



## Regional Conference on Migration and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

17 September 2021

### Concept Note

#### Proposal

IOM and ECLAC, in discussion with regional Member States, are proposing to organize a virtual workshop in preparation for the forthcoming International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). Scheduled for 17 September 2021, this will be the first of two regional discussions looking at how the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) can best contribute to the IMRF, with the second to be scheduled for the first quarter of 2022. The aim of both is to produce a contribution by the RCM to the IMRF.

#### Background

On 19 December 2018, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) endorsed the GCM<sup>1</sup>. It is an international cooperation framework to comprehensively address the different dimensions of migration, including those associated with labour, economic or social drivers, or with the effects of disasters, environmental degradation, and climate change, among others.

Considering that most international migration takes place within regions, the UNGA invites relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the UN regional economic commissions and regional consultative processes on migration, to review the implementation of the GCM within their respective regions, and to contribute to the work, with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders.

In the context of the **Regional Review of the Global Compact on Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean**, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in its role as the Coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the agencies of the United Nations System that are part of the Network in Latin America and the

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<sup>1</sup> See [A/RES/73/195](#).

Caribbean<sup>2</sup> held consultations with sub-regional, regional and inter-regional processes, platforms and organizations<sup>3</sup> on 12 April 2021, several of which also participated in the Regional Review meeting held from 26 to 28 April 2021<sup>4</sup>.

Taking place every four years beginning in 2022, the principal element of the follow-up and review process of the GCM is a quadrennial global review - the **IMRF**<sup>5</sup> with the participation of all relevant stakeholders. The IMRF serves as the primary intergovernmental global platform for Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the GCM, including as it relates to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, at the local, national, and regional levels. It allows for interaction with other relevant stakeholders with a view to building upon accomplishments and identifying opportunities for further cooperation.

Under the auspices of the UNGA the first edition of the four-day event will take place during the first semester of 2022<sup>6</sup> at the UN Headquarters in New York at the highest possible political level, including Heads of State or Government. It will consist of four interactive, evidence-based, and action-oriented multi-stakeholder round tables<sup>7</sup> followed by a policy debate of the second day; a plenary will be held during the third and the fourth days. An informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing one day prior to the IMRF will be organized by the Office of the President of the General Assembly (OPGA).

The IMRF will present a unique opportunity to review the success to date of the GCM and to highlight what challenges continue to exist or have emerged in the way of its implementation. The event will result in an inter-governmentally agreed Progress Declaration, which may be taken into consideration by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

### **Regional Conference on Migration (RCM)**

In line with the UNGA's invitation to sub-regional, regional and intra-regional processes, and with the support of the current Presidency of the RCM held by Mexico, IOM has provided the RCM with regular

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<sup>2</sup> United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), UN Women, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UN Habitat, United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

<sup>3</sup> The following States and regional or sub-regional entities participated: Argentina (2021 Presidency Pro-Tempore of the South American Conference on Migration [SACM]), Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Mexico (2021 Presidency Pro-Tempore of the Regional Conference on Migration [RCM]), Peru, Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), Forum of Presidents of Legislative Powers of Central America and the Caribbean (FOPREL), the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), Organization of American States (OAS), Central American Parliament (PARLACEN), Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA), and the Central American Integration System (SICA).

<sup>4</sup> See <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/es/node/180>

<sup>5</sup> See [A/RES/73/326](#).

<sup>6</sup> Exact date to be determined.

<sup>7</sup> Round table one: objectives 2, 5, 6, 12 and 18; round table two: objectives 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 21; round table three: objectives 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 22; and round table four: objectives 1, 3, 7, 17 and 23. The United Nations Network on Migration will consult Member States, UN entities and stakeholders in drafting the Secretary-General's background notes for each roundtable.

updates on the GCM<sup>8</sup>. Most recently, IOM and ECLAC provided an update on the follow-up and review of the GCM to RCM Member Countries at the Meeting of the Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM) in Puebla, Mexico held on 29 and 30 July 2021.

In their conclusions and recommendations Member Countries thanked IOM and ECLAC and requested them to organize a virtual workshop on the review of the GCM, tentatively in the fourth week of August 2021, including the following elements:

- i. The role of the Global Compact in supporting the work of the RCM.
- ii. The support of the United Nations Network on Migration for the strengthening of the RCM.<sup>9</sup>

In addition, the webinar will also discuss how the RCM can contribute to the upcoming IMRF. In this regard, this workshop is the first of two dialogues with the second one being proposed for the first quarter of 2022. The objective of both sessions is to produce a contribution by the RCM to the IMRF.

## **Registration**

To participate in the Consultation please access the following link for registration:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMudO6hpj4rE9SBTv543oPGq7qVlefMgyaY>

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<sup>8</sup> The United States and the Dominican Republic are not part of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration. Therefore, they are under no obligation to comply with the objectives and actions framed within the commitments relating to the Global Compact for Migration. [https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/default/files/resources\\_files/gcm\\_faq\\_english\\_final.pdf](https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/default/files/resources_files/gcm_faq_english_final.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> Conclusions and Recommendations of the meeting of the Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM), held on 29-30 July 2021 in Puebla, Mexico with the participation of representatives from Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States.

## Agenda

*Date: 17 September 2021, 9:00 – 11:00 (Mexico – GMT-5)*

<b>9:00 – 9:15</b>	<b>Welcome and opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rocío González Higuera, Head of the Immigration Policy, Registration and Identity of Persons Unit of the Ministry of the Interior of Mexico, Presidency Pro-Témpore of the RCM</li><li>• António Vitorino, Coordinator of the UN Network on Migration and Director General of IOM</li></ul>
<b>9:15 – 9:30</b>	<b>Overview of the UN Network on Migration's work in supporting the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jonathan Prentice, Head, Secretariat of the UN Network on Migration</li></ul>
<b>9:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>Presentation by Member Countries of actions to follow up on the Global Compact on Migration (3 min per country)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Champion countries (El Salvador, Honduras and Mexico)</li></ul>
<b>10:00 – 10:45</b>	<b>Discussion based on guiding questions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How can the Global Compact on Migration support the work of the RCM?</li><li>• How can the UN Network on Migration strengthen its support to the RCM?</li><li>• How can the RCM contribute to the IMRF?</li></ul> <p>Moderator: PPT Mexico</p>
<b>10:45 -11:00</b>	<b>Closing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Paulo Saad, Director, CELADE-Population Division/ECLAC</li><li>• Michele Klein Solomon, Regional Director, IOM Central America, North America and the Caribbean</li><li>• Rocío González Higuera, Head of the Immigration Policy, Registration and Identity of Persons Unit of the Ministry of the Interior of Mexico, Presidency Pro-Témpore of the RCM</li></ul>