



Migration-related commitments in the New York Declaration: The role of the UN System

GMG multi-stakeholder meeting following the 19 September 2016 UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants

United Nations, Conference Room F

18 October 2016, 1:15pm-2:45pm

Concept Note

Background

On 19 September 2016, the General Assembly of the United Nations held a *High-Level Plenary Meeting on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants (A/71/L.34)*, culminating with the adoption of the New York Declaration, which outlines steps towards the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration and a global compact on refugees in 2018. To follow-up on the New York Declaration, the Global Migration Group (GMG), an inter-agency cooperation mechanism consisting of 20 entities of the United Nations (UN) system, is organizing this meeting to discuss the role of the UN system in implementing the migration-related commitments in the New York Declaration.

This meeting is jointly organized by UN Women, World Bank, and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

Scope of the meeting

The meeting will focus on the contribution of the UN system towards implementing the migration-related commitments in the New York Declaration. This includes the State-led process to develop non-binding guiding principles and voluntary guidelines on the treatment of migrants in vulnerable situations, outlined in paragraph 52:

52. We will consider 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. The guiding principles and guidelines will be developed using a State-led process with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders and with input from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, the International Organization for Migration, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant United Nations system entities. They would complement national efforts to protect and assist migrants.

The meeting will also focus on the UN system's support for the process of intergovernmental negotiations leading to the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. Paragraph 13 of Annex II (Towards a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration) to the New York Declaration describes the process through which the GMG will contribute to the negotiation process towards the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

13. We envisage also that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration and Development, Mr. Peter Sutherland, 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.

The Declaration also takes note in paragraph 51 of the work by the GMG to develop principles and practical guidance on the protection of the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations, which could serve as a good basis for the State-led process.

The meeting will provide for an interactive dialogue between panelists and the audience towards developing an understanding on the role of the UN system in implementing migration-related commitments in the New York Declaration.

PROGRAMME

1:15-1:20 Opening remarks

- Christine Brautigam, *Director of the Intergovernmental Support Division, UN Women (GMG Chair 2016)*

1:20-2:00 Panel discussion

Moderator: Christine Brautigam, *UN Women (GMG Chair 2016)*

- Masud Bin Momen, *Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, GFMD Chair*
- Gregory Maniatis, *Senior Advisor, Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on International Migration*
- Vinicius Pinheiro, *Special Representative to the United Nations and Director, ILO*
- Dilip Ratha, *Head, Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD), World Bank*
- Ashraf El Nour, *Permanent Observer to the United Nations, IOM*

2:00-2:40 Interactive discussion

- Anu Madgavkar, *Partner, McKinsey Global Institute*
- Eva Richter, *Executive Committee, NGO Committee on Migration*
- Interactive discussion open to the floor

2:40-2:45 Concluding remarks

- David Malone, *Rector, UNU (GMG Chair 2017)*