Background and Rationale

Annex II of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants\(^1\) set in motion a process of intergovernmental consultations and negotiations which will culminate in the planned adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) at the Inter-Governmental Conference on International Migration in December 2018.

The latest Revised Draft of the GCM (28 May 2018)\(^2\) recognizes that a “comprehensive approach is needed to optimize the overall benefits of migration while addressing the risks and challenges for individuals and communities...”\(^3\) It further commits to “implement the Global Compact in cooperation and partnership with migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations... trade unions... and other relevant stakeholders.”\(^4\) Under Follow-up and Review, it also commits to “review the progress made in implementing the Global Compact... with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.”\(^5\) All these statements have received resounding support and re-affirmations from numerous Member States throughout the GCM negotiations phase.

To deliver the necessary concerted and coordinated efforts within “a coherent UN system”\(^6\), the GCM welcomes “the decision of the Secretary General to establish a United Nations network on migration”\(^7\) and notes that “IOM will serve as the coordinator and secretariat of the network.”\(^8\)

Within these two commitments in the GCM, it is important therefore for cohesion and collaboration between efforts for civil society engagement, and IOM’s proposed role, in the GCM implementation, follow-up and review. While the current Revised Draft of the GCM does not specify in detail stakeholders’ – including civil society’s – specific roles and responsibilities in these upcoming phases, there is already quite a lot that can be drawn from the intentions stated in the Draft.

One of the primary outcomes of two civil society dialogues with IOM convened this year (on 22 February, and 28 March) was a recommendation for IOM to establish a consultative civil society working group. In particular during the negotiations phase of the GCM process, this working group could discuss structured civil society engagement in the upcoming implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM. This could be a critical step to ensure that the whole-of-society approach which the GCM strives for can be

---

1. https://undocs.org/A/71/L.1
4. Paragraph 43.
5. Paragraph 47.
6. Paragraph 38.
7. Paragraph 44.
8. Paragraph 44(a).
accomplished, including at the regional and national levels where a majority and wide range of civil society operates.⁹

**Purpose**

The consultative Civil Society – IOM Working Group can facilitate joint discussions towards the definition of structured civil society engagement in the implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM. The working group could play an active role in the formulation, development, and evolution, for proposed civil society engagement in those phases. It will be comprised of key civil society leaders who have been the most engaged in international migration policy, and particularly with the GCM to date, alongside key IOM personnel from the GCM and IPD (International Partnerships Division) teams. (For further details on composition, see Configuration below.)

**Timeframe**

The initial timeframe for the working group would be May-December 2018. It is understood that the anticipated adoption of the GCM would also conclude the immediate tasks of the working group. However, the scope and timeframe of the working group may be extended later, if collectively deemed useful and necessary.

**Formulation of Structured Civil Society Engagement**

The first task for the working group would be the brainstorming, conceptualization and formulation of such a proposed structure for civil society engagement in the GCM’s implementation, follow-up and review. This task would be undertaken by a series of convenings and meetings (in-person wherever efficient and feasible). The working group would be initially convened between May-June 2018 and facilitated by IOM’s Civil Society Liaison on the GCM. The proposed steps to accomplish this include:

- Drafting and review of Concept Note (April-May 2018)
- A preliminary introduction conference call (30 April)
- Drafting of preparatory documents for first meeting (May 2018)
- Second preparatory conference call (28 May)
- Initial ½-day meeting in New York (3 June) prior to round 5 of GCM negotiations
- Follow-up conference call (week of 25 June)
- Second meeting in New York (week of 9 July around final round of GCM negotiations)
- Third meeting in Geneva (following 2nd International Dialogue on Migration)

**Configuration**

Civil society engagement in international migration policy and governance in the past decade has experienced unprecedented growth and development. As a result, there are a number of existing civil society formations and functions which are already operational, effective and have longstanding experience in engaging in international migration policy and governance dialogues at all levels, including within the GCM.

---

⁹ Paragraph 41, 49.
In addition, these civil society formations have leaders who are the most engaged in international migration policy and governance dialogues, and have the requisite strategic and political skills as well as experiences necessary to contribute effectively to the working group.

It is from such key formations, and the outstanding civil society leaders of those formations, that the participation of the working group is configured. Participants of the working group are:

- Key leaders and/or primary assigned representatives of civil society networks, coalitions, committees etc. towards the GCM process;
- Actively engaged in the GCM process so as to be already well-informed about it;
- Experienced with global civil society organizing and UN/international engagement at various levels, so as to be able to give experiential-based ideas and recommendations;

It is expected that each working group member will be proactively briefing and soliciting inputs from their respective constituencies as well as broader civil society in all contexts and levels, in order to bring as wide and as collective as possible civil society thinking and contribution towards the tasks and goals of the working group.

Direction and responsibility for the Working Group will be shared among all Working Group members and participants. IOM staff will actively participate in all of the Working Group meetings and tasks, except when it is deemed necessary for the civil society members to convene among themselves only.

For a full list of Working Group members and participants, see Annex I.
Annex II

Civil Society – IOM Working Group on
Global Compact for Migration Implementation, Follow-up and Review

Working Group Composition

The configuration of this working group is proposed as follows:

IOM:

- **Michele Klein-Solomon**, GCM Director
- **Nicoletta Giordano**, Head of International Partnerships Division (IPD)
- **Asisé Mateo / Mailan Thai**, GCM Associate Policy Officer (Geneva)
- **Azrah Karim-Rajput**, GCM Policy Officer (New York)
- **Colin Rajah**, IOM Civil Society Liaison on GCM

Civil Society:

Civil Society Action Committee Co-Conveners:

- **Eva Sandis**, Chair Emerita, NGO Committee on Migration
- **Ignacio Packer**, Executive Director, International Council for Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)
- **Sophie van Haasen**, Senior Policy Officer, International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)

Broad-based international networks, coalitions, alliances active in Global Compact for Migration:

- **Monami Maulik**, International Coordinator, Global Coalition on Migration (GCM)

Inter-regional Working Group and Regional Focal Points:

- **Africa** – **Mamadou Goita**, Africa Focal Point; Chair, Pan-African Network in Defense of Migrant Rights (PANIDMR)
- **Asia** – **William Gois**, Asia Focal Point; Regional Coordinator, Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA)
- **Europe** – **Michele LeVoy**, Europe Co-Focal Point; Executive Director, Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)
- **Latin America** – **Berenice Valdez-Rivera**, Latin America Focal Point; Coordinator, Bloque Latinoamérica
- **Middle-East and North Africa (MENA)** – **Roula Hamati**, MENA Focal Point; Coordinator, Cross-Regional Center for Refugees and Migrants (CCRM)
- **North America** – **Cathi Tactaquin**, US-Canada Focal Point; Executive Director, National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR)
- **Pacific** – **Pefi Kingi**, Pacific Focal Point; Migration Focal Point, Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (PIANGO)
International sectoral and thematic networks:

- **Children** – Daniela Riele, Co-Convener, Initiative for Child Rights in the Global Compacts
- **Diaspora** – Gibril Faal, Executive Director, Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Network (ADEPT)
- **Faith-based Organizations (FBOs)** – Kevin Appleby, Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN)
- **Humanitarian** – Sarnata Reynolds, Oxfam International
- **Trade Unions** – Jin Sook Lee / Gemma Adaba, Council of Global Unions (CGU) Migration Working Group
- **Women and Gender** – Carol Barton, Co-coordinator, Women in Migration Network (WIMN)
- **Youth** – Lama Ranjous / Viridiana Murillo, Migration Global Focal Point, UN Major Group on Children and Youth (MGCY)

Others:
To be added when necessary, and by consensus by the Working Group members.