



UN Women
Chair's Report to the Global Migration Group
1 January – 31 December 2016

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I. Introduction

UN Women held the Chair of the Global Migration Group (GMG) from 1 January to 31 December 2016, succeeding the World Bank, as GMG Chair in 2015. The theme of UN Women's tenure as Chair was **"Strengthening the GMG's gender responsive engagement with migration and development"**. Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women was supported in her role as Chair, by Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Deputy Executive Director, and the Economic Empowerment Section of UN Women lead by Meg Jones, reporting to Purna Sen, with team members Inkeri von Hase and Andrea Milan. The GMG Support Team played an invaluable role throughout and UN Women is grateful to DESA and IOM for providing these resources.

II. Key accomplishments

The key accomplishments of the GMG in 2016 included:

1. Convened seven multi-stakeholder meetings around the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants

In preparation for the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants held in New York on 19 September 2016, the GMG hosted in New York City the following five interactive, [multi-stakeholder meetings](#) to support the engagement of representatives from Member States, international organisations, civil society, and other stakeholders:

1. Understanding large movements of refugees and migrants (25 April 2016);
2. Protecting the human rights of all people in vulnerable situations within large movements (30 June 2016);
3. Strengthening responsibility sharing for refugees (13 July 2016);
4. Responding to large movements of refugees and migrants - Human rights protection, labour market options and a Global Compact for migration (20 July 2016);
5. Development approaches to migration and displacement – Supporting national and local capacities to prepare for and respond to large movements (13 September 2016).

Following the Summit, the GMG hosted two additional meetings related to the implementation of the Summit's commitments as outlined in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, namely:

6. Migration-related commitments in the New York Declaration: The role of the UN system (New York City, 18 October 2016);
7. The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants: Implementation of commitments to counter xenophobia (Geneva, 31 October 2016).

The GMG's multi-stakeholder meetings featured panels of experts from international organisations, non-governmental organisations, and the research community. Meetings were co-chaired by Member States and co-organized by GMG Members, and they addressed different but complementary themes, provided an important platform of engagement ahead of and pursuant to the Summit and were highly appreciated by participants. A [report](#) summarizing the outcomes of the rich and substantive discussions that took place was commissioned by the Chair and is available on the GMG website.

2. Coordination of substantive GMG contributions and background documents for UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants

In addition to the aforementioned multi-stakeholder meetings, the GMG Chair coordinated the drafting process for the concept notes for the six thematic round tables that took place at the 19 September 2016 Summit, and supported the inclusion of gender-related considerations in each of the concept notes. This process was facilitated in close collaboration with the Special Adviser on the Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants and in response to a request from the President of the UN General Assembly. Each of the concept notes was co-led by two or more GMG Members, and they included inputs from all GMG members as well as relevant non-GMG members including the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG) on International Migration.

The GMG Chair also provided extensive support to the Special Adviser who wrote the UN Secretary-General's central report "In Safety and Dignity: Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants". Ahead of the Summit, the Chair also called attention to the refugee, migrant and humanitarian dimensions and their importance in the sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 60). In addition, in line with its objectives as Chair, UN Women successfully advocated for the inclusion of a strong gender perspective in all relevant documents and discourses through the *ad hoc* Steering Committee (led by the UN Deputy Secretary-General) and the Working Group (led by the Special Adviser on the Summit) which were set up to back-stop preparatory activities and engagement ahead of and pursuant to the Summit.

UN Women leveraged its institutional capacity on gender equality and the empowerment of women throughout its tenure as Chair and worked closely with the Permanent Representatives of Jordan and Ireland, as co-facilitators for the Summit preparations, in advocating for gender-responsive language and commitments to be included in the New York Declaration.

In fact, the New York Declaration, as adopted, includes commitments to:

- "ensure that our responses to large movements of refugees and migrants mainstream a gender perspective, promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and fully respect and protect the human rights of women and girls" (para. 31).
- "combat sexual and gender-based violence to the greatest extent possible ... provide access to sexual and reproductive health-care services ... tackle the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination against refugee and migrant women and girls" (para. 31).

The Declaration recognizes "the significant contribution and leadership of women in refugee and migrant communities" and it makes a commitment to work to ensure women and girls full, equal and meaningful participation in the development of local solutions and opportunities (see para. 31).

Last but not least, the Declaration recognizes the importance of improved data collection and that such data should be disaggregated by sex and other variables (para. 40).

UN Women's Executive Director as GMG Chair 2016 addressed the Opening Plenary of the 19 September Summit, presenting a joint GMG [statement](#). She emphasized that the GMG stood in solidarity with those that suffer indignity and persecution, and asserted that the GMG stood ready to support Member States in delivering on their commitments within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Chair further underscored that a truly people-centred, human-rights-based and gender-responsive approach to the large movements of refugees and migrants was needed

to recognize the indignities faced by migrant and refugee women and girls as well as to recognise the cultural and economic value they contribute to societies. The importance of creating international and national policies that specifically protect and safeguard women and girls from gross violation of their rights was also highlighted.

3. Enhanced GMG engagement with the GFMD and SRSG

Dedicated GFMD-GMG Troika meetings with the SRSG on International Migration were held on 26 February 2016 and on 20 July 2016. The Chair participated on behalf of the Group in the meetings, which were geared at enhancing the GMG's engagement with both the GFMD and SRSG. In addition to these exchanges, there was continuous GMG-GFMD coordination and cooperation in the lead up to GFMD Summit held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 10-12 December 2016. GMG engagement with the SRSG and his team now features as a standing agenda item at GMG working level meetings.

Owing to the GMG Chair's active engagement – at both the Principals' and working levels – with the support of the Group, GMG-GFMD cooperation was at an all-time high. Members of the GMG, both individually and collectively, remained committed to supporting and work closely with the GFMD and partners in capitalizing upon the opportunities and responding to the challenges presented by international migration in a more coherent, comprehensive and better coordinated fashion – as one of the cornerstones of the GMG. The GMG's work in this context was centred around elevating the focus on women in the migration debate; increased cooperation and coordination, including with the GFMD; and strengthening the role of the GMG members and their partners, in particular the GFMD, in supporting the implementation and monitoring of the migration-related targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The GMG's objectives dovetailed with the overarching GFMD objective in 2016 which asserted migration as a transformative phenomenon, pivotal to sustainable development for all. To this end, during the two-day GMG Strategic Retreat in February 2016, GMG Members identified 22 migration-related targets and indicators and collected expressions of interest from GMG Members to lead/contribute to the follow-up and review on each of those targets in collaboration with the GFMD and other partners. The GMG also worked closely with the GFMD in the integration of a strong gender perspective in all global processes on migration, including the areas of work of the GFMD.

The adoption of the landmark New York Declaration was preceded by extensive GMG-GFMD engagement, including through the multi-stakeholder meetings organized by the GMG. It is worth noting that the New York Declaration envisages a role for both the GFMD and GMG, in coordination with the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for International Migration in contributing towards the negotiation process for the global compact on safe, orderly and regular migration (Annex II, paragraph 13).

Further noteworthy elements of GMG-GFMD cooperation and GMG contributions to the GFMD process in 2016 include the following:

- Inputs into the preparatory process for the Ninth GFMD Summit, including through the drafting and finalization of the GFMD background papers by GMG members.
- Coordinated joint [GMG statements](#) drawing on the GMG agencies' expertise and underscoring GMG-GFMD partnership at the following GFMD events:

- GFMD Thematic Workshop on Migration, Connectivity and Business (29 March 2016);
- GFMD Thematic Workshop on Migration for Harmonious Societies (18 May 2016);
- GFMD Thematic Workshop on Migration for Peace, Stability and Growth (19 July 2016);
- GFMD Friends of the Forum Meeting (20 October 2016);
- Ninth GFMD Summit (10 December 2016).
- GMG participation at events co-organized by the Bangladesh GFMD Chair:
 - Side event co-organized by UN Women as GMG Chair 2016 and Bangladesh as GFMD Chair 2016 on “Policies Empowering Migrant Women and Girls in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” at the 60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (24 March 2016);
 - Inaugural Meeting of the "Friends of Migration" Group (13 May 2016).

4. Greater GMG visibility and delivery of joint statements at a range of events throughout the year

The GMG secured a high level of visibility in 2016 and was represented by the Chair at a wide range of events in various locations, including New York, Geneva, Bangkok, Colombo and Dhaka. Over the course of the year, the Chair delivered 13 joint statements on behalf of the GMG:

- 25-26 February 2016: [Statement](#) at the 14th Coordination Meeting on International Migration;
- 29 February-1 March 2016: [Statement](#) at the 2016 IOM International Dialogue on Migration (IDM): Follow-up and Review of Migration in the SDG;
- 8-11 March 2016: [Statement](#) at the 47th Session of the Statistical Commission;
- 16 March 2016: [Statement](#) at the UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Women’s Economic Empowerment during the 60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women;
- 24 March 2016: [Statement](#) at the side event on Policies Empowering Migrant Women and Girls in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development held on the margins of the 60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women;
- 11 April 2016: [Statement](#) at the 49th Session of the Commission on Population and Development;
- 13 May 2016: [Statement](#) at the Inaugural Meeting of the "Friends of Migration" Group;
- 25 August 2016: [Statement](#) at the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Colombo Process;
- 19 September 2016: [Statement](#) at the UN GA High-level Summit Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants;
- 18 October 2016: [Statement](#) at the UN GA Second Committee General Discussion on International Migration and Development;
- 20 October 2016: [Statement](#) at the GFMD Friends of the Forum Meeting;
- 9 December 2016: [Statement](#) at the Roundtable on Political Participation in Times of Mass Migration and Refugee Crises;
- 10 December 2016: [Statement](#) at Ninth GFMD Summit.

Through the joint statements coordinated with the GMG members, the Chair ensured that key issues were elevated at both principal and technical levels of engagement and that the Group was seen and heard to be “delivering as one” – which goes to the heart of the GMG’s *raison d’être*.

5. Articulation of a possible role for the GMG in the follow-up the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants

At the 8 November 2016 GMG Principals' meeting, Principals endorsed the proposal by the GMG Chair to prepare a short working-level document on the possible role of the GMG in the follow-up to the High-level Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants before the end of 2016. The document was prepared by GMG working-level colleagues, in coordination with the Chair, and it is detailed in **Annex C**. The document was shared with the Office of the Special Adviser ad interim on Follow-up to the Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants, Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, and served as a resource for her report to the UN Secretary-General.

Related to this, GMG Principals also endorsed the GMG Chair's proposal to request the working level colleagues to prepare an informal report to be finalized by third quarter of 2017 on the progress made by the UN system in implementing the migration-related commitments made at the UN High-level Summit for Refugees and Migrants. This report is expected to include inputs from GMG Members and other UN entities, as appropriate and be fleshed out by the incoming GMG Chair in coordination with GMG members.

6. Expansion of the Group with the addition of three new members

The Chair presided over the seamless admission into the GMG of three UN entities during the year, namely the World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP). This was the first time that new members were integrated into the GMG under the revised guidelines for membership, adopted at the Principals' Meeting in November 2015. The Chair also provided guidance and responded to requests from other entities interested in joining the GMG.

III. Workplan, objectives and thematic focus areas

Under the theme of, "**Strengthening the GMG's gender responsive engagement with migration and development**", UN Women as Chair sought to promote greater gender responsiveness at all levels and platforms on migration and development throughout the year. The GMG's work in this context is detailed in the Chair's annual workplan/ concept note, set out in **Annex A**, was centred on three key objectives, namely:

Objective 1: Ensuring that both men and women are impacted positively by the work of the GMG and elevating the focus on women in the migration debate;

Objective 2: Strengthening the role of the GMG members and their partners, in particular GFMD, in the implementation and monitoring of the migration-related targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Objective 3: Strengthening the GMG's effectiveness and impact, through increased coordination and cooperation.

The Chair discharged of these objectives as set out in the aforementioned actions and in addition also oversaw the finalization of the GMG reports related to the stocktaking exercise on [crisis-related](#)

[migration](#) and [protection at sea](#), in collaboration with IOM and UNHCR, and in coordination with the broader GMG membership. The recommendations are germane to future GMG actions in this and other areas. This exercise arose out of a decision of GMG Principals in November 2014, to take stock of all existing efforts on crisis-related migration and protection at sea and to analyse them, with a view to informing both the response of the GMG to the collaboration request received from the International Maritime Organization (IMO); as well as to prepare a comprehensive GMG strategy on these issues, outlining the extent to which crisis-related migration and protection at sea could be moulded into the GMG's future work or, if it was not within the GMG's purview, considering the recommendations the GMG might make to others with regard to the development of such a strategy.

The recommendations of the reports remain pertinent to the ongoing discussions related to follow-up actions from the UN Summit on Refugees and Migrants, and the possible role of the GMG. The [2016-2018 GMG multi-annual work plan \(MAWP\)](#) provides for these recommendations to be incorporated into the thematic work areas of the GMG and calls on GMG Working Groups and Task Forces to appropriately integrate crisis-related migration into their work streams, as well as continue global advocacy and encourage regional approaches with regard to the protection of migrants and refugees at sea.

In addition, the Working Groups and Task Forces of the GMG continued their work in the following key thematic areas:

- Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies;
- Data and Research;
- Migration, Human Rights and Gender;
- Capacity Development;
- Migration and Decent Work.

The consolidated report of the activities of the GMG Working Groups and Task Forces for the 2015-2016 is set out in **Annex B**.

IV. Handover to UNU and proposed issues to be carried forward

The last working level meeting of the GMG in 2016 was held on 28 November 2016 and UN Women as Chair handed over the role of Chairing the GMG to the United Nations University (UNU) for 2017. In preparation, a series of meetings had taken place between UN Women, UNU and the GMG Support Team, to guarantee a smooth transition. UN Women's tenure as Chair of the GMG officially came to a close on 31 December 2016.

The following issues, some of which arose during or prior to the UN Women's tenure as Chair, warrant the attention of the incoming GMG Chair as well as future Chairs:

From the ESCAP Chair:

- Advance the development of the 2016–2018 MAWP;
- Review of decision adopted by Principals on GMG chairing modalities – a rotational system by alphabetical order was adopted in 2016 for a trial period of three years and this arrangement is reviewable at the end of 2016/ in the course of 2017;

- Monitor implementation and make proposals relating to the other decisions adopted on improved GMG working modalities, as necessary.

From the IOM Chair:

- Survey of GMG agencies on the perceptions of migrants and proposal for a broader GMG initiative on the image/ perceptions of migrants with contributions from all the GMG agencies (in line with a message emanating from the HLCP paper and HLD outcomes) – this potentially could dovetail with the UN Secretary-General’s *Together* global campaign to combat the xenophobia and racism that have tainted discussions of the refugees and migrants (2016);
- Promotion of comprehensive GMG engagement and coordination from the global to the regional, national/ field levels.

From the ILO, World Bank and UN Women Chairs:

- Continue to foster the creation of greater synergies in the work of the GMG Working Groups and Task Forces and track their activities by way of periodic reports to the Chair and the GMG at large, including on such elements as their membership, deliverables, donors, external partners at the global, regional and country level, and future plans;
- Promote closer coordination between the GMG – Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Troikas and the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on International Migration (SRSG) and strengthen regularized consultation and information sharing;
- Institutionalize GMG briefings to governments, to take place at least once a year;
- Enhance collaboration between the GMG and social partners and other stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, academia, UN entities and international organizations;
- Build on the experiences of GMG member agencies with their respective national counterparts to identify opportunities for the cross-fertilization of experiences and good practices between the field and global levels of engagement;
- Contribute to the development of indicators on migration for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its implementation, including through the MAWP;
- Advance development of guidance on mainstreaming migration in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and other national development planning and related tools;
- Enhance GMG engagement with external entities, with a view also to deciding on the requests to collaborate with the GMG from various entities;
- Give effect to the recommendations and Principals’ decision flowing from the stock taking exercises related to crisis-related migration and protection at sea, including through the GMG Multi-Annual Work Plan (MAWP) and decide on the next steps to be taken in view of the recommendations;
- Support Member States in the implementation of the commitments taken through the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and in the processes leading to the adoption of a global compact for safe, regular and orderly migration and a global compact on refugees;
- Support discussions among interested Member States and UN System entities in developing non-binding guiding principles and voluntary guidelines, consistent with international law, on the treatment of migrants in vulnerable situations, especially unaccompanied and separated children who do not qualify for international protection as refugees and who may need assistance (see paragraph 52 of the New York Declaration);
- Develop an informal report on the progress made by the UN System in implementing the commitments made at the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants, with inputs from GMG Members and other relevant UN entities (paragraph 88 of the New York Declaration);

- Initiate planning for GMG activities around the Intergovernmental Conference on International Migration to be held in 2018 and the third High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD) to be held by 2019; and
- Finalization of a GMG policy paper on gender, new remittance platforms and financial inclusion¹.

V. Annexes

- A. Concept Note UN Women Chairmanship of the Global Migration Group
- B. GMG Deliverables and Consolidated Working Groups and Task Forces Reports 2015-2016
- C. The role of the GMG in following-up the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants
- D. Members of GMG (as at 31 December 2016)

¹ Currently under finalization, it is expected to be published by 31 July 2017.

Annex A: Concept Note UN Women Chairmanship of the Global Migration Group

UN Women Chairmanship of the Global Migration Group January – December 2016 Concept Note

Introduction

The Global Migration Group (GMG) was established by the United Nations Secretary-General in early 2006 in response to a recommendation of the Global Commission on International Migration for the establishment of a high-level inter-institutional group of entities involved in migration-related activities. The GMG was created by building on an existing group with a more limited membership, the Geneva Migration Group, which had been established in April 2003.

The Global Migration Group is particularly concerned with improving the overall effectiveness of its members and other stakeholders in the wider application of all relevant international and regional instruments and norms relating to migration, and encourages the adoption of more coherent, comprehensive and better coordinated approaches to the issue of international migration. At present, the Group is comprised of 18 entities,¹ which chair the GMG on a rotating basis. UN Women is chairing the group from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016.

Women make up approximately half the 247 million international migrants worldwide. Migration can enable them to earn an income, learn new skills, support their families and contribute to the development of sending and receiving countries. However, in increasingly complex contexts and rising South-South migration, women are using more dangerous migration routes, which exacerbate risks in transit and increase the likelihood of their insertion into precarious work in host countries, thereby increasing their vulnerability to violence and exploitation.

Despite this reality, discourse and policy making on migration continue to neglect the adoption of a gender perspective. The human rights and human development aspects of women's migration are therefore not yet adequately integrated into national, regional and international development policy and practice, such as poverty reduction, development and climate change adaptation strategies. This impedes the full recognition and maximization of contributions by migrant women to development, hinders their protection from violence, and hampers their access to assistance and justice.

During its chairmanship, UN Women will seek to elevate the focus on women in the migration debate and ensure that both men and women are impacted positively by the work of the GMG. 2016 is a strategic year for UN Women to assume the role as GMG Chair as it marks the first year of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which calls for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by 2030. Women migrants and data disaggregation by gender can be integrated into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – enabling governments to monitor

¹ FAO, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNCTAD, UN-DESA, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNITAR, UNODC, UN Regional Commissions, UNU, UN Women, World Bank, WHO.



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women



and track progress towards their full equality. As the GMG develops a new multi-year work plan, GMG members can benefit from mainstreaming gender into all areas of work under the GMG and beyond.

UN Women assumed the role as GMG chair in accordance with three objectives:

- *Objective 1:* Ensuring that both men and women are impacted positively by the work of the GMG, and elevating the focus on women in the migration debate;
- *Objective 2:* Strengthening the role of the GMG members and their partners, in particular GFMD, in the implementation and monitoring of the migration-related targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- *Objective 3:* Strengthening the GMG's effectiveness and impact, through increased coordination and cooperation.

Objective 1: Ensuring that both men and women are impacted positively by the work of the GMG and elevating the focus on women in the migration debate

UN Women will seek to elevate the focus on women in the migration debate, and highlight the importance of adopting a human-rights based, gender-sensitive and forward-looking approach to migration policy and national development strategies.

In particular, we will pursue this objective by:

- Ensuring that the GMG provides inputs to the GFMD and other relevant fora, particularly in relation to gender and migration;
- Supporting global and regional policy development and standard setting on gender equality and migrant women's rights;
- Engaging in advocacy with governments to ensure that the deliberations and outcomes of relevant global intergovernmental processes and other fora impact positively migrant men and women, including:
 - Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) meetings
 - Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)
 - UN Commission on Population and Development (CPD)
 - World Humanitarian Summit
 - UN Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants
- Supporting analytical work and policy analysis to mainstream gender more consistently throughout the GMG activities, advocacy and working groups;
- Producing a policy report on gender, remittances and financial inclusion, critically analyzing the new remittance platforms and how they can reduce transaction costs and increase financial inclusion for women migrants and their families.

1. GMG Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies

ACTIVITIES REPORT (2015-2016)

Output 1: Greater institutional coherence and capacity on M&D, and sustained coordination by governments and their subnational territories, UNCTs and other stakeholders (coordination mechanisms & capacity development) on migration issues:

The IOM-UNDP Joint Global Programme on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies is being implemented with funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. The programme supports Governments and their partners to better measure the human development impacts of migration and to make them more visible in the international community. The programme also provides a framework to govern migration policy to increase the human development outcomes. It also helps governments to mitigate the risks for migrants, their families and communities in their countries of origin and destination, and it is in its second phase of implementation. The programme is being implemented in Bangladesh, Ecuador, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Moldova, Serbia and Tunisia.

In line with establishing sustainable institutional mechanisms for intra-governmental and intra-territorial coordination, the joint programme has ensured buy-in from Government counterparts and key migration and development (M&D) stakeholders on the migration mainstreaming process in all participating countries. This has created a sense of ownership for the process in the implementing countries. Programme implementation at the country level has been designed to partner with governments and all its key stakeholders. The multi-annual work plan for the programme is aligned to government's priorities on M&D in all participating countries. The programme has hence contributed progressively to the reinforcement of the UNCT and government coordination on M&D.

In addition, the programme has facilitated the institutionalization of inter-ministerial committees and in other cases steering committees on M&D to ensure there is coordination among key ministries dealing with M&D. For instance, through the programme, the Coordination Council on Migration and Counter-Trafficking and the creation of the Council on Diaspora Engagement have been established in Kyrgyzstan under the Prime Minister's Cabinet. These two councils will facilitate enhance policy formulation and implementation of policies on M&D in the country. In Tunisia, several bilateral and multilateral meetings and workshops have been organized at the inter-ministerial level. Working groups on migration among ministries have been organized at the central level as well as regional consultations on M&D have been organised to support decision makers to mainstream migration priorities in Tunisia's 2016-2020 National Development Plan. In Bangladesh, the programme facilitated the inclusion and preparation of a chapter on M&D into their 7th Five Year Plan which will lead their development strategy from 2016-2020. In Jamaica, the programme facilitated the inclusion of M&D into the national medium-term monitoring framework, aligned the country's national development plan (Vision 2030 of Jamaica), as well as contributed to the revision and amendment of the national International Migration And Development policy draft. In Morocco, the programme has fostered cooperation between several ministries and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs). This has led to the development of a joint programme of cooperation to support the National Strategy on Immigration and Asylum. This programme will continue

to support public policy planning and ensure coordination through the exchange of information and good practices in Morocco.

One of the main goals of the mainstreaming programme is to support national institutions to formulate evidence-based policies using a comprehensive approach to migration and development in order to maximize the benefits of migration for both host countries and migrants themselves. In line with this, efforts have been made to strengthen data on migration and development for policy, planning, development and monitoring and evaluation. For instance, *Kyrgyzstan has developed migration profiles to support decision-making in the country. Further, studies have been undertaken on diaspora communities in Tunisia and Serbia to a focus on the impact of labour migration and other demographic trends on labour markets. Research has been conducted to ascertain the extent to which migration has been included in academic curricula, with particular emphasis on youth in Serbia.* In addition, research has been provided to the Ministry of Social Affairs and the National Observatory on Migration on the management of migration statistics in Tunisia which includes a Glossary on Migration and a compilation of recommendations. Recommendations from these research activities have served as inputs into filling policy gaps, the formulation of policies and the revision of existing policies.

Output 2: Lessons learned and recommendations resulting from the Global Joint Programme on Mainstreaming Migration in Development Strategies are fed into policy debates and strategies

One of the priorities of the joint programme is to strengthen the capacities of national stakeholders and to improve knowledge on the migration phenomenon in order to facilitate its integration into national development strategies. Therefore, a number of capacity building activities have been organised for governments and other key stakeholders at the country level. For instance in Morocco, in partnership with the Ministry in Charge of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs, a training on M&D was organised for representatives of different ministries, civil society organisations and UNCTs to improve their knowledge and competences on topics such as; the link between M&D, the cooperation and regional frameworks on migration as well as the sociocultural dimensions of migration.

In partnership with the ITC-ILO, the programme organised training on M&D for the IOM and UNDP focal points of the mainstreaming migration programme. The training's modules dealt with the emergence and evolution of, and current trends in, migration and development discourses, relevant policies as well as practices. It also served as a training programme for focal points that may need to support training events at the country level.

Furthermore, the programme collates lessons learned from different countries and disseminates them through newsletters. This creates the opportunity for participating countries to learn specific lessons from one another and also provides ideas on the way forward on specific scenarios in their countries. So far, the programme has successfully developed and disseminated two newsletters within this reporting year. The first edition of the newsletter focused on general programme updates while the second edition shared information on how the programme has supported evidence building in the selected countries for this phase of the programme.

Also, the programme has facilitated bilateral learning missions for government representatives to learn experiences of other countries regarding how they have managed their M&D related activities providing the opportunity to acquire first-hand information about programme and policies to ensure that migration policies contribute positively to national and local development.

To date, Government representatives from Ecuador, Jamaica, Morocco, and Tunisia have visited the Mexico to learn from Mexico's experiences. The visit enhanced the knowledge of participants on the integration of migration into national development plans, and diaspora engagement for national socio-economic development. Government representatives from the Republic of Kyrgyzstan also visited the Republic of Moldova on a similar mission where they exchanged information on regulating migration processes with the Government of Moldova. Also, Government representatives from Jamaica have also engaged with government officials from the Philippines to learn from Philippine's experiences on the development and implementation of migration policy instruments, enhancing the capacity of migrants as partners, and the development of the local economy in their home country. They also learned about the operationalization of circular or short-term migration programmes that can maximize the benefits and development potential of migration, while minimizing the social costs associated with overseas employment.

During the 2016 Global Project Board meeting, the participants of the bilateral missions and study visits communicated the importance of such activities to the identification of policy gaps in their countries as well as its influence on the formulation and revision of policies. For instance, the government of Kyrgyzstan communicated that lessons learned from the study visit to Moldova have resulted in the provision of recommendations to the Migration Resolution of the Defense Council of the Kyrgyz Republic. The visit highlighted several key points:

- *The need to build inter-agency coordination mechanisms on migration and its related issues at the technical level;*
- *The importance of focus on diaspora engagement mechanisms to boost development;*
- *The urgency to develop special care mechanisms to ensure that children of migrants left behind are adequately cared for;*
- *And finally the need to finalize and adopt the Concept of the Migration Policy into the national development plan of Kyrgyzstan.*

In addition, the programme further provides an excellent platform for all countries involved in the programme to share their experiences, lessons and deliberate on the way forward during its annual board meetings.

The governments of Jamaican and Kyrgyzstan hosted the Board meetings for 2015 and 2016 respectively. The Tunisian government will host the 2017 Board meeting.

The programme operates a Yammer page for sharing information between the eight countries. The programme is in the process of launching a website for the exchange of information on the programme with the programme stakeholders and the public.

Output 3: An UNDAF Guidance on migration (in consultation with GMG members, DOCO, and the country level focal points) is developed

The UNDAFs are strategic programme frameworks that describe the collective response of the UN system to national development priorities. They are nationally- owned frameworks that are fully inclusive to all stakeholders and UN system actors, and align with national development priorities and strategies.

On behalf of the GMG, the UNDP as co-chair of the Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies has drafted an outline for several thematic briefs on how to guide the UNCTs to consider migration and displacement into the UNDAFs.

The process of developing the UNDAF guidance note on migration comprised of an extensive consultative process involving all GMG agencies and working groups, the UN Development Operations Coordination Office (DOCO), and civil society organizations. The review focused on economic development and human mobility, social and rural development and human mobility, climate change, the environment and human mobility, governance, rule of law, peace, and security.

As part of the process, UNDP conducted a content analysis of the current UNDAFs. *This analysis revealed that 91% of 119 UNDAFs that started between 2009 and 2016 contain some reference to migration and displacement. 84% of all frameworks refer directly to migration, migrants, and related terms, while three-quarters mention refugees and displacement. Importantly, migration, return, remittances, refugee and displacement issues are often highlighted in the strategic options and key outcomes.* While migration features important in all regions, there are some regional differences. All current UNDAFs in Europe and Oceania have at least one reference to migration or displacement, while 97% of UNDAFs in Asia, 90% in Africa and 81% in Latin America and the Caribbean reference one or both terms.

The outcome of this process is a comprehensive guidance note on integrating migration and displacement into the UNDAFs. This introduces UNCTs and government partners to the various programmatic links between sustainable development, migration, and displacement. The guidance note draws on lessons learned from previous UNDAFs and government activities, as well as the UNDP-IOM global joint programme to mainstream migration into national development strategies.

The guidance note will be considered in the overall guidance on the SDGs. The draft version of this report has been circulated for comments. Finalization of the guidance note is in progress.

Output 4: Study on the economic impacts of diaspora investment (effects on employment, tax revenues and foreign exchange earnings) is finalized and shared with GMG and partners;

With the help of two consultants, UNDP and IOM have completed the research and analysis phase of the study on diaspora direct investments in Tunisia. The goal of the research is to inform the mainstreaming migration process and discussions on the post-2015 development agenda, now the 2030 Agenda of the SDGs, in Tunisia. Research is also required to provide support to the Government of Tunisia, as well as other interested governments, to design evidence-based policies for the promotion of diaspora investment for economic growth and raise awareness of the contributions of diaspora in the context of global discussions. The research components involved a descriptive analysis of administrative data, interviews with Tunisian public authorities, a survey of diaspora and non-diaspora investors and survey in special activity zones.

The research results also provide an opportunity to identify areas for input, and ensure the logical development of an effective strategy for mobilizing funds and investment from Tunisians living abroad. The recommendations of the draft report are geared towards putting in place key strategies and mechanisms to effectively mobilize investments from Tunisians living abroad. These recommendations are based on four main pillars including a call to adjust and optimize information dissemination strategy on the opportunities and benefits of investing in Tunisia; the need to set up a support strategy and

monitoring tailored to the needs of investors in the Diaspora; a necessity to restart general strategy primarily to the system of incentives; as well as the importance to improve the quality of data sources and be part of a search logic.

The draft report has been shared with the government of Tunisia, specifically the Steering Committee on mainstreaming migration in Tunisia for their comments. The Steering Committee also determines the need for a workshop to validate and then finalise the report. Upon finalization and publishing, the report would be launched and presented to key stakeholders in Tunisia.

Output 5: Contributions to the GFMD

In 2015, substantive input was provided into the development and finalization of background documentation for the 2015 GFMD summit in Turkey. UNDP and IOM participated in all open preparatory meetings at the technical level in its capacity as the partner of the GFMD. In particular, contributions to the preparations of the following roundtables were provided:

- 1.1. Mainstreaming migration into planning at the sectoral level;
- 1.2. Migration in the context of the 2030 Development Agenda – Implementing a diverse and cross-cutting issue through follow-up and review;
- 3.1 International cooperation and responsibility sharing to enhance development and human security for people forcibly displaced across borders;
- 3.2 Private sector-Government Partnerships to support migrant/diaspora entrepreneurship and job creation, with a focus on small and medium-sized enterprises.

Contributions were also made to the inclusion of migration-related targets and indicators in the SDGs through the work of the Global Migration Group.

A presentation on the Central Asia Human Migration, Remittances, and Human Development study was made during the GFMD. The presentation offered the global development community an opportunity to become better acquainted with the development implications of migration and remittance flows between the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan on the one hand, and Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Uzbekistan on the other.

Also, a side event on “exploring the key role of local authorities in implementing the migration and development agenda” with the World Bank was organised.

This year, IOM and UNDP together with other UN agencies will provide support to gather of evidence on the thematic priorities of the GFMD round table discussions through the establishment of a Research and Policy Initiative. The initiative involves undertaking research based on secondary sources and its subsequent compilation into an accessible format for GFMD participants and other interested parties. Three separate publications have been planned before the GFMD meeting in December.

In addition, GFMD Government Roundtable Team Preparatory meetings have been facilitated for:

- 1.1. Lowering the costs of migration;
- 1.2 Connectivity and migration;
- 3.1 Migrants in situations of crisis: conflict, climate change, and natural disasters and
- 3.2. Principles, institutions, and processes for safe, orderly and regular migration.

Furthermore, UNDP, IOM and ILO have been supporting the GFMD Bangladesh Chair with the preparation of a research and policy initiative on “identifying good practices, promising policy

initiatives” and collating of case studies to support the organisation of the 9th GFMD 2016.

The three sub-themes covered by the initiative are on the 'economics of migration and development' led by ILO, the 'sociology of migration and development' led by IOM and the 'governance of migration and development' led by UNDP.

2. GMG Working Group on Data and Research

ACTIVITIES REPORT (2015-2016)

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development addresses international migration in a number of goals and targets in order to support governments to develop policies which maximize development benefits of international migration and minimize its challenges. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim at ensuring that development policies are effective in reaching migrants and that “no one is left behind”.

In 2016, the data and research group of the GMG, co-chaired by IOM and UNDESA, has contributed to the development and refinement of the methodology and metadata for the SDG indicators, in particular on target 10.7 *“Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”* through the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs). In addition to migration-specific SDG targets, there is a target under Goal 17 (global partnerships for sustainable development) calling for disaggregated data inter alia by migratory status (target 17.18) which will allow assessing outcomes for migrants compared to natives.

The need for data driven policy making was echoed in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/71/1), adopted on 19 September 2016 by the General Assembly. The Declaration specifically “recognizes the importance of improved data collection, particularly by national authorities, and will enhance international cooperation to this end, including through capacity-building, financial support and technical assistance. Such data should be disaggregated by sex and age and include information on regular and irregular flows, the economic impacts of migration and refugee movements, human trafficking, the needs of refugees, migrants and host communities and other issues.”

Plans for 2017

While the methodology of monitoring SDG target 10.7 requires further refinement, the WG is planning a first consultation with UN entities, Member States and invited experts in 2017. One occasion for such a consultation could be an Expert Group Meeting on collecting and compiling data for migration-related SDG indicators in New York tentatively scheduled for 2017. Further, the group is exploring avenues to develop a monitoring framework to assess countries’ progress towards improving (availability of) international migration data.

The GMG Data and Research WG will continue to support training activities on improving the collection and use of migration data for development in collaboration with the GMG.

3. GMG Working Group on Migration, Human Rights and Gender

ACTIVITIES REPORT (2015-2016)

The GMG Working Group on Migration, Human Rights and Gender has engaged in the following activities:

- Preparation of background paper “**Partnerships to promote inclusion and protect the human rights of all migrants in order to achieve the full benefits of migration**”, led by OHCHR, for co-chairs of GFMD Roundtable 1.1: Human mobility and the well-being of migrants (El Salvador and Philippines)
- **Discussions with members of the Global Coalition on Migration (GCM)** on 19 March, led by OHCHR, to exchange information, and brainstorm on possible collaboration with civil society, including during the GFMD civil society days.
- **Convoked GFMD side event** in Istanbul (OHCHR and UN Women as co-chairs of WG in collaboration with the GMC) during the common space on human rights of migrants in transit.
- **Commenced drafting key messages on human rights at international borders**, led by IOM, to be fed into new guidance on the protection of human rights of migrants travelling in ‘mixed flows’, led by OHCHR.
- Held a **multi-stakeholder meeting** in Geneva in June 2016, led by OHCHR, on “the protection of the human rights of migrants in large movements”.
- Organised a **GMG-Panel** in preparation for the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants in New York on 30 June 2016, led by UNODC and OHCHR.
- Organised a “**High-level dialogue** on responding to large movements of refugees and migrants: human rights protection, labour market options and a Global Compact for migration” in New York in July, co-sponsored by OHCHR and the GMG.
- Held a **side event during the UN Summit for refugees and migrants** on “protecting human rights in the context of large movements of migrants and refugees” in New York on 20 September, led by OHCHR.
- Organised an **event during the GFMD** in Dhaka on “protecting the human rights of migrants in large movements”, on 11 December led by OHCHR.
- Drafted a **concept note** “Addressing vulnerabilities of refugees and migrants on their journey from their country of origin to their countries of arrival”, for Roundtable 6 of the UN Summit for refugees and migrants.
- Drafted a set of “**Principles and guidelines, supported by practical guidance, on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations within large and/or mixed movements**”.

- Prepared a **progress report** to be presented to the Human Rights Council in its March session 2017, on the “Principles and guidelines, supported by practical guidance, on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations within large and/or mixed movements”, led by OHCHR.
- Preparation of a **policy paper on gender and financial inclusion in the context of new remittance platforms**, led by UN Women.

4. GMG Task Force on Capacity Development

ACTIVITIES REPORT (2015-2016)

For this activity period, the **Capacity Development Task Force (CDTF)** has focused on developing and implementing training activities on migration policy for local and regional governments and on international migration law. These activities include:

1. The annual convening of the Mayoral Forum on Mobility, Migration and Development

The Mayoral Forum on Mobility, Migration and Development (“Mayoral Forum”) is a city-led global initiative that encourages new and innovative approaches to urban governance in contexts of greater diversity, and supports city leaders in the implementation of migration policies for inclusive growth. The Forum highlights the practical and inventive solutions that local authorities develop to govern migration, examining how these can be replicated elsewhere. It serves as a global platform for the exchange of best practices on integrating migration into development planning, and on fostering connections between migrants’ territories of origin and destination. Hosted in a different city each year, the Mayoral Forum gathers up to 150 city and leaders together with local and regional authorities. The private sector, civil society, international and regional organizations, and other relevant stakeholders also take part based on the annual theme.

In 2015, on 12-13 November, the Second Mayoral Forum was hosted by the Mayor of Quito, Mr. Mauricio Rodas. In anticipation of and capitalizing on the momentum created by the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development (“2030 Agenda”) and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Quito Forum concentrated on the role of local government in achieving their implementation: https://www.unitar.org/dcp/sites/unitar.org.dcp/files/uploads/quito_outcome_document_en_0.pdf

In 2016, on 29-30 September, the Third Mayoral Forum was hosted by the Mayor of Quezon City, Mayor Herbert Bautista. Given that the Forum took place just 10 days after the conclusion of the UN Leaders Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants, one of its principle outcomes is the creation of an informal working group that will work to operationalize, with IOM, the “*MCIC Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster*” at the local level.ⁱⁱ The final output will be presented at the ASEAN Summit in Manila in August 2017.

The Quezon City’s declaration, the “*Quezon City Commitment to Action*”, reaffirms the connection between good migration governance and respect for the human rights of migrants, and the role of local government in the attainment of the SDGs: <http://www.globalmayoralforum3.ph>

2. Implementation of the IOM-UNITAR online course on International migration law

Many conventions and other international law instruments exist at the global, regional and national levels applying to those involved in the migration process, but these instruments are spread across various branches of law: labour, immigration, human rights, refugee, humanitarian, and criminal laws. This body of law is now commonly referred to as “International Migration Law” (IML). IOM has been training and researching IML for decades. In 2007, it began offering courses on IML for UN

delegates in New York in partnership with UNITAR. In April 2016, IOM and UNITAR launched their first online course, on this subject. The Course serves to advance a better understanding of International Migration Law by providing a comprehensive overview of the international legal framework, the rights and duties of states and migrants and various aspects of law that impact migrants and the migration process. Those who complete the course receive an official Certificate of Completion issued by the implementing agencies: <https://www.unitar.org/event/full-catalog/introduction-international-migration-law>

3. Implementation of JMDI course for local government officials

Based on the 'My JMDI Toolbox' created under the JMDI by partners IOM and ITC-ILO, with support of UNDP, these training materials (offered also now as an e-learning course in English and soon in Spanish and French) provide a flexible and comprehensive tool for local stakeholders on how to better harness the development potential of migration. The contents of the Toolbox were designed as a direct response to the specific needs identified from local stakeholders and practitioners working on migration and development issues supported by the JMDI. The training package covers a wide range of practical issues, contains a set of identified good practices, a list of further resources and courses as well a set of selected key resources. IOM is also ensuring translation of the Toolbox into additional languages for wider dissemination (Russian, Armenian, Azeri and Georgian) and UNITAR is promoting its usage through its CIFAL training centres for local actors: www.migration4development.org

The JMDI course is now an integral preparatory tool for the annual Mayoral Forum on Mobility, Migration and Development, whose participants are funded by KNOMAD and the Government of Switzerland (in addition to local sponsors, e.g. Asian Development Bank in 2016).

The CDTF also worked to centralize information on capacity development activities and tools conducted by GMG members during this reporting period. It does so through the maintenance of:

4. The GMG Online inventory of capacity development activities and tools

Launched at the GFMD in 2014, the GMG Online inventory of capacity development activities and tools is a dynamic inventory of capacity development activities and tools conducted by GMG members: <http://www.globalmigrationgroup.org/content/other-tools>

This important feature, serviced by the TF, was previously funded with KNOMAD support but is not funded at this time.

5. GMG Task Force on Migration and Decent Work

ACTIVITIES REPORT (2015-2016)

Prior to the GMG retreat in New York in February 2016, the GMG Task Force on Migration and Decent Work met to discuss inputs to the GMG Multi-Annual Work Plan 2016-2018. Representatives of five Task Force member agencies participated (ILO, IOM, UNHCR, UNU, UN Women), and a series of preliminary outputs were also discussed. To date, in terms of these outputs, the most significant developments are as follows:

Decent work and migration-related SDG targets and indicators

ILO and IOM liaise on the harmonization of the indicators for SDG targets 8.8 and 10.7, in collaboration with other interested Task Force agencies. ILO is the custodian agency for further developing the methodology for the two indicators under SDG 8.8 relating to occupational injuries and labour rights, while IOM's Migration Governance Framework forms the basis for a number of tools to help countries achieve SDG 10.7, including the Migration Governance Index which incorporates questions on decent work. In addition, the ILO and the World Bank are the custodian agencies for further developing the methodology relating to the indicator on recruitment cost under SDG 10.7.

Engagement with the GFMD on migration and decent work issues

IOM and ILO participated in the preparatory meetings for GFMD Roundtable 1.1 on "Reducing Migration Costs". At the request of the Roundtable 1.1 co-chairs, ILO drafted the initial paper and facilitated its finalization with inputs from other agencies, including IOM, World Bank and IFAD.

IOM, ILO, and World Bank also participated in the GFMD Business Mechanism meeting with private sector representatives at UN Headquarters in July 2016, including in the following panels:

- Preliminary observations of the GFMD Business Advisory Group – how should business be involved?
- The need for international skills mobility
- Fair and ethical recruitment
- Entrepreneurship, development and circular migration - success stories

Principles and Guidelines on Fair Recruitment

The ILO Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Fair Recruitment took place on 5-7 September 2016. The general principles and operational guidelines for fair recruitment adopted by the Tripartite Meeting will be discussed on 8 November 2016 by ILO's Governing Body, with a view to their endorsement for publication and dissemination. A number of GMG agencies participated in the meeting and will be engaged in follow-up.

Labour Migration Academy

The annual Labour Migration Academy, organized by the International Training Centre of the ILO, in collaboration with a number of GMG Migration and Decent Work Task Force members, will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa on 5-9 December 2016.

Guidance tool on “Integrating the Migration-Decent Work Nexus in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and other national development planning processes”

Finalization of the guidance note is in progress. The Task Force on Migration and Decent Work organized this activity with the GMG Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies, co-chaired by UNDP and IOM. Completion of this activity is linked to the broader work on the GMG guidance on migration and displacement being undertaken under the auspices of the Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies.

Promotion of migration and development linkages through professional exchange, diaspora placements, and return of qualified professionals

In relation to the implementation of the WHO Global Code of Practice on the international recruitment of health workers and the proposed new 2030 HRH global strategy, IOM is engaged in various diaspora engagement programmes that prioritize the health sector, particularly in post-crisis countries. IOM has been conducting national trainings globally with national/local authorities and CSOs on labour migration. A core part of the training includes social protection provisions for migrant workers and their families.

Mapping of practices and modalities for recognizing skills and qualifications: towards a global convention on recognition of higher education qualifications

UNESCO has established a Drafting Committee to draw up a preliminary draft of a Global Convention on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications. At the country-level, both IOM and ILO have conducted mapping in specific Colombo Process migration corridors on skills accreditation and cross-border recognition.

Annex C: Report on the role of the GMG in following-up the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants

The role of the Global Migration Group in following-up the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants

a. The GMG and the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/71/1), adopted at the Summit, includes two references to the GMG:

- First, it takes note of the work of the GMG to develop principles and practical guidance on the protection of the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations (paragraph 51); and
- Second, it envisages a role for the GMG in coordination with the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for International Migration and Development in contributing towards the negotiation process for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Annex II, paragraph 13).

b. Follow-up to the New York Declaration: Role of the GMG

At their annual meeting on 8 November 2016, the Principals of the Global Migration Group (GMG) requested the GMG working level to outline the possible role of the GMG in the follow-up to the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants. This document is the result of that request.

The GMG can play a critical role in the follow-up to the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants as it is the main inter-agency group promoting the adoption of more coherent, comprehensive and better coordinated approaches to international migration, including through the promotion of the implementation of regional and international legal obligations, and by improving the overall effectiveness of its members and other stakeholders in capitalizing upon the opportunities and responding to the challenges presented by international migration.

Six areas can be identified as entry points for GMG contribution in the follow-up to the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (NYD).

i. Greater efficiency and system-wide coherence

*In recognition of the need for significant financial and programme support to host countries and communities affected by large movements of refugees and migrants, we request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session on **ways of achieving** greater efficiency, operational effectiveness and **system-wide coherence**, as well as ways of strengthening the engagement of the United Nations with international financial institutions and the private sector, with a view to fully implementing the commitments outlined in the present declaration (NYD paragraph 90).*

Principals of 21 UN entities working on migration meet once or twice per year at the GMG Principals meeting². The GMG Principals' meetings in 2017 and 2018 could include a standing agenda item on UN system follow-up to the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, with the participation of relevant UN entities that are not members of the GMG.

² The GMG Principals meeting usually takes place the evening before the first day of the CEB meetings. Participants to the GMG Principals meeting are at the USG/ASG level or correspondent while GMG Members represented below the ASG level or correspondent only attend as observers.

Members of the GMG meet at the working level approximately every six weeks. These meetings facilitate a structured and timely exchange of relevant knowledge and information. In line with the arrangements at the Principals' level, the GMG working level meetings in 2017 and 2018 could include a standing agenda item on UN system follow-up to the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, with the participation of relevant UN entities that are not members of the GMG.

In addition, the GMG can explore how best to engage with civil society, the private sector, migrants and subnational governments to support the implementation of the NYD commitments.

ii. Informal report on progress made by the UN system

*We recognize that arrangements are needed to ensure systematic follow-up to and review of all of the commitments we are making today. Accordingly, we request the Secretary-General to ensure that **the progress made by Member States and the United Nations in implementing the commitments made at today's high-level meeting will be the subject of periodic assessments provided to the General Assembly with reference, as appropriate, to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (NYD para 88).***

The GMG Principals agreed during their last meeting on 8 November 2016 that the GMG should prepare an informal report on the progress made by the UN System in implementing the migration-related commitments made at the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants, with inputs from GMG members and other UN entities, as appropriate.

The report bridges a gap in the timing of formal reporting on migration and development: the next report of the UN Secretary-General on international migration and development - which will include a section on progress of the UN system in implementing migration-related commitments - will only be presented during the 73rd session of the General Assembly in late 2018. The GMG report would be ready by fall 2017.

The report should consolidate progress on the GMG members' contributions to the plan for UN system follow-up to the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants with concrete actions, clear responsibilities and roadmap for each of the priority areas identified.

iii. Combatting Xenophobia, Racism and Discrimination

*We commit to combating xenophobia, racism and discrimination in our societies against refugees and migrants. We will take measures to improve refugees and migrants' integration and inclusion, as appropriate, and with particular reference to access to education, health care, justice and language training. We recognize that these measures will reduce the risks of marginalization and radicalization. (NYD para 39)....We welcome **the global campaign proposed by the Secretary-General to counter xenophobia and we will implement it in cooperation with the United Nations and all relevant stakeholders, in accordance with international law. The campaign will emphasize, inter alia, direct personal contact between host communities and refugees and migrants and will highlight the positive contributions made by the latter, as well as our common humanity (NYD para 14).***

The GMG could hold a half-day meeting on communications with the main objective of supporting the implementation of the *Together* campaign by UNDPI and partners. The meeting would be informed by and work in close cooperation with the Campaign team, and it could include relevant non-GMG members. Scheduling of subsequent meetings would be decided during the initial meeting.

iv. Provision of technical inputs to the global compact negotiations

We envisage also that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration and Development would coordinate the contributions to be made to the negotiation process by the Global Forum on Migration and Development and the Global Migration Group. We envisage that the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and other entities with significant mandates and expertise related to migration would contribute to the process (NYD Annex 2, para 13).

Through its broad membership of 21 agencies, the GMG brings together important expertise on migration-related issues across the UN System. It advocates for a common position, addressing the drivers of migration and adopting multi-sector responses to strengthen the resilience of communities of origin, transit and destination; and harnessing the potential of migration for sustainable development, bringing together human rights, humanitarian and development responses. The GMG also promotes a stronger engagement of UN Country Teams with key stakeholders, including civil society and private sector, to achieve coordinated actions at country/regional level.

Similar to its role in preparing for the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants (including hosting five multi-stakeholder meetings and drafting concept notes for the Summit's six roundtables), the GMG should continue to provide technical input and support to the negotiations of the global compact.

In addition, the GMG coordinates on a regular basis with the SRSG's team and the GFMD in two main ways. Firstly, the SRSG and high-level representatives of the GFMD and GMG Troikas meet on a quarterly basis for the Troika meetings³. Secondly, GMG-SRSG coordination is a standing agenda item for the GMG Working Level Meetings, with the participation of the office of the SRSG.

v. Generating evidence

We recognize the importance of improved data collection, particularly by national authorities, and will enhance international cooperation to this end, including through capacity-building, financial support and technical assistance. Such data should be disaggregated by sex and age and include information on regular and irregular flows, the economic impacts of migration and refugee movements, human trafficking, the needs of refugees, migrants and host communities and other issues. We will do so consistent with our national legislation on data protection, if applicable, and our international obligations related to privacy, as applicable (NYD, para 40).

The GMG should continue providing guidance to producers and users of migration data, to inform policies and actionable plans in view of the Global Compact. The GMG "Handbook for Improving the Production and Use of Migration Data for Development" will be released shortly. Several GMG entities are already providing technical expertise and support to Member States to improve migration data for development.

The GMG could coordinate capacity-building activities and joint research on the drivers and impact of migration and root causes of forced dynamics. The GMG should also continue coordinating the development of gender- and age-sensitive migration-related indicators for the 2030 Agenda.

³ Last, current and next GFMD and GMG chairs. The current GMG troika consists of the World Bank (2015), UN Women (2016) and the UN University (2017).

vi. Developing guidance for migrants in vulnerable situations.

We take note of the work done by the Global Migration Group to develop principles and practical guidance on the protection of the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations (NYD, para 51).

The GMG will finalize the development of the set of Principles and Guidelines, supported by practical guidance, on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations within large and/or mixed movements. Progress in the development of this guidance will be reported to the 34th session of the Human Rights Council in March 2017.

f. The way forward

This document is intended to be a starting point for discussion on the role of the GMG in follow-up to the NYD, both within the GMG and with relevant actors. The GMG intends in 2017 to actively discuss its role in follow-up to the NYD, and to develop concrete proposals for ensuring the GMG operates in a manner that supports Member States and other stakeholders involved in the process of negotiation intended to lead to the Global Compacts. This discussion will begin early in 2017, including through the involvement of strategic-level representatives of GMG entities, and other relevant stakeholders, at the Strategic Retreat being convened on 14-15 February 2017 outside New York.

Annex D: Members of GMG (as of December 2016)

Food and Agriculture Organisation (**FAO**)

International Labour Organisation (**ILO**)

International Organisation for Migration (**IOM**)

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (**OHCHR**)

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (**UNCTAD**)

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (**UN DESA**)

United Nations Development Programme (**UNDP**)

United Nations Environmental Programme (**UNEP**)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (**UNESCO**)

United Nations Population Fund (**UNFPA**)

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (**UNHCR**)

United Nations Children's Fund (**UNICEF**)

United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (**UNIDO**)

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (**UNITAR**)

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (**UNODC**)

UN Regional Commissions

United Nations University (**UNU**)

United Nations Regional Commissions United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (**UN Women**)

World Food Programme (**WFP**)

World Health Organisation (**WHO**)

World Bank

ⁱ The guidelines, prepared by IOM are based on its decades of experience and its role as Secretariat of the Migrants in Countries in Crises (MICIC), a states-led initiative led by the Philippines and the United States. In crisis situations, it is the migrants that suffer the most because they are unaware of what to do. The MICIC Guidelines, launched in June 2016, are meant to help stakeholders establish measures to protect migrants in times of crisis or emergency. While migration policies are developed at the national level, it is at the local level that the implications of these policies are usually felt.

ⁱⁱ http://www.migration4development.org/sites/default/files/quezon_city_declaration_30sept_final.pdf