties in Africa, Europe and the USA.
  - o Exploring options and potential to also send semi and high skill professionals in addition to low skilled ones
  - o Finalizing the preparation to deploy labour attachés at key destination countries to monitor the situation of Ethiopian migrant workers in countries of destination;
  - o Ensuring that prospective migrant workers acquire sufficient knowledge and skills in the field of their employment; via enhancing the capacity of TVET institutions as well as their respective instructors
  - o Facilitating the ethical recruitment of Ethiopian migrant workers by re-licensing private employment agencies engaged in the overseas employment sector, developing a recruitment monitoring manual, and training PEAs in ethical recruitment principles and standards and monitoring and supporting their proper functioning as per the law;
  - o Using technology to make overseas employment service more efficient, accessible and modern;
  - o Conducting widespread awareness raising activities at different levels of the community, which have proven successful.
- The Government has also been working on the Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community Relating to Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Right of Establishment' (Free Movement Protocol) which is in its signing

stage at the ministerial level within IGAD and will become part of the country's law upon its ratification.

Objective 21: Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration / Objective 15: Provide access to basic services for migrants

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- Development of implementation guidelines for the rehabilitation of vulnerable returnees, to improve protection and rehabilitation of victims and to ensure that the support provided is equitable, accessible and consistent.

- With regard to returnees, the government is in the process of standardizing return migration management procedures. These include the management, analysis and dissemination of information, the provision of post-arrival assistance, securing the necessary psychological and counseling support for returnees to be reunited with their family, the provision of skills training in sectors of the returnees' choice and the provision of rehabilitation through financial and technical support. This work is being carried out in collaboration with governmental, non-governmental, international and local charities. It has so far registered remarkable results.

- In collaboration with IOM, the GoE has been providing basic services to migrants over 2019-2021 period. This included the provision of assisted voluntary return support and voluntary humanitarian return support to 17,090 (14,634 male, 2,456 female) vulnerable Ethiopian migrants stranded in third countries. These included 2,712 (2,474 male, 238 female) unaccompanied migrant children (UMC). In addition, GoE and IOM registered 236,949 vulnerable forced returnees from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, providing post-arrival assistance to the most vulnerable of them, including 22,482. Children (8,143 UMC). Finally, the GoE and IOM have continued their collaboration in operating Migrant Response Centres in Metema (Amhara Regional State), Semera (Afar Regional State), Dire Dawa (Dire Dawa City Administration), Togwajale (Somali Regional State) and Moyale (Oromia Regional State), reaching out to 10,747 vulnerable migrants with emergency humanitarian assistance, including 1,120 UMC. In collaboration with IOM's

Migration Management Unit, DTM's Flow Monitoring enumerators are referring vulnerable migrants to IOM's Migrant Response Centers to receive immediate humanitarian assistance.

- In coordination with IOM, GoE provided reintegration assistance to 5,833vulnerable returnees (4,688 male, 1,145 female). In addition, in 2020, 1,187 returnees were provided with multi-purpose cash assistance as part of the strategy to mitigate the effect of COVID-19 on returnee migrants and 93 vulnerable migrants were provided with cash reintegration assistance.

- The COVID-19 pandemic contributed to significant changes in migration dynamics involving Ethiopians with a spike observed in forced and spontaneous returns from neighboring countries through land borders. Since the pandemic hit Ethiopia (March 2020), the GoE and IOM registered and provided assistance to 123,330 (87,528 male, 35,802 female) vulnerable returnees, including responding to their basic needs during quarantine and at Points of Entry (PoEs), providing them with medical screening and medical and MHPSS referral, non-food items, food, WASH services as well as awareness raising on issues related to WASH and COVID-19 and onward transportation allowances to reach their areas of origin. These included 12,320 children, out of whom 2,979 were UMC.

- The government of Ethiopia developed directive on National Referral Mechanism directive no. 562/2013. IOM Ethiopia is supporting the Government of Ethiopia in the operationalization process of the new National Referral Mechanism (NRM) directive no 562/2013. To that end, the Migration Management Unit has commissioned the development of practical tools to help government and non-government actors provide assistance and protection services to migrants in vulnerable situations in a coordinated and systematic manner. Two consultants were tasked with developing the following documents:
    - *Mapping of Service providers for victims of trafficking and other migrants in vulnerable situations*
    - *NRM Standard Operating Procedures*
    - *Minimum Service Standard Document*

- *Draft Memorandum of Understanding templates at the national and Addis Ababa city administration levels*
    - *Service directory and case management forms.*

- IOM trained governmental and non-governmental service providers on case management of victims of trafficking and migrants in vulnerable situation towards the operationalization of NRM at local and national level

Objective 23: Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly, and regular migration

- The GoE believes that new policies and measures need to be taken in response to changing continental, regional and intraregional migration dynamics. To this effect, the revision of the Regional Migration Policy Framework and the strategic implementation plan for 2015-2020 prepared by the African Union and IGAD is underway.

- With regards to implementing the idea of a free movement of people and goods, visa on arrival was introduced in 2019 for citizens of African member states entering Ethiopia. INS introduced e-passport and e-visa services in 2019.

- It is also worth mentioning the efforts made to create economic and infrastructure linkages between countries using road and railway (Ethio-Djibouti railway, Ethio-Kenya road works) and the efforts to create power linkages in Africa, supported by the World Bank and the African Development Bank.

Objective 11: Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner

- The GoE is working towards an effective and strengthened land and air border management system that facilitates the legitimate movement of persons and goods, whilst maintaining its sovereignty and preventing the unauthorized movement of persons and goods, detecting those responsible for smuggling, trafficking and related crimes and identifying the victims of such crimes or any other person in need of immediate or longer-term assistance and/or (international) protection.

- From mid-2020 to early 2022, the GoE and IOM implemented capacity building interventions that increased Ethiopia's capabilities to screen traveler to the country, and

identify and protect victims of trafficking and smuggling and other vulnerable migrants. Initiatives include:

> Building of four new Border Control Post offices in Pagag (Gambella, border with South Sudan), Kormuk (Benishangul-Gumuz, border with Sudan), Nebremus (SNNPR, border with Kenya), and Ferfer (Somali Region, border with Somalia).

> Establishment of Addis Ababa Bole International Airport's first forensic document examination laboratory to enhance the capacity of airport authorities to detect fraudulent identification and travel documents.

> Assessment to determine infrastructure and equipment needs to eventually install solar-powered Border Management Information Systems (IOM's MIDAS) at various Ports of Entry in Ethiopia (11 land, 2 air and 2 train Ports of Entry).

> Training of trainers and cascading trainings on Humanitarian Migrant Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, incorporating child protection topics, for immigration front line officers and other stakeholders working at various Border Control Posts.

> Analysis of Ethiopia's legislative and policy framework governing border management to identify gaps and make recommendations to enhance border management in Ethiopia.

> Drafting of a Border Management Strategy to articulate a vision and institutional approach to border management in Ethiopia as it relates to controlling the movement of persons within the scope of INS's duties, while considering the responsibilities of other border agencies.

> Visit to Kenya's national coordinated border management institutions for a delegation of senior Ethiopian officials from border agencies to enhance cross-border ties to observe practical examples from Kenya of the benefits of an institutionalized coordinated border management mechanism.

a. Challenges and gaps encountered in reaching GCM objectives

- The socio-economic impact of COVID-19 threatens migration management in the country with wide ranging consequences for Ethiopian citizens in Ethiopia and abroad. Regular labour migration channels have become less accessible due to travel restrictions as well as an increased economic burden on prominent countries of destination. The increase in unemployment rate of the migrant population in countries of destination will also result in reduced remittance flows back to Ethiopia, placing an increased burden on remittance recipient families. Back in Ethiopia, the COVID-19 pandemic is expected to have a significantly negative impact on livelihoods, particularly in urban areas with approximately 30 percent of the country's MSMEs being in jeopardy[1]. In addition, the pandemic has caused greatest disruptions in educational opportunities for Ethiopian children in more than a generation. 26 million children (77% of whom are primary school pupils) have been and are still being affected by school closures. This has resulted in an exacerbated risk of permanent drop-out from schooling by children from poor households, making them more vulnerable to the false promises of smugglers and traffickers. Overall, COVID-19 will leave a society that is more vulnerable and exposed to the risk of trafficking and irregular migration.

- The resources gap is a challenge to achieving GCM objectives in general, particularly relating to promoting safe and regular labour migration as well as diaspora engagement.

- The modernization of crime prevention work;

- Failure to conduct planned migration management activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

- Efforts to repatriate citizens stranded in third countries have been hampered by budget constraints and limited coordination between regional states in Ethiopia.

- Limited presence of rehabilitation centers for victims, especially outside the country's capital;

- Lack of an organized system for management and sharing of migration data.

To address these challenges, the GoE suggests the following actions:

- Strengthen resource mobilization efforts to implement GCM objectives

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[1] One UN Assessment, Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, May 2020

- Prioritize the completion of the centralized migration data management system

- Finalize and implement the National Migration Policy.

- Launch and implement an awareness-raising/behavioral change communication strategy.

- Implement standard operating procedures and guidelines on return migration management;

- Strengthen the exchange of information and working relations between countries of origin, transit and destination as well as neighboring countries and regions.

II.   Means/Modes of Implementation

a. To achieve the objectives of the GCM, our country has employed the following implementation strategies:

- The GoE has shown strong commitment to achieving the GCM goals and was selected as a GCM Champion. This commitment can be demonstrated by the establishment of a whole-of-government National Partnership Coalition on Migration. The government is further developing and improving legal frameworks and allocating resources to conduct activities.

- To achieve the GCM goals, the government is expanding its horizons and strengthening continental and regional coordination and cooperation, as illustrated by the signing of agreements with the IGAD, the European Union, and with prominent destination countries for Ethiopian migrant workers, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar. In addition, much work has been done to assist returnees from Europe, in collaboration with the European Union, the Government of Norway and IOM.

- Furthermore the bilateral labour agreements signed with countries of destination with the aim to prevent the violation of our citizens' rights, the necessary preparatory activities have been completed for the deployment of independent labour attachés abroad, particularly in our embassies and consulates in the Middle East. The labour attachés will focus on monitoring human rights violations and the protection status of Ethiopian migrant workers.

- The Government is tackling the issue of job creation in the country by partnering with international donors such as the MasterCard Foundation in order to encourage young people to engage local job opportunities as opposed to travelling abroad using irregular channels.

- There have been efforts to curb human trafficking by establishing joint commissions with countries located on the mains three exits of the country (covering the Eastern, Southern and Northern routes) for joint prevention efforts.

b. The challenges the GoE is facing in mobilizing means of implementation is linked with a general scarcity of resources dedicated to migration management initiatives and, to some extent, a lack of awareness on the latter, despite significant progress observed these last two years. The global COVID-19 pandemic and its multifaceted impact have also put a strain on efforts to mobilize resources for migration management purposes.

c. In order to mobilize additional resources, the GoE is focusing on expanding budget sources and encouraging the participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in youth employment interventions.

III. Next steps

a. The areas and actions given priority based on the results of this review are the following:
- Complete, endorse and implement the National Migration Policy.
- Strengthen the implementation and administration of the National Migration data management
- Implement the amended Overseas Employment Proclamation.
- Ensure the proper implementation of proclamations, regulations, directives, guidelines, and standards related to migration.
- Enhance transit shelters to provide appropriate rehabilitation services to victims of trafficking and other migrants in a vulnerable situation
- Launching and implementation of national Communication strategy on migration
- Strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation and partnership.

- Ensure the proper operationalization of the federal and regional level procedures and structures established in virtue of Proclamation No. 1178/2020 (National and Regional Partnership Coalitions);

- Multiply efforts to provide safe and regular labour migration options, not only for low skilled but also for middle and high skilled professionals.

- Strengthen law enforcement measures to prevent, combat and eradicate TIPs, SOM and unlawful sending of migrant worker abroad.

- As the GCM is non-binding, the implementations and accountability lies in each country's Jurisdiction. Suggesting advocating to upgrade the GCM into a binding document.