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**Second Regional Review  
of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**

Note by the Secretariat

**Second Round of Regional Reviews for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**

1. The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) was endorsed by UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/73/195 of 19 December 2018. As a follow-up and review mechanism, the GCM calls for regional reviews every four years; alternating with a global review (the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF)) also every four years.
2. UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/73/326 details the format and organizational aspects of both the IMRF and the regional reviews.
3. The first round of regional reviews took place in 2020/2021. The first meeting of the IMRF took place in New York from 17-20 May 2022 and adopted the Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum (A/RES/76/266).
4. In March 2023, the Coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration (Network), IOM, circulated the attached document entitled “Framework on the preparation and organization of the Regional Reviews of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”.
5. The document outlines the framework for a second round of regional reviews, including on the actions set out in the Progress Declaration, and to formulate critical findings and recommendations to inform the next IMRF in 2026.
6. In A/RES/73/195, para 50 stipulates a possible role for Regional Commissions in the regional reviews as follows:
  50. Considering that most international migration takes place within regions, we invite relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions or regional consultative processes, to review the implementation of the Global Compact within the respective regions, beginning in 2020, alternating with discussions at the global level at a four-year interval, in order to effectively inform each edition of the International Migration Review Forum, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.
7. Considering that UNECE’s mandate in the area of migration is mainly focused on migration statistics, EXCOM decided at its remote informal meeting of members on 20 May 2020 against the organization of a regional review meeting by the UNECE secretariat<sup>[i]</sup>. EXCOM mandated ECE to facilitate the collection of voluntary inputs by member States to the regional review for onward transmission to IOM. Substantive contributions to the regional review meeting by the ECE secretariat should be provided within the limits of its mandate. A virtual regional review meeting, organized by the Network, was held on 12-13 November 2020.

<sup>[i]</sup> In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, this decision was confirmed by silence procedure as of 29 May 2020 and formalized at the 110<sup>th</sup> meeting of EXCOM on 10 July 2020 (see ECE/EX/2020/L.4, item 7).

8. For the second round of regional reviews, paragraph 68 of the IMRF Progress Declaration states:

68. We invite relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms, dialogues, forums and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions and regional consultative processes on migration, in reviewing the progress made in the implementation of the Global Compact at all levels, to consider ways to enhance cooperation related to its full implementation, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders and in line with a 360-degree vision.

9. Voluntary national reports by member States will not be requested in the second round of regional reviews. Instead, all relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the regional consultative processes, are invited to provide contributions. Serving as the culmination of these discussions, the regional commissions, with the support of the Network, are invited to each organize a meeting for their respective Member States.

10. In addition, the Network will organize one multi-stakeholder consultation for each of the five regions that will feed into the meetings of the respective regional commission. The Network will ensure that there is diversity of stakeholders represented, including migrant and youth representatives.

11. All meetings and dialogues making up the regional reviews will result in a summary report that will be shared with the Coordinator of the Network, including for incorporation into the next Secretary-General's report due in 2024 and any subsequent reporting.

12. Since the adoption of the GCM by the General Assembly in 2018, multiple activities support its implementation in the region. The majority of funding of the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) is provided by ECE member States. There are two MPTF funded Joint Programmes in the region (North Macedonia; Tajikistan), and two current Steering Committee members (France and Denmark). Further, 98 pledges were made by Europe and Central Asian member States and stakeholders in the framework of the IMRF, and there are four GCM Champion countries in Europe and Central Asia (Azerbaijan, Luxembourg, Portugal and Türkiye).

13. The organization of a regional review meeting by the UNECE secretariat, with the support of the Network, responds to the call for stronger linkages between the GCM, the 2030 Agenda and their review forums and encourages reporting on these linkages during the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (A/RES/76/266, para. 75):

75. We commit to strengthening the linkages between the Global Compact, the 2030 Agenda and their review forums and to giving due consideration to the progress, challenges and gaps in implementing the Global Compact in the elaboration of our voluntary national reviews of progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as appropriate. We encourage the President of the Economic and Social Council to invite the Coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration to report on the linkages between the implementation of the Global Compact and the 2030 Agenda during the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and encourage relevant subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with their respective mandates, to contribute to the review of the implementation of the Global Compact.

14. UNECE could serve as a neutral platform to bring together interested member States and relevant stakeholders from across the region. There is no other platform or process in the region offering this unique convening capacity and the experience in organizing regional intergovernmental review meetings feeding into UN General Assembly processes.

15. Accordingly, EXCOM may wish to consider mandating the UNECE secretariat to convene, jointly with the IOM, as coordinator of the Network, and in close cooperation with the entities of the regional UN system, in particular the Issue-based Coalition on Large Movements of People, Displacement and Resilience, and the active engagement of other relevant stakeholders, an intergovernmental meeting to review the implementation of the Global Compact in the UNECE region back-to-back with the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development in March 2024.

16. Background documentation for the review meeting would be prepared through the Network. UNECE substantive contributions would be in line with its existing related mandates. There would be no financial implications for UNECE.

17. While the first round of Regional Reviews took place virtually, the next round of Reviews will be hosted in-person. The Network will circulate a call for funding, principally for travel, under the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (M-MPTF) follow-up and review funding window to support the participation of least developed countries and stakeholders, as outlined in paragraphs 48 to 50 of General Assembly resolution 73/195.

Draft decision for consideration:

**Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 73/195, para 50, and 76/266, paras 68 and 75, EXCOM mandates the UNECE to convene, jointly with IOM, as the coordinator of the UN Network, an intergovernmental meeting to review the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the UNECE region. The meeting will be held back-to-back with the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the ECE region in March 2024.**

**The modalities and agenda of the regional review meeting will be developed in close consultation with member States. There will be no financial implications for UNECE.**

**Substantive contributions to the regional review meeting by the UNECE secretariat will be provided within the limits of its current mandate and activities in the area of migration.**

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## Framework on the preparation and organization of the Regional Reviews of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

This note outlines the framework for the second round of Regional Reviews of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), as proposed by the United Nations Network on Migration (Network)<sup>1</sup>.

The proposed framework builds on the first round of Regional Reviews that took place in 2020-2021, and the outcomes of the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) that took place in New York in May 2022.

### Regional Reviews: an opportunity for increased regional collaboration.

The Network Coordinator is requested by the General Assembly to support Member States in the preparation and organization of the GCM Regional Reviews. Furthermore, Member States request the President of the General Assembly to hold a plenary meeting of the General Assembly in the second half of 2024 to consider the next biennial report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the GCM, as well as the outcomes of the regional reviews, presented by the Coordinator of the Network (annex 1).

To that end, the Network proposes this overall framework for the organization of the Regional Reviews, ensuring a degree of consistency and comparability across regions, as well as adherence to the GCM guiding principles.

### Framing

The second round of Regional Reviews provides an opportunity to Member States and stakeholders to review implementation of the GCM within their respective regions, including as regards the actions set out in the Progress Declaration and to formulate critical findings and recommendations to inform the 2026 IMRF.

To that end, the Regional Reviews could include discussions on:

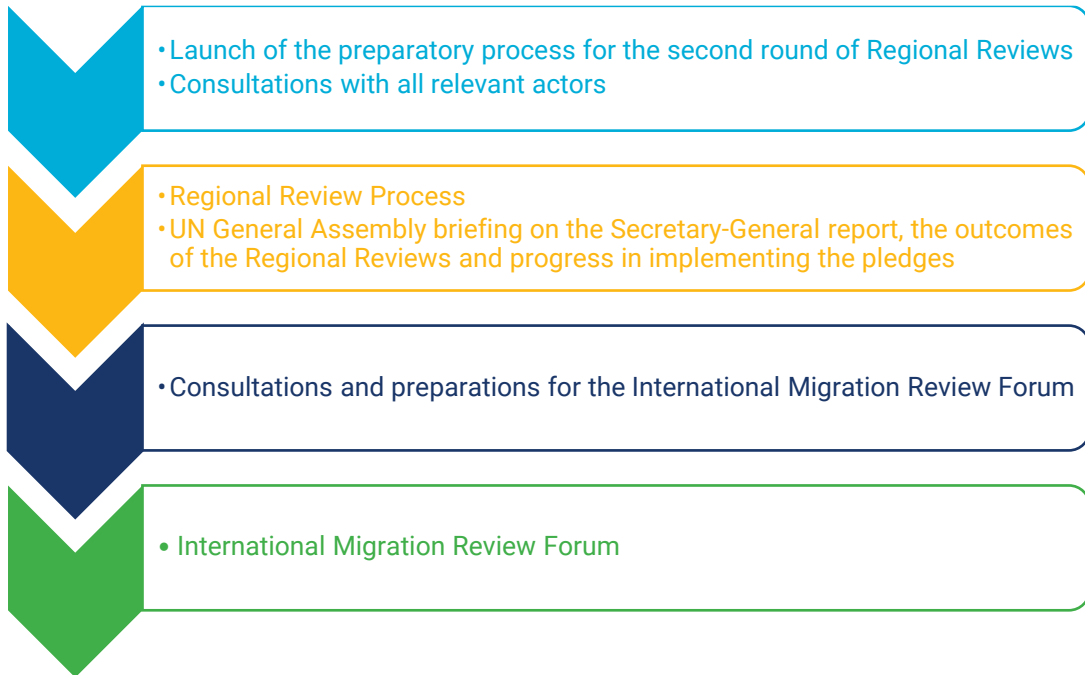
- Regional priorities and gaps in the implementation of the GCM based on outcomes of the first round of Regional Reviews.
- Opportunities for strengthening regional and cross-regional cooperation on migration.
- Existing regional migration governance frameworks and ways in which to further integrate the GCM objectives and guiding principles.
- Monitoring regional progress and challenges on implementing the recommended actions set out in the IMRF Progress Declaration.

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<sup>1</sup> This note will be complemented by any other notes drafted by relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions or regional consultative processes and their regional partners in preparation for the second round of Regional Reviews.



## Roadmap



Considering that most international migration takes place within regions, all relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions (regional commissions) or regional consultative processes, are invited to contribute to the GCM Regional Reviews, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

The Network stands ready to support each subregional, regional and cross-regional process, platform and organization in the preparation and organization of their review and encourages their active contribution.

Serving as the culmination of these discussions, the regional commissions, with the support of and being a member of the Network, will each organize a meeting for their respective Member States.

In addition, the Network will organize one multi-stakeholder consultation for each of the five regions that will feed into the meetings of the respective regional commission. The Network will ensure that there is diversity of stakeholders represented, including migrant and youth representatives.

All meetings and dialogues making up the Regional Reviews will result in a summary report that will be shared with the Coordinator of the Network, including for incorporation into the next Secretary-General's report due in 2024 and any subsequent reporting.



In order to effectively inform the next IMRF, the Coordinator of the Network will further ensure that these reports are submitted to the President of the General Assembly, and forwarded to the co-facilitators of the IMRF Progress Declaration in 2026<sup>2</sup>.

## Network support

The Network, at all levels, will support the Regional Reviews in a number of ways:

- The “[GCM Talks](#)” will offer an inclusive platform to continue discussions on how best to implement the GCM at the regional level and to provide expert inputs to all relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations as they review the implementation of the Global Compact within their respective regions.
- Its regional Networks will ensure the coordination of United Nations system support to Member States and stakeholders within their respective regions in preparation of the Regional Reviews. Contact information for each regional Network can be obtained through the Network secretariat at [unmignet@iom.int](mailto:unmignet@iom.int).
- The Network will facilitate the meaningful engagement of all stakeholders in the process, while ensuring a coordinated overall approach.
- The Migration Network Hub will offer an easy-to-use platform where Member States and stakeholders will be able to provide inputs, and consult all information related to the Regional Reviews.
- The Network, through its secretariat and regional Networks, will promote the importance and relevance of the Regional Reviews by showcasing practices of GCM implementation on the Hub and by highlighting progress made thus far through regular communications products and updates.
- The Network will also promote pledges by Member States and other stakeholders through its Pledging Dashboard to encourage continued engagement and commitment in the run-up to the 2026 IMRF.

## Resources needed for the preparation and organization of the Regional Reviews

While the first round of Regional Reviews largely took place virtually, it is to be expected that the next round of Reviews will be hosted both virtually and in in-person or hybrid formats.

The Network will circulate a call for funding, principally for travel, under the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (M-MPTF) follow-up and review funding window, which will support the participation of least developed countries and stakeholders, as outlined in paragraphs 48 to 50 of General Assembly resolution 73/195.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> In addition, the 2026 IMRF Progress Declaration will be informed by Voluntary GCM Reports as submitted by Member States ahead of the Forum.

<sup>3</sup> Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund Start-Up Fund for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, Operations Manual Revision of February 2023, p.30, <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/MIG00>.



## Annex 1: GCM, IMRF Modalities Resolution and Progress Declaration relevant provisions

- In the GCM, Member States commit to review the progress made at the local, national, regional and global levels in implementing the Global Compact in the framework of the United Nations through a State-led approach and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders. For follow-up and review, Member States agree on intergovernmental measures that will assist in fulfilling their objectives and commitments. (A/RES/73/195, para 48).
- The GCM invites relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions or regional consultative processes, to review the implementation of the Global Compact within the respective regions, beginning in 2020, alternating with discussions at the global level at a four-year interval, in order to effectively inform each edition of the International Migration Review Forum, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders (A/RES/73/195, para 50).
- In the resolution on the format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums, Member States request the Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as Coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration (the network), to assist, upon request by Member States, in the preparation and organization of regional reviews of the implementation of the Global Compact (A/RES/73/326, para 9).
- The IMRF Progress Declaration invites relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms, dialogues, fora and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions and regional consultative processes on migration, in reviewing the progress made in the implementation of the Global Compact at all levels, to consider ways to enhance cooperation related to its full implementation, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders and in line with a 360-degree vision (A/RES/76/266, para 68).
- In the Progress Declaration, Member States further request the President of the General Assembly to hold a plenary meeting of the General Assembly in the second half of 2024 in order to consider the next biennial report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Global Compact, as well as the outcomes of the regional reviews, presented by the Coordinator of the Network, and for Member States and stakeholders to present, on a voluntary basis, progress in implementing the pledges they have made in the context of the Forum (A/RES/76/266, para 77).