# Sixth Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 6)

*Migration and the Sustainable Development Goals: the Role of Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and of Regional Economic Organizations*

13 October 2016
Geneva

International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

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## Summary Report

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# List of Acronyms

| | |
|---|---|
| 2030 Agenda | 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development |
| ADD | Ministerial Consultation on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia (Abu Dhabi Dialogue) |
| ARCP | Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration |
| COMESA | Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa |
| ECA | United Nations Economic Commission for Africa |
| ECOWAS | Economic Community of West African States |
| ESCWA | United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia |
| GDP | gross domestic product |
| GFMD | Global Forum on Migration and Development |
| GRCP | Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration |
| IDM | International Dialogue on Migration |
| IGAD | Intergovernmental Authority and Development |
| IGC | Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees |
| IOM | International Organization for Migration |
| IRF | interregional forum on migration |
| ISCM | inter-State consultation mechanism on migration |
| MERCOSUR | Mercado Común del Sur (South American Common Market) |
| MIDCOM | Migration Dialogue from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa Member States |
| MIDSA | Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa |
| MIDWA | Migration Dialogue for West Africa |
| MiGOF | Migration Governance Framework |
| PAFoM | Pan-African Forum on migration |
| RCM | Regional Conference on Migration (Puebla Process) |
| RCP | Regional Consultative Process on Migration |
| SAARC | South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation |
| SACM | South American Conference on Migration |
| SADC | Southern African Development Community |
| SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |

# Executive Summary

The Sixth Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 6) was hosted by the IOM on 13 October 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland. The Meeting was organized in the same year as IOM's sixty-fifth anniversary, back to back with the second session of the 2016 International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) and soon after the IOM formally joined the United Nations system as a related organization. The Meeting focused on how the various inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs)[1] and regional economic organizations could assist in or work together on attainment of the migration-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Meeting focused on the ongoing implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda), through which migration has finally been mainstreamed into the global development discourse.

The Meeting brought together 68 delegates, including three Ministers, one Vice-Minister, and two Secretaries-General. Representatives of 19 ISCMs (including Regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs), interregional forums on migration (IRFs) and global processes on migration), as well as representatives of regional economic organizations and United Nations Regional Commissions took part in the event to share their expertise and plans vis-à-vis the attainment of the migration-related SDGs .

The one-day event focused on a single theme: the 2030 Agenda, the involvement of RCPs and IRFs in its realization at the regional level and the partnerships required to that end. In line with participants' suggestions, the individual presentations on reviewing recent achievements normally scheduled in the opening session of past Meetings were replaced by a printed compendium of RCP and IRF updates. More time was allocated to round-table exchanges and individual remarks from participants, following the scheduled presentations.

The proceedings focused on the following areas:

- Migration in the 2030 Agenda.
- The role of RCPs and IRFs in contributing to the attainment of the SDGs.
- The role of regional economic organizations and the United Nations Regional Commissions in contributing to the attainment of the SDGs.
- Potential areas for cooperation and partnerships at the regional level towards attainment of the SDGs.

1 Inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs) are State-led, ongoing information-sharing and policy dialogue forums on the regional, interregional or global level for those States with an interest in promoting cooperation in the field of migration. ISCMs comprise global processes on migration, interregional forums on migration (IRFs) and Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs). RCPs are State-led, ongoing, regional information-sharing and policy dialogue meetings dedicated to discussing specific migration issue(s) in a cooperative manner among States from an agreed (usually geographical) region, and may either be officially associated with formal regional institutions, or be informal and non-binding. IRFs are State-led, ongoing, information-sharing and policy dialogue meetings on migration, usually connecting two or more regions, and may either be officially associated with formal interregional institutions, or be informal and non-binding. Global processes on migration are policy dialogue forums on migration at the global level. They may discuss overall migration governance at the global level, or be theme specific and look at the interlinkages between migration and other areas, such as development, labour, etc.

The conclusions included:

a) RCPs, IRFs and global processes on migration could contribute significantly to the attainment of the migration-related SDG targets through policy dialogue, networking, strategy formulation and reformulation, policy development, targeted project interventions, capacity-building, data collection and analysis and research.

b) Cooperation and partnerships at the regional level, in particular with the United Nations Regional Commissions and regional economic organizations, promoted dignified, orderly, and safe migration for the benefit of all and thus contributed to the attainment of migration-related SDG targets.

c) IOM support remained available, together with IOM tools and resources, to assist with attainment of the Goals.

# I. Setting the scene: Migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

In his **opening statement**, the Director General of **IOM** emphasized the significance of partnerships, such as those between RCPs and other regional actors, for sustainable development. The 2030 Agenda identified migration as a key enabler of development; acknowledged the importance of adopting and implementing well-managed migration policies to promote safe, regular and orderly migration that respected the rights of all migrants; highlighted the positive contribution of migrants to inclusive growth and sustainable development; and suggested that they should not be left behind.

All stakeholders – governments, civil society, the private sector and others – were expected to contribute to the realization of the 2030 Agenda. Regional actors would have an important part to play, including in the migration field. While the United Nations Regional Commissions had explicit mandates vis-à-vis implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), other regional entities, such as regional economic organizations or Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs), also had much to offer and needed to define the part that they could play. Reiterating IOM's commitment to the 2030 Agenda, the Director General said that only through partnership and cooperation, including with RCPs, IRFs, United Nations Regional Commissions and regional economic organizations, would the international community be able to achieve dignified, orderly, and safe migration for the benefit of all.

**Session 1** set the scene on the integration of migration into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the importance of partnerships for achievement of the SDGs, taking into account the role of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs) in supporting the implementation of the migration-related SDG targets and the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships.

**The representative of IOM** used a slide presentation to illustrate how migration was integrated into the SDGs, the Organization's strategy on the Goals, and the tool it has developed to support its Member States and partners in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda: the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF), which was a useful basis for tracking progress on planned and well-managed migration policies. The MiGOF outlined a number of principles and objectives for migration governance to ensure that migration was both humane and orderly, and benefited both migrants and society. In line with the principles and objectives of the MiGOF, the Migration Governance Index, which had been jointly developed by the Economist Intelligence Unit and IOM, provided a useful framework for evaluating country-specific migration governance structures on the extent of implementation of the migration-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. Those tools could facilitate the work of ISCMs, other regional bodies and their Member States in pursuing and monitoring implementation of the Goals, and help to gauge the extent to which their migration policies were well managed.

IOM provided support to ISCMs on the Sustainable Development Goals through technical advice; capacity-building; secretariat support; data collection; research; project implementation; partnerships and cooperation; support for policy dialogues; promotion of convergence among various regions; and the provision of a global perspective.

A summary of the outcomes of the second workshop of the 2016 International Dialogue on Migration was presented, reflected in three Ps: progress on SDG implementation, strengthened policies on migration, and practicality on concrete actions. The progress made by Member States on a number of migration goals and targets and institutional challenges in coordinated national implementation strategies were mentioned. Representatives of four IRFs/RCPs – the 5+5 Dialogue on Migration, the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration (ARCP), the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM, also known as the Puebla Process), and the Rabat Process – had delivered presentations at the 2016 International Dialogue on Migration on the regional perspective on, and role of IRFs in, the implementation of the migration-related SDGs.

The representative of the **Global Forum on Migration and Development** (GFMD) focused on the role of partnerships for sustainable development. The collective ability to achieve the SDGs hinged upon the willingness to forge partnerships; hence partnership was one of the five pillars of the 2030 Agenda. Goal 17 called for the revitalization of the global partnership for sustainable development. To facilitate safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration and the mobility of people, partnerships and cooperation at all levels were required, including public-private partnerships. Thus the GFMD had launched a regular public-private sector interaction mechanism to support continuous dialogue on sound and contemporary migration policy, taking economic interests into account, and creating momentum to launch public-private initiatives and develop policy innovations.

The 2030 Agenda had paved the way for the forging of a new global partnership – a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. The global compact should have a human rights perspective, and focus on the promotion and protection of the human rights of the most vulnerable, including migrant workers, the elimination of all forms of discrimination against migrants, and the strengthening and more effective implementation of existing human rights instruments.

A new context for multi-stakeholder partnerships was suggested based on four Gs: the Goals (migration for sustainable development); gender (partnership in advancing safe, regular and orderly migration of women); governments (creating space for partnership within and among nations – a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration) and the global economic system (where no one is left behind).

The discussion focused on the potential contribution of ISCMs to the implementation of the migration-related SDG targets at the national and regional levels, and their role in multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development.

The representative of the **Rabat Process** called for action to forge strong partnerships on migration. Mali, the current Chair of the Rabat Process, had a migration strategy, but could not rely on having sufficient resources to fight irregular migration and could not cope alone with the numerous migration challenges, including the migration of women, climate-induced migration and the many casualties among its nationals in the Mediterranean Sea while trying to emigrate to European Union countries.

The Rabat Process addressed various aspects of migration through dedicated thematic working groups. The main challenges included addressing the different political priorities of its 58 Member States, knowledge management, statistics, and supporting recommendations emanating from meetings of the Rabat Process through dedicated projects. It had drawn inspiration from other ISCMs and their tools. Priorities for future action included increasing South-South cooperation; capitalizing on the existing initiatives implemented by its Member States; sharing good practices, pursuing the achievements of other ISCMs; better tailoring global programmes; and cooperating with United Nations Regional Commissions to identify indicators for monitoring implementation of the Rome Programme for the period 2015–2017 and the SDGs.

The representative of the **United States Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration** said that it was a member and observer of several RCPs/IRFs and provided funding for a number of initiatives.[2] All RCPs and IRFs should build in their agendas practical ways to implement the SDGs and provide a regional perspective to the global compact process through dedicated regional meetings, if budgets and schedules allowed.

Referring to its rights-based agenda, in which human beings were at the core of all policies, the Chair of the **South American Conference on Migration** (SACM) highlighted RCPs' role in governance of international migration and called for them to serve as platforms for Member States to adopt a migrant-centred common vision on safe and orderly migration while maintaining a human development and human rights focus.



2 GRCP 6 was organized with funding from the Australian and US Governments and the IOM.

In terms of implementation of the SDGs, it was necessary to reflect on the evolution of migration in a globalized world, where greater interconnectedness and the gradual disappearance of traditional borders called for new ways to structure multicultural societies. The migration discourse had become more holistic and it should include RCPs and IRFs. Collaboration between SACM and other processes, such as the Regional Conference on Migration, the European Union, the South American Common Market (MERCOSUR), the Union of South American Nations, and the Pacific Alliance, had led to the harmonization of its agenda with theirs.

The representative of the **Intergovernmental Authority on Development** (IGAD) **RCP** pointed to their organization's experience in addressing the basic health needs of migrants in the East Africa and its development, in conjunction with IOM, of a comprehensive package for migrants from the IGAD region, which also addressed migrants' education and employment needs. Each IGAD Member State had established a national coordination mechanism on migration, bringing together all relevant ministries to consider migration issues in the region.

The Chair of the **5+5 Dialogue on Migration** welcomed the launch of the global compact process and suggested that any global compact should be binding in order to make progress and succeed in implementing the SDGs. The ministerial conference in 2018 would focus on migrants and the shared responsibilities among countries of origin and destination, an issue at the heart of the Goals. The 5+5 Dialogue on Migration was willing to support IOM in the global compact consultations process.

The 2030 Agenda represented a real opportunity to include migration in national and regional development plans. ISCMs had a pivotal role to play in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through partnerships and by incorporating the SDGs into their strategies. Stakeholder ownership was crucial for attainment of the Goals. Partnerships should focus on the regional dimension of global issues as well as migration patterns in the regional contexts.

Accomplishing the 2030 Agenda would require innovation and change in governments' modus operandi and processes. Public-private partnerships were one way of addressing those innovation needs.

The global compact would be a new global partnership based on a common understanding of shared responsibilities, mutual respect and mutual benefit; it was expected to inject a new spirit of solidarity, cooperation, and mutual accountability into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants could be viewed as an enhancing framework for converging action towards the 2030 Agenda. The broad scope of the 2030 Agenda was captured in the five Ps of sustainable development: "People Partnering for Peace and Prosperity on the Planet". In the ensuing discussion, more Ps and Gs were suggested to support implementation of the migration-related SDG aspects, namely processes to be adjusted and aligned, policies to match them, practicality and concrete action on the ground taking into account human rights and gender equality aspects, and global economic systems and their modus operandi.

# II. The role of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration and interregional forums on migration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda: opportunities and challenges

**Session 2** focused on ISCMs' current efforts in pursuance of the migration-related SDG targets, with emphasis on opportunities and challenges faced and implementation and monitoring modalities. It was divided into three panel discussions.

The ***first panel*** addressed implementation of the Goals by RCPs/IRFs that were formally associated with regional economic organizations, in particular the African Union regional economic communities.

The representative of the **Migration Dialogue for West Africa** (MIDWA) explained that the free movement of people was a major policy focus for the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), given its large intraregional mobility. MIDWA had been set up to promote coherent, evidence-based and comprehensive migration policies and to facilitate mutually beneficial inter-State dialogue and intraregional cooperation on the free movement of persons in the ECOWAS region. A steering committee, comprising representatives of nine Member States (Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal) and four observers (ECOWAS, the European Union, IOM and Switzerland), had been established to set MIDWA's course of action, with a permanent secretariat in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, to facilitate the organization of meetings and coordinate the thematic working groups. A national secretariat would be established in each MIDWA Member State to address the implementation of decisions taken at MIDWA Ministerial meetings. The thematic working groups – each led by a different Member State – addressed the most critical migration issues in the region: border management, human trafficking and cross-border crime; diaspora, West African communities and/or nationals and statelessness; professional mobility and student exchange; climate change, land degradation, desertification, environment and migration; migration statistics and data; return, readmission and reintegration; and cooperation and partnership. The work of MIDWA thus contributed to the achievement of Goals 8, 13 and 16. MIDWA still needed technical assistance to address the migration challenges faced in the region.

The representative of the **Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa** (MIDSA) explained that MIDSA had been established with the aim of fostering cooperation and exchange best practices towards improved regional migration management in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. The challenges faced by the region were linked to irregular migration, and included xenophobia and limited integration of migrants; migrant smuggling and human trafficking; weak regional cooperation on migration; inadequate border management; and limited legal labour migration channels. MIDSA had contributed to the development of the following regional policies: the SADC regional action plans on labour migration for the periods 2013–2015 and 2016–2019; the SADC Regional Action Plan to Address Mixed and Irregular Migration, which was endorsed in 2015; and the 2016 recommendations on border management in the region.

MIDSA aimed to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the attainment of Goal 10.7 through the signing and ratification of the SADC Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons, and other relevant international protocols. Through the development of migration profiles, migration policies, and labour migration policies in SADC Member States (e.g. Mauritius), and the implementation of regional action plans and declarations on migration-related issues, MIDSA was contributing to implementation of Goals 3.8, 5.5; 8.7, 8.8, 16.2. MIDSA also provided an opportunity to scale up implementation of the migration-related Sustainable Development Goals and to promote partnerships with SADC, IOM, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, United Nations Children's Fund and Save the Children, thus contributing to SDG 17.

The ***second panel*** included speakers from RCPs with no formal relations with any regional structures or organizations.

The representative of the **Almaty Process on Refugee Protection and International Migration** said that the Process had supported the achievement of several migration-related SDG targets, in particular targets 1.5, 5.2, 8.7, 10.7, 11.5, 16.2, and 17.18. Kazakhstan, the Chair of the Process for the period 2014–2016, had focused on the issues of irregular migration and mixed flows in Central Asia – with support from IOM and with funding from the IOM Development Fund and the United States of America – through policy dialogue consultations, capacity-building and research.

The Chairmanship of the Almaty Process would be transferred to Kyrgyzstan in 2017; however, Kazakhstan would continue supporting the Almaty Process in the following thematic areas: disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness and the IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework; irregular migration, migration management and international migration law; combating human trafficking and providing direct assistance to vulnerable migrants; and human mobility, labour migration and migrants' rights. The Partnership Framework for Development 2016–2020 between the United Nations and Kazakhstan – a comprehensive strategic, programmatic and operational framework that enabled the United Nations country team members to provide development and other types of assistance – contributed to strengthening the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at international and regional levels. The Framework was organized around three pillars: reduced disparities and improved human development; strengthened and innovative public institutions; and enhanced international and regional cooperation and there were two outcomes under each pillar. IOM was involved in efforts related to outcomes 1.3 and 3.1, with the latter focusing on SDGs. The Framework would assist Kazakhstan in providing development models for the region and the world.

The representative of the **Regional Consultative Process on the Management of Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia** (Colombo Process) explained that the overall theme of the Colombo Process under the chairmanship of Sri Lanka had been "Migration for prosperity: adding value by working together". The Colombo Process was focusing on five thematic areas in support of Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 10, namely qualification recognition; ethical recruitment; pre-departure orientation; promoting the cheaper, faster and safer transfer of remittances; and tracking labour market trends and research.

The 2016 Colombo Process Ministerial Declaration had recommended the consideration of additional thematic areas including the operationalization of the migration-related Sustainable Development Goals in a holistic manner through the implementation of those Goals more pertinent to the Colombo Process objectives – in particular those relating to decent work and safe migration – both through actions at the national level and through collective efforts under the Colombo Process so as to review regional progress in implementing the relevant Goals and to share experiences and challenges in working with the globally agreed indicators. The other thematic areas under consideration included promoting the health of migrant workers throughout the migration cycle (contributing to Goal 3.8); promoting equality for women migrant workers (contributing to Goal 5); and consular support for migrant workers (further contributing to Goal 8).

The main challenges identified by the Colombo Process included the need for novel ways of working and for greater institutional and policy coherence; scarce financial and human resources; the need for more accurate and timely data; no transparency in information sharing systems; and no tools for measuring progress with clear, measurable indicators.

The Colombo Process could serve as a forum to review progress on attainment of the SDGs provided that Member States harmonized their efforts to implement the migration-related SDGs with national priorities. A feasibility study could be conducted to identify specific indicators related to migration

goals that were achievable in the short, mid and long term and match national efforts with those at the global level.

In line with Goal 17, the Colombo Process was ready to link its priorities with those of potential partners and donors to achieve policy and institutional coherence. Colombo Process countries of origin would continue to dialogue with destination countries, relevant regional organizations (for example, the European Union, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), as well as other ISCMs, such as the Abu Dhabi Dialogue and the GFMD, to share information and cooperate in the implementation of migration-related Sustainable Development Goal targets. The Colombo Process would continue to rely on technical support from IOM, the ILO, the World Health Organization, UN-Women and other partners. The Colombo Process was ready to engage in the negotiations on the global compact, building on the Sustainable Development Goal framework and to act as a bridge between labour-sending and labour-receiving countries, thereby fostering partnerships to enable the Asia region to make migration an informed option for its people.

The ***third panel*** focused on the role of RCP secretariats in supporting RCPs on the implementation of migration-related SDGs.

Established in 2014 and launched during the fifth Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration in 2015, hosted by the League of Arab States, the **Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration** (ARCP) was among the newest RCPs. It was keen to formulate a comprehensive and integrated Arab strategy to maximize the benefits of migration, strengthen the position of Arab States in negotiations on migration issues both regionally and globally and open new horizons for cooperation and partnership among countries of origin, transit and destination. Migration-related SDG targets were reflected in both its programming document and the workplan for the period 2016–2017 adopted by the Process at its second meeting in May 2016.

The representative of ARCP also said that their organization supported SDG implementation through awareness-raising; coordination of the migration policies of its Member States; the sharing of information, experiences and best practices; and capacity-building on the migration-related SDG targets. It planned to link the national and global levels by: collating inputs and perspectives from the national level, analysing them and feeding them into the global process; helping its countries translate global goals into national policies, norms, standards and guidelines; and mobilizing partnerships and cooperation. Follow-up and review of implementation of the migration-related SDG targets at the regional level was a permanent item on the agenda of its regular annual meetings. The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA) and IOM provided technical support to ARCP Member States on the implementation of the migration-related Goals within the ARCP workplan.

The main challenges in the Arab region included: displacement and forced migration caused by armed conflicts, violent extremism, poverty, food insecurity and climate change; irregular migration and mixed migration flows; human trafficking and migrant smuggling; and brain drain. The following gaps specific to the Region had been identified: lack of uniform definitions (for example, no common definition of “international migrant”); lack of reliable data collection for measuring international migration; and lack of transparency in sharing or publicizing some of the collected data. Therefore, the following were required to address the gaps: improved research and development of analytical tools; provision of technical support to Member States in the preparation of censuses and building their capacities in collecting and analysing data; the use of modern statistical methods and the timely provision of the necessary data in order to provide support/assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons; and assistance to Member States on the development of procedures, policies, workplans and programmes at the national level.

The representative of the ARCP recommended that RCPs/ISCMs should promote implementation of the 2030 Agenda; support their Member States in the development of more effective policies on migration for development at both national and regional levels; follow up at the regional level on the

outcomes of the High-level plenary meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants; and ensure active participation and input by Member States in the ongoing global compact processes.

The representative of the **Regional Conference on Migration** (RCM or Puebla Process) said that the Conference looked at migration in a holistic manner through its three pillars (migration policy and management; human rights; and migration and development). It regularly pursued a broad range of initiatives to contribute towards the achievement of the migration-related SDGs. In the course of its 20 years, and thanks to the thematic diversity of its annual agendas, the RCM was already tackling a number of issues that had been included in the 2030 Agenda, mainly through training, exchange of good practices, the development of regional guidelines, partnerships, and regional cooperation. RCM would align its work with specific SDGs building on the progress it had already made in relation to Goals 3, 5, 8, 10, 13, 16, and 17.

Concerning Goal 10, RCM had approached reducing inequalities through the development of regional and bilateral guidelines on border control and return (including for children, adolescents and other vulnerable migrants). It had established a permanent fund for the assisted voluntary return of vulnerable migrants and had assisted 1500 migrants, including unaccompanied migrant children. In support of Goal 16, the RCM had established two regional working groups addressing human trafficking and illicit practices related to migration; the groups had contributed to regional communication guidelines and campaigns implemented in various member countries. With regard to Goal 17 the Regional Conference had a mechanism for the permanent participation of civil society. SACM had been invited to attend the meetings of the Conference to exchange practices, and a number of regional and subregional organizations, such as the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean were observers. On Goal 13, RCM and the Nansen Initiative had jointly produced a regional guide entitled Protection for persons moving across borders in the context of disasters: A guide to effective practices for RCM Member Countries.

The two presentations in the third panel demonstrated the role ISCM secretariats could play in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, such as through information-sharing and promoting the exchange of good practices at all levels; promoting the active participation of United Nations Regional Commissions in RCPs; promoting the inclusion of SDGs in the agendas and action plans of ISCMs; fostering regional cooperation and cooperation between developing and developed countries; and building on achievements and lessons learned.

RCP secretariats could also help to address other issues, such as unclear mandates of different actors and limited synergies between various ISCMs; uncertainty on how the SDGs would be implemented at the regional level and the level of RCP involvement in that regard; and the involvement of United Nations Regional Commissions. Challenges faced by the secretariats themselves included scarce resources, and unclear mandates vis-à-vis the SDGs.

The ***discussion*** during session 2 focused on the role of ISCMs in realizing the migration-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals; the challenges, gaps and needs faced in that process by stand-alone RCP processes, RCPs formally associated with a regional economic organizations and RCP secretariats.

The representative of SACM said that the Fifteenth South American Conference on Migration in 2015 had mandated its Chair to include the Sustainable Development Goals in its regional agenda and in regional development agendas. The Chair and Secretariat cooperated closely on that matter and a number of parties had been involved, including IOM. Special attention was paid to migrants' access to justice, the role of youth and migrants' social role in local communities. The cooperation between SACM and RCM enabled a whole-of-America approach and the next meeting between the two processes would look at incorporating the Goals into regional processes and ways to contribute to the global compact process.

The representative of the **Prague Process** explained that the Secretariat of the Process provided its centre of expertise, knowledge base and institutional memory. The Prague Process could contribute to the debate on the SDGs by sharing the best practices developed by its Member States with the support of the European Union, such as guidelines and handbooks on labour and circular migration, student mobility, migrant integration policies, asylum processes, irregular migration, and integrated border management, as well as elaboration of migration profiles for evidence-based decision- and policymaking. The third Ministerial Conference of the Prague Process in 2016 had extended the Prague Process mandate for five years (2017–2021) and reaffirmed the relevance of the priorities contained in the Prague Process Action Plan 2012–2016 for the next phase. The Prague Process would continue to focus on intergovernmental dialogue, capacity-building, data collection and analysis, as well as the establishment of a new training and analytical centre.

The **Budapest Process** sought a common ground for its Member States, which included countries of origin, transit and destination, all of which had different concerns. The Budapest Process had been implementing projects, in areas such as building the migration management capacities of Member States; diaspora engagement; policymaking; protection of migrant workers; awareness-raising on safe and orderly migration and the dangers of irregular migration, through information campaigns and migrant information centres; and skills development. The Budapest Process planned to explore partnerships with the private sector and establish a needs-based, demand-driven facility where dialogue will help identifying solutions.

The representative of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue said that the Dialogue focused on labour market demand in order to address migrant workers' capacities and ensure adequate job opportunities. To better manage migration flows, it had been necessary to create migration databases in its Member States. Temporary migration could be a means to improve migrant workers' situations and terms of employment.

The representative of the **Pan African Forum** – which had been established by an African Union decision requesting the Chair of the African Union Commission, in collaboration with IOM and other partners, to coordinate and advocate elaboration of an African common position on migration and development – explained that the Forum brought together all the RCPs in Africa to share information, knowledge, good practices and lessons learned, and to make recommendations for consideration by the African Union. Its first annual meeting, in 2015, had focused on intraregional labour mobility and informed the African Union Declaration on Migration, which had urged the Member States of the African Union to work towards visa-free mobility within the African continent. The second annual meeting in Accra, Ghana had been hosted by ECOWAS and had focused on the root causes of migration and Africa's position for the 2015 Valletta Summit on Migration. As a result, the Government of Ghana had adopted a policy allowing all African nationals to visit Ghana without a visa. The third meeting of the Forum, hosted by the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), had focused on migration trends and integrated border management, with the aim of facilitating free movement within the continent and thus disrupting migrant smuggling criminal networks. The next meeting of the Forum would take place either in Djibouti or Uganda.

The Member States of the **Migration Dialogue from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa** (MIDCOM) had implemented a project promoting visa-free mobility in the region, including for business people, thus contributing to the implementation of the two primary legal instruments governing the free movement of people in the COMESA region: the Protocol on the Gradual Relaxation and Eventual Elimination of Visas and the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, Labour, Services, Right of Establishment and Residence. In cooperation with IOM, COMESA had implemented a number of projects to enhance border management (for example, a "one-stop border" project between Zambia and Zimbabwe) and to promote awareness among border officials on alternatives to detention. MIDCOM valued the engagement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) with RCPs in Africa on issues of common interest.

The representative of the **IGAD RCP** said that the aim of that RCP was to facilitate dialogue and regional cooperation on migration management among Member States in the Horn of Africa by fostering

greater understanding and policy coherence on migration, as well as promoting dialogue between IGAD Member States and countries in other regions based on the migration flows in and out of the IGAD region. Its meetings had focused on migration and development, border management, labour migration, migration and good governance and its next meeting would focus on migration and social development. IGAD was a political body and translated the RCP recommendations into resolutions for further implementation by Member States through their national coordination mechanisms. The IGAD RCP had implemented a project on the free movement of people and another on forced displacement and mixed flows within the context of the development of a response to the impact of displacement in the Horn of Africa. The IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative Strategy aimed to mainstream migration into resilience agendas. Coordination of implementation of the SDGs in the IGAD region was hampered by parallel initiatives. The IGAD RCP encouraged national coordination mechanisms on migration to develop national plans on migration and SDGs, together with national migration profiles to address the data gap and better monitor implementation of the Goals. IGAD was committed to advancing implementation of the migration-related Goals, including Goal 10.7.

Co-chaired by Australia and Indonesia, the **Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime** brought together 48 Member States. The wide membership posed certain challenges but also created opportunities and had led to achievements in the areas of policy, legislation and law enforcement cooperation. The 2016 Bali Declaration on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime was ambitious in regularizing labour migration and ensuring migrant workers' rights. The Bali Process had adopted an emergency response mechanism to respond to mass movements of people. In order to better deal with crises, the Bali Process planned to review the response to the 2015 Andaman Sea crisis, summarizing the lessons learned and recommendations. The Bali Process Government and Business Forum was expected to engage the private sector in advising Member States on migration management, migrant labour, trafficking and forced labour, which would help the Bali Process to cooperate with intergovernmental organizations, such as IOM and the ILO, at different levels. The Bali Process was ready to share its achievements with other ISCMs and to learn from them.

The three panels and the ensuing discussions revealed that the challenges encountered by RCPs and IRFs were mostly related to the dynamics of migration patterns in their respective regions and the increasingly diverse drivers of migration, which required reconsideration of States' migration governance approaches and greater cooperation with various actors and at all levels.

It was noted that most RCPs and IRFs faced challenges related to irregular migration, human trafficking, and forced migration due to conflict, climate change, and economic reasons, and thus improved integrated border management practices, protection of migrant workers' rights, improved migration policies linked to development and reliable data were all needed. Capacity-building, consistency in and convergence of initiatives and policies, and reliable data were needed by RCPs, IRFs and their secretariats. Demand for reliable data had increased in recent years; the scarcity of timely and quality disaggregated data on migration hampered the development of effective and informed migration policies.

RCPs and IRFs associated with regional economic organizations, such as those in Africa – where they were pillars of the African Union regional economic communities – relied on the latter's decision-making mechanisms to adopt their own decisions and harmonize their Member States' legislation and policies and thus influence the migration landscape from the regional down to the national level. RCPs in Africa had long focused on migration and development, partly in response to the agendas of the African Union regional economic communities, which centred on trade, free movement and the common use of human resources available in the region. That paradigm had proved instrumental for formal regional agreements on migration, the building blocks of a global approach to migration governance.

To increase national ownership and effectiveness, national coordination mechanisms and/or secretariats had been introduced within the RCPs in Africa. Moreover, thematic working groups had been established to address the RCPs' main areas of focus. Such arrangements could also be considered by other ISCMs.

It was observed that RCPs and IRFs that were stand-alone processes relied on a less formal set-up and strived for convergence within the region in line with nationally-determined directions, influencing the regional level from the national level. The Chair of the Almaty Process, Kazakhstan, for example, provided expertise on common approaches to migration in all Almaty Process Member States.

The more recently established RCPs, such as the Almaty Process and the ARCP, were developing strategies and positions on various aspects of migration, including capacity-building and research. Those RCPs were willing both to learn and also share their experiences.

RCP and IRF secretariats had a role to play in promoting the exchange of information and good practices among RCP Member States and also with other ISCMs. Other areas included agenda-shaping, project implementation and identification of partnerships; in that respect they were best placed to advise respective RCPs and IRFs on initiatives contributing to achievement of the SDGs.

Participants underscored how human mobility was an important aspect of sustainable development and emphasized the need to adopt national and regional action plans on migration focused around the relevant SDGs. There was scope for increased RCP and IRF involvement in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through policy-shaping, exchange of good practices, capacity-building, targeted project implementation, data collection, research and monitoring of SDG implementation at the regional level, as well as the need for strengthened intraregional partnerships among RCPs, IRFs and other regional actors. All organizations were urged to support RCPs and IRFs on implementation of the Goals.

# III. The role of regional economic organizations and the United Nations Regional Commissions in attaining the 2030 Agenda and potential areas of cooperation with inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants had acknowledged the shared responsibility to manage large movements of refugees and migrants in a humane, sensitive, compassionate and people-centred manner. Currently, such responsibility varies among countries of origin, transit or destination, depending on the nature of migration flows. There is no one-size-fits-all strategy or policy on the management of irregular migration, since migration flows and patterns vary in different parts of the world. Nonetheless it is important to recognize that responsibility for managing irregular migration needs to be shared and that no State can act alone in handling a regional or a global scale situation. As noted during the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants, RCPs, IRFs and other regional actors can provide guidance to their Member States on the sharing of responsibilities in addressing irregular migration.

**Session 3** considered the place of RCPs in multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development, including potential areas of cooperation among RCPs, the United Nations Regional Economic Commissions and regional economic organizations towards implementation of the migration-related Sustainable Development Goals.

Building on session 2, session 3 focused on other important regional actors for addressing migration challenges and contributing to achieving the migration-related SDG targets so as to identify areas of potential partnership with RCPs and IRFs.

***Panel 1***, on the United Nations Regional Commissions, provided information on the mandate of those Commissions with regard to the implementation, review and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda and relevant activities in various regions of the world.

It was explained that the **United Nations Regional Commissions** were mandated in the 2030 Agenda to assist United Nations Member States in integrating the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development; provide technical support for implementation of the SDGs through effective leveraging of the means of implementation; and to facilitate effective follow-up and review. That mandate was entrusted to them in light of their universal coverage, convening power, intergovernmental nature and strength, broad-based cross-sectoral mandate, and experience in mobilizing regional consensus on key intergovernmental agreements.

Given their work on cooperation, the exchange of experiences and joint work with Member States, other United Nations agencies and other stakeholders, in recent years the United Nations Regional Commissions had undertaken a number of joint initiatives to address migration, including workshops. They were ready to share their experiences, develop new partnerships and systematize their existing work in the area of migration to advance achievement of the SDGs. Five areas for cooperation between ISCMs and the United Nations Regional Commissions on the attainment of the migration-related SDG targets were recommended: (i) integrating migration-related SDGs into national development planning and fiscal frameworks (mainly through information-sharing and capacity-building); (ii) promoting policy coherence, consistency and coordination (e.g. for reporting on migration-related Goals through regional forums for sustainable development operating under United Nations Regional Commissions to support implementation, peer learning and review of the

2030 Agenda); (iii) enhancing Member States' data and statistical capacities for implementation of the 2030 Agenda (which will help to address gaps in migration data as identified by several RCPs during session 2); (iv) tapping South-South and regional partnerships (through experience and knowledge-sharing); and (v) translating regional models (especially those related to norm-setting) into global public goods.

The round-table discussion with United Nations Regional Commissions highlighted the importance of partnerships between the Regional Commissions and RCPs and IRFs for the attainment of the SDGs and to monitor implementation.

The representative of **ESCWA** explained that their organization supported its Member States in areas such as the follow-up and review of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the identification of the means to enhance the regional dimension of addressing sustainable development challenges and implementing the SDG targets, and better data collection. ESCWA's support to Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda was anchored in the regional sustainable development strategy for the Arab Region, which identified mutually agreed priorities, implementation modalities, and institutional and operational mechanisms for implementation; secured Member States' commitment; and contained a vision based on partnerships. The priority in the Arab Region was to address migration from an interconnected, integrated agenda perspective. The second issue of the Situation Report on Migration in the Arab Region would focus on migration in the Sustainable Development Goals. Specific indicators would be considered for localization, mainly the amount of remittances, the cost of recruitment, and policies for regular, safe and well-manged migration. A workshop was planned for the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration to enhance Member States' understanding of the 2030 Agenda and related policy implications.

The representative of the **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa** (ECA) said that ECA provided support to its Member States in areas such as knowledge production, capacity-building, data and statistics, and the design of policies that recognized the critical role of migration for sustainable development. ECA provided guidance for its Member States on coherence and sustainability in reporting on Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want (Agenda 2063) of the African Union and the 2030 Agenda. It also promoted coherence among different national policies in line with regional and subregional protocols and agreements and strengthened stakeholders' capacity to implement policies that improved legal and statistical systems on international migration. ECA also undertook analytical work in partnership with national and regional research institutions to better understand the implications of migration trends for the continent and designed policies on education, skills and training to meet national, regional and international needs and opportunities.

Migration as an important enabler for inclusive and sustainable development had been on the agendas of main development events across Africa, such as the ninth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development or the Tenth African Development Forum. On labour migration, the African Union, in collaboration with ECA, IOM and the ILO, had launched the Labour Migration Governance for Integration and Development in Africa initiative (also known as the Joint Labour Migration Programme for Africa), a comprehensive, political and practical programme for developing and integrating labour migration and mobility approaches across Africa.

ECA was also open to consultative processes on international migration at global, regional and subregional levels, with the involvement of countries of destination and in the design, implementation and support of migration-related action plans in countries of origin. While it had not engaged directly with RCPs, it welcomed the exchange of information and good practices to improve the knowledge base on the migration-related SDGs and their implementation, which was relevant for guiding Member States' policy and programmes on migration. Areas with potential for collaboration with RCPs and IRFs included better data generation, including disaggregated data, and development of a robust monitoring framework on migration; coordination of policies and actions on migration towards policy

coherence and mainstreaming migration in development planning and strategies; and investing in youth, prioritizing and ensuring quality education and skills, and youth employment opportunities in Africa to prepare for its demographic transition and tap into its potential demographic dividends, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda.

In the ensuing discussion, participants underscored the importance of information exchange and confidence-building through regional processes in terms of developing links among the States and facilitating future bilateral and multilateral agreements. RCPs and IRFs were often seen to largely focus on reducing irregular migration and managing migration in line with the economic and political objectives of destination countries, whereas the inclusion of regional organizations, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations Regional Commissions or other relevant organizations in RCP dialogues contributed to changing mindsets on migration management. Different actors focused on different aspects of migration, such as data, policies, and specific contexts in different countries; bringing together all that knowledge, enhancing existing partnerships and creating new ones by engaging all stakeholders, academia, youth, migrants themselves would contribute to addressing migration from a holistic point of view with regard to the different SDG targets. Therefore there was a need for stronger integration among RCPs and for greater cooperation between RCPs and United Nations Regional Commissions on the important gaps identified during Panel 1.

The ***second panel*** addressed the role of major multilateral and cross-regional initiatives and regional economic organizations in the implementation, review and follow up of the 2030 Agenda at the regional and national levels; described the existing partnerships with ISCMs; and recommended additional areas for cooperation.

The **African Union** worked with the African regional economic communities and RCPs in Africa on the implementation of all migration-related SDG targets. On migration governance and policy (target 10.7), the African Union Migration Policy Framework for Africa provided its Member States and the African regional economic communities with the necessary guidelines and principles for the formulation and implementation of their own national and regional migration policies in accordance with respective priorities and resources, and linking migration and development. Central to that Framework was capacity-building on migration management. The extent of implementation of the Framework was currently being assessed. Another key African Union instrument was the Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention), which established both States' responsibilities and a legal framework for addressing internal displacement, promoting durable solutions and protecting and assisting internally displaced persons in Africa (SDG targets 1.5, 10.7, and 11.5 and Goal 13).

The African Union Commission Initiative against Trafficking in Human Beings (AU COMMIT) had consolidated existing initiatives to combat human trafficking in support of the Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings Especially Women and Children, thus contributing to the attainment of SDG targets 5.2, 8.7, 10.7, and 16.2.

The *African Union-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants* was initiated to support the capacity and responses of African Union Member States to transnational organized crime, notably human trafficking and smuggling of migrants, to protect refugees and asylum seekers within the Horn of Africa region, along the three main routes to Europe, and along the main routes to the Gulf countries and within the African continent. Subsequently the Initiative gave rise to the European Union-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative (known as the Khartoum Process) which specifically focused on one of those routes.

It was observed that, despite the scale of remittances to and within the continent, the African Union had made clear progress on SDG target 10.C, thanks to the African Institute for Remittances, an African Union initiative established with the support of the World Bank and the European Commission and in cooperation with the African Development Bank and IOM. The Institute had helped to lower the cost of remittances and to build the capacities of all African Union Member States, central banks, remittance

senders and recipients and other stakeholders to develop and implement concrete strategies and operational instruments to use remittances as development tools for poverty reduction; to collect data on cost of remittance flows, and to conduct research on leveraging remittances for social development. The African Union had been inspired by the examples of Mexico and some States in Southern Africa in remittance management.

With the aim of reducing irregular migration and ultimately reducing the high cost of remittances, the African Union was striving to improve labour migration opportunities and mobility within the continent through the Joint Labour Migration Program for Africa. There was strong commitment to ensure free mobility for nationals from African Union Member States within the continent by 2018.

The representative of the African Union encouraged synergies among RCPs and other processes and suggested that they should also focus on issues beyond migration, such as trade and the creation of free trade areas, which presupposed the free movement of people and workers. The African Union believed that the IRFs linking Africa with the European Union should not focus solely on halting irregular flows but should also pursue initiatives to foster trade towards prosperity, and bring prosperity into the process of migration so as to replace irregular flows with regular movements.

Migration was a major priority for the **European Union**. Its Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM), the overarching framework of the European Union external migration and asylum policy, defined how the European Union conducted its policy dialogues and cooperation with non-European Union countries. Such dialogues and cooperation were based on clearly defined priorities and were embedded in the European Union's overall external activities, including development cooperation. The European Agenda on Migration outlined a European response to the situation in the Mediterranean and set out longer-term steps to manage migration in all its aspects, by mainstreaming migration in all policy areas, combining internal and external policies, making best use of European Union agencies and tools, and involving all actors, including its Member States and institutions, international organizations, civil society, local authorities and national partners outside the European Union.

A migration management response should look beyond crisis management and be structural. No European Union Member State could effectively manage migration alone; the external dimension of the European Union's policy on migration was therefore essential. The European Union was committed to working closely with all partners at bilateral, regional, continental and global levels and migration dialogue had been at the core of its approach to migration. The European Union provided political, technical and financial support to the IRFs it had established, such as the Africa-European Union Migration, Mobility and Employment Partnership; the Rabat Process; the Khartoum Process; the Budapest Process, the Prague Process; the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States–European Union Dialogue on Migration; and the European Union–Latin America and the Caribbean Structured and Comprehensive Bi-regional Dialogue on Migration, which covered the full spectrum of migration issues and allowed for a balanced dialogue on the GAMM's four priority areas (legal migration; irregular migration; international protection; and migration and development), while at the same time taking into account partner countries' priorities. Increased trust and understanding among those IRFs enabled agreement and commitment on action points. The European Union tried to ensure that the IRFs delivered concrete results. The European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, a development tool that pooled together resources from different donors in order to enable a quick, flexible, and collective response to the different dimensions of an emergency situation, had been used to support the implementation of the agreements reached at those IRFs. The European Commission's new results-oriented Migration Partnership Framework was expected to mobilize and focus action and resources on its external work on managing migration. Those actions should include a Sustainable Development Goal perspective. The aim of the new European Union External Investment Plan was to improve social and economic infrastructure and it was expected to encourage investment in Africa and countries bordering the European Union to strengthen partnerships and contribute to achievement of the Goals.

More work was needed on the review and follow up of the SDGs and on a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. The European Union's relations with partner countries were indispensable for effectively addressing the challenges and reaping the benefits of migration. The European Union was engaged in a number of ISCMs, which, although informal and non-binding, enabled regular consultations and increased partnerships, built capacities, led to changes in policies, legislation and practices, helped to break down division between partners at all levels, created networks to facilitate harmonization of positions; and increased ownership. ISCMs were crucial to ensuring commitment to migration-related priorities and fostering the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The European Union would consider partnering on concrete joint actions with more ISCMs.

Most of the migration flows within the **Eurasian Economic Union** were intraregional. To improve their management and thus contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union contained provisions on the welfare of migrants and protection of their rights by removing both quotas for non-residents and work permit requirements for nationals from its Member States; migrants from Eurasian Economic Union Member States also benefited from the same social welfare and state medical services and national residential tax rate with respect to personal income tax as nationals, together with mutual automatic recognition of academic degrees and qualifications. A pension treaty, currently under negotiation, would allow the accumulation, transfer and payment of pensions across the Eurasian Economic Union. Intergovernmental councils on migration and social and pension affairs had been established to address issues related to migration and migrants' social welfare, thus contributing to the attainment of SDG target 8.8.

Generally, regional economic and trade unions provided for the freedom of movement of people, goods, services and capital, thereby enabling an interconnected approach to the regularization and management of migration. The identification of common approaches or policies on migration from third countries outside the Eurasian Economic Union, however, remained problematic. Since management of migration inflows lay with national governments and not at the supranational level, a common position on migration had not yet been reached. Since migration also often stemmed from income inequalities and lack of opportunities, it was important to address such root causes. For migration to favour development, common external trade and investment policies also needed to address those countries that were worse off and sources of migration.

The ***tour de table*** with representatives of regional economic organizations and the ensuing discussion identified potential areas for regional partnerships among regional economic organizations, United Nations Regional Commissions and RCPs.

The representative of MERCOSUR explained that about half of all migration in South America was intraregional. Migration policy in South America had evolved in past years from a relatively reductionist security- and control-centred policy to a human-rights-based one. The consensus reached within MERCOSUR both in the region and beyond derived from MERCOSUR Member States' associations with other countries and the links established with RCPs and IRFs. The MERCOSUR Working Group on Legal and Consular Affairs and its specialized migration forum promoted cooperation, policy coordination and the elaboration of common mechanisms aimed at deepening regional integration on migration.

Some MERCOSUR legal instruments, such as the Agreement on Residence for Citizens of the States Parties of MERCOSUR and Associated States, the MERCOSUR Multilateral Agreement on Social Security, and the MERCOSUR Consular Cooperation Mechanism represented real progress in managing migration, adding conceptual clarity by considering individual circumstances when assessing cases of irregular migration, and reducing migrant vulnerabilities. Travel between MERCOSUR countries had been simplified and only required ID cards. A statute on the gradual acquisition of citizenship was under consideration and was expected to be fully implemented by 2021, thereby providing political, civil, social and cultural rights for migrants and residents and ensuring equal opportunities and living conditions, and equal access to labour markets, health systems, and education. A new migration agreement currently under consideration would include reference to the Sustainable Development Goals.

MERCOSUR had been focusing on the free movement of migrant workers and had developed guidelines to protect the rights of migrant girls, boys and adolescents in support of Goal 8, as well as guidelines for women victims of human trafficking in support of Goal 5.

The establishment of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration was expected to help address the challenges faced in the MERCOSUR region vis-à-vis promoting and implementing the Goals in national and regional agendas.

The representative of the **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation** (SAARC) explained that migration was increasingly critical for South Asian economies. Remittances represented a significant portion of most countries' GDP and foreign exchange earnings. The migration agenda was still at a conceptual stage within SAARC. Although SAARC Member States had adopted legislative and administrative frameworks for the protection of migrant workers, it was only in 2014 that SAARC had addressed migration at the regional level by agreeing to cooperate on safe orderly and responsible migration from South Asia to ensure the safety, security and well-being of migrant workers in destination countries outside the region. The concept paper for regional cooperation on migration had three objectives: setting up an institutional mechanism at the regional level; facilitating the elaboration of a SAARC declaration on the protection and promotion of the rights and welfare of migrant workers; and identifying priority thematic areas for regional cooperation and facilitating information-sharing and knowledge-building on labour migration issues. SAARC looked forward to learning from and cooperating with other ISCMs on migration matters.

Participants agreed that migration, as a cross-border and cross-continental phenomenon, necessarily required partnerships and offered a key opportunity for States, United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations and civil society to enhance existing partnerships through ISCMs and to build new ones. No single country acting alone could address migration-related issues and challenges. Achievement of the migration-related SDGs required strengthened regional dialogue and a more binding approach, which should also involve civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. Partnerships reinforced overall responses by sharing and leveraging joint knowledge, resources and assets, thereby expanding coverage, helping to overcome obstacles in reaching people in need, and building resilience.

Experience-sharing and creating synergies among RCPs and other regional stakeholders should be encouraged. Success stories of positive dialogues leading to more regional integration would strengthen the concept of shared responsibility and solidarity.

While intraregional migration was of key importance, it was also necessary to discuss immigration from third countries outside of regional blocks.

The 2030 Agenda provided an opportunity for the deepening of existing cooperation among United Nation Regional Commissions and other regional actors, and the forging of new partnerships for mutual effectiveness, accountability and learning, to ensure that no one was left behind. Some of the Regional Commissions already worked together with RCPs in their respective regions, and others were ready to start such cooperation.

The African Union and European Union both had in place long-established collaboration with RCPs and IRFs. However, the African Union was more focused on harmonization of regional policies and legislation while the European Union was more focused on targeted project implementation. Other regional economic organizations also cooperated with the ISCMs in their respective regions and were ready to expand that cooperation to address gaps and challenges faced in implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and to benefit from one another's experience and tools.

# IV. Conclusion

The aim of the Sixth Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 6) was to consider international migration from the global sustainable development viewpoint as allowed by the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other interlinked documents, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants.

Expanded dialogue with important regional actors – the United Nations Regional Commissions, multilateral and cross-regional initiatives and regional economic organizations – in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda and following the New York Declaration enabled a rich discussion on a participatory approach addressing the current migration challenges.

The discussions highlighted the current involvement of various stakeholders (ISCMs, regional economic organizations and United Nations Regional Commissions) in activities at the regional level aimed at the attainment of the migration-related SDG targets; the gaps and challenges encountered in that process; and the critical need for enhanced cooperation among all stakeholders and potential areas for such collaboration.

While certain SDG targets were explicitly migration-related, all of the SDGs were, in effect, related to migration in one way or another, given the phenomenon's current scope and diversity. The 2030 Agenda carried firm commitments and provided integrated and interconnected targets.

Partnerships were the means for achieving that very complex Agenda. Migration was a reality to be managed sustainably, not only in times of crises, and such management required policy frameworks and policy dialogue between different regions, ISCMs, and other actors. While the leading role on the SDGs lay with governments, all actors – intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, civil society, academia, the private sector, and migrants themselves – should take part in the search for solutions to address current migration situations in a globalized world. While some partnerships (e.g. with intergovernmental organizations) were customary for ISCMs, partnerships with regional economic organizations, United Nations Regional Commissions, multilateral and cross-regional initiatives should also be explored. Partnering with the private sector to better serve migrants should also be considered.

The 2030 Agenda viewed migration as a vehicle for development, which required a change in migration governance approaches by some stakeholders. Current approaches were often control-centred and fragmented. The Agenda called for a human rights-centred approach with adequate attention to individual cases rather than a mass treatment of migrants. The 2030 Agenda addressed the root causes of poverty and the universal need for development that worked for all people. Its 17 goals and 169 targets aimed to tackle key systemic barriers to sustainable development. The means of implementation matched the Agenda's ambitious goals and focused on finance, technology and capacity development.

There was a pressing need for a tangible framework that could lead to the effective sharing of responsibilities and firm partnerships to promote well-managed migration; such a framework could be developed as a result of the negotiations on a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration and the 2018 intergovernmental conference on international migration, with ISCMs and United Nations Regional Commissions seen as available tools to draw on as part of the global compact process.

IOM's formal association with the United Nations as a related organization presented an opportunity for reviewing operational systems and strengthening relationships among various actors in support of the realization the SDGs as a whole and specifically achievement of the migration-related targets.

## The Meeting resulted in the following key points:

- Recognition of the 2030 Agenda as a powerful vehicle to integrate migration into the development agenda at all levels.
- Acknowledgement that all SDG targets were related in one way or another to migration and that regional actors had to play an important role in realization of all of the Goals, thus ultimately contributing towards well-managed migration policies and safe, orderly and regular migration.
- Recognition of the key role RCPs/IRFs could play to support the implementation of the migration-specific SDG targets.
- Recognition of implementation and partnerships as key areas for RCPs to play a role in pursuing the complex and ambitious 2030 Agenda.
- Recognition of the importance of the means of implementation, in particular with regard to data, innovation, technology, and trade.
- Awareness of different opportunities, needs and challenges faced by RCPs associated with regional economic organizations, RCPs that were stand-alone processes, and RCP secretariats in contributing to the implementation of migration-related SDG targets at the regional level. In Africa, RCPs were already anchored to regional economic communities.
- Recognition of the need for enhanced dialogue given that there was no one-size-fits-all policy approach on migration.
- The emerging benefits that partnerships with other actors at the regional level could bring to overcoming challenges and expanding RCP involvement in actions towards SDG attainment.
- The importance of collecting reliable data on migration and sharing that data within and among the ISCMs.
- Acknowledgment that the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and IOM joining the United Nations system had created space for enhanced cooperation between the United Nations Regional Commissions and ISCMs, in particular the RCPs.

## The Meeting resulted in the following recommendations:

(a) ISCMs, and in particular RCPs have a role to play to support the attainment of the migration-related SDG targets through the following actions:

(i) Providing a platform for Member States to discuss regional challenges and opportunities in their implementation of the migration-related aspects of the SDGs.

(ii) Revisiting their existing regional strategies, areas of focus, workplans and programmes to reflect new sustainable development aims and align their respective focus and strategies to relevant SDGs.

(iii) Contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by planning and implementing projects, activities and research in support of the attainment of those Goals close to their area of focus.

(iv) Promoting policies in support of SDGs at the regional and national level, contributing to the harmonization of the legislation of their participating States, and promoting convergent policy approaches in their respective regions.

(v) Building the capacities of their Member States, facilitating the exchange of experiences, and implementing peer learning and peer review mechanisms.

(vi) Collecting reliable data, conducting research, and producing reports, which could be included in national or regional reviews, reported at relevant regional forums, or feed into relevant reviews at the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

(vii) Promoting greater synergies between RCPs and global processes, in particular the IDM, GFMD, and the United Nations High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development.

(viii) Bringing the migration perspective to discussions in other regional or global bodies.

(ix) Serving as a platform to support regional consultations towards the establishment of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration and contributing to it through existing RCP efforts towards attainment of the migration-related SDG targets.

(x) Seeking and entering into partnerships towards SDG attainment with other actors at the regional level, in particular United Nations Regional Commissions and regional economic organizations, but also with civil society and the private sector.

(b) Cooperation and partnerships at the regional level, in particular with United Nations Regional Commissions and regional economic organizations, were essential to promote dignified, orderly, and safe migration for the benefit of all and thus contribute to the attainment of the migration-related SDG targets.

(c) IOM support for SDG attainment and IOM tools and resources were available to all Member States, partners, RCPs, United Nations Regional Commissions, and regional economic organizations.

Participants acknowledged the role of IOM as the global lead agency on migration, and welcomed, in particular, its efforts to support the ISCMs and other regional organizations in actions towards attainment of the SDGs, and to facilitate policy dialogue and partnerships in that regard. Thanks were expressed to IOM for hosting the meeting and chairing the deliberations.

# Annexes

# Annex I. Chair's Summary

1. The Sixth Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs) (Sixth Global RCP Meeting) took place in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, on 13 October 2016, under the theme "Migration and the Sustainable Development Goals: the Role of Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and of Regional Economic Organizations".

2. The Meeting was very timely given the start of implementation of the "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (2030 Agenda), which mainstreams migration within global development approaches. The proceedings focused on the role of Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration (ISCMs), mainly the Regional Consultative processes on migration (RCPs), but also intraregional forums on migration (IRFs) and global processes on migration, as well as other regional actors.

3. The Meeting proceedings had a practical focus to further facilitate the identification of potential partnerships between the ISCMs and other actors at the regional level, such as Regional Economic Organizations, Regional Economic Communities and the United Nations Regional Commissions (UN RECs).

4. The Meeting brought together 77 delegates: Representatives of Chairs and Secretariats of 19 ISCMs participated [3] alongside representatives from regional economic organizations[4] and UN Regional Commissions.[5]

5. The Sixth Global RCP Meeting was held immediately after the Second 2016 IOM International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) Workshop "Follow-up and review of migration in the SDGs" (11-12 October 2016), another IOM event on migration-related SDGs, at which 6 participants invited to the Global RCP Meeting also participated.[6] A briefing on the Second IDM Workshop was made during the Sixth Global RCP Meeting as part of the presentation by the Host of the Sixth Global RCP Meeting.

6. Session 1 informed the participants on the integration of migration in the 2030 Agenda and the importance of partnerships for their realization. It set the scene for discussing ISCMs' role in supporting the implementation of the migration-related SDG targets and multi-stakeholder partnerships.

7. GFMD Chair focused on the role of partnerships for sustainable development especially at the regional level notably referring to the four "G"s: the Goals, Gender, Governments and the Global economic system in which no one is left behind.

8. Session 2 focused on the involvement of interregional forums on migration (IRFs) and RCPs in activities contributing to the 2030 Agenda. Panel 1 looked into RCPs that are formally associated with regional economic organizations, in particular the African Union Regional Economic Communities. Panel 2 illustrated the work done by stand-alone RCPs. Panel 3 revisited the role

3 5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean, Abu Dhabi Dialogue, Almaty Process on Refugee Protection and International Migration, Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration, Bali Process, Budapest Process, Colombo Process, MIDCOM, IGAD RCP, IGC, MIDCAS, MIDSA, MIDWA, Prague Process, Puebla Process, Rabat Process, SACM, Pan-African Forum, GFMD and the Caribbean Migration Consultations [emerging RCP in the Caribbean Region].

4 Representatives from African Union, EEAC, EU, MERCOSUR and SAARC.

5 Representatives of UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA).

6 5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean, ARCP, Puebla Process, Colombo Process, Rabat Process, EEAC.

of RCP Secretariats in shaping the RCP agendas to include SDGs. Through its three panels the Session explored the opportunities and challenges faced by the RCPs associated with regional economic organizations, RCPs that are stand-alone processes and RCP Secretariats in contributing to the implementation of migration-related SDG targets at the regional level.

9. Session 3 focused on the respective roles and current involvement of Regional Economic Organizations and UN Regional Economic Commissions towards the implementation of the migration-related sustainable development goal (SDG) targets, especially at the regional level, and explored through two panels potential areas for cooperation with RCPs in this respect. Panel 1 informed on the mandate of the UN RECs in implementation, review and follow up of the 2030 Agenda and relevant activities in various regions of the world. Panel 2 and the related tour de table addressed the role of regional economic organizations in 2030 Agenda implementation. Following discussions aimed to identify potential areas of regional-level partnerships between regional economic organizations, UN RECs and RCPs.

**10. In the plenary discussions, participants brought to the fore several key points:**

- Recognition of the 2030 Agenda as a powerful vehicle to integrate migration into the development agenda at all levels.
- Acknowledgement that all SDG targets one way or another relate to migration and that regional level actors have to play and important level role in realization of all goals, thus ultimately contributing towards well-managed migration policies and safe, orderly and regular migration.
- Recognition of the paramount role RCPs/IRFs can play to support the implementation of the migration-specific SDG targets.
- Recognition of implementation and partnerships as key areas for RCPs to play a role in addressing and apprehending the complex and ambitious 2030 Agenda.
- Recognize the importance of means of implementation, in particular data, innovation, technology, trade.
- Awareness of different opportunities, needs and challenges faced by (i) those RCPs, that are associated with regional economic organizations, (ii) those RCPs, that are stand-alone processes, (iii) as well as RCP Secretariats in contributing to the implementation of migration-related SDG targets at the regional level, with Africa leading the way on suggesting the anchoring of RCPs in Regional Economic communities.
- Recognition of the need for enhanced dialogue given that there is no one-size-fits-all policy approach on migration.
- The emerging benefit that partnerships with other actors at the regional level can bring to overcome the challenges and expand RCP involvement in actions towards SDG attainment.
- The importance of collecting reliable data on migration and sharing within and among the ISCMs.
- Acknowledgment that the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and IOMs joining the UN enables space for enhanced cooperation between the UN RECs and ISCMs, in particular the RCPs.

**11. The Meeting resulted in the following recommendations:**

(a) ISCMs and in particular RCPs have a role to play to support the attainment of the migration-related SDG targets through the following actions:

(i) Provide a platform for Member States to discuss regional challenges and opportunities in their implementation of migration aspects of the SDGs.

(ii) Revisit their existing regional strategies, areas of focus, workplan and programmes to reflect the new sustainable development goals and align their respective focus and strategies to relevant SDGs.

(iii) Go to implementation of the 2030 Agenda SDGs by planning and implementing projects, activities and research in support of the implementation of those SDGs close to their area of focus.

(iv) Promote policies in support of SDGs at the regional and national level contributing to the harmonization of the legislation of their participating states, and promote convergent policy approaches in their respective regions.

(v) Build capacities of respective member states, conduct experience exchange, implement peer-learning and peer-review mechanisms.

(vi) Collect reliable data, conduct research, and produce reports, which can be included in national or regional reviews, reported at relevant regional forums or feed into relevant reviews at HLPF.

(vii) Promote greater synergies between RCPs and global processes, in particular the IDM, GFMD, UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (UN HLD).

(viii) Bring the "migration perspective" to discussions in other regional or global bodies.

(ix) Serve as a platform to support regional consultations towards the establishment of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and contribute to it through the existing RCP efforts towards attainment of the migration related SDG targets.

(x) Seek and enter into partnerships towards SDG attainment with other actors at the regional level, in particular UN Regional Commissions and regional economic organizations, but also with the civil society and the private sector.

(b) Cooperation and partnerships at the regional level, in particular with UN RECs and regional economic organizations, are essential to promote dignified, orderly, and safe migration for the benefit of all and thus contribute to the attainment of migration-related SDG targets.

(c) Continued IOM support on SDG attainment and IOM tools and resources are available for all Member states and partners, RCPs, UN RECs, regional economic organizations.

12. Participants expressed gratitude to the IOM for generously hosting and chairing these deliberations.

13. Participants acknowledged the role of IOM as the global lead agency on migration and in particular its efforts to support the ISCMs and other regional organizations in actions towards attainment of the SDGs and in facilitating policy dialogue and partnerships in this regard.

# Annex II. Agenda of the Sixth Global RCP Meeting

13 October 2016 – Geneva, Switzerland[7]

| | |
|---|---|
| 09:00 – 10:00 | *Registration* |
| 10:00 – 10:10 | **OFFICIAL OPENING** |
| | **STATEMENT OF INTRODUCTION**<br>H. E. Ambassador William Lacy Swing, Director General, International Organization for Migration (IOM) |
| 10:10 – 11:10 | **SESSION 1. SETTING THE SCENE**<br>*Moderator: Ms Karima El Korri, Chief, Population and Social Development Section, and Head of the Unit on Agenda 2030, Social Development Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)* |
| | **MIGRATION IN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS. PRESENTATION BY THE HOST OF THE 2016 GLOBAL RCP MEETING AND DEBRIEFING ON THE MAIN OUTCOMES OF THE SECOND 2016 WORKSHOP OF THE INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION**<br>*Ms Jill Helke, Director for International Cooperation and Partnerships, IOM*<br>**KEY ROLE OF PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**<br>*Ms Nahida Sobhan, Political Affairs Officer, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, 2016 Chair-in-Office of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)*<br>Questions and Answers. Discussion |
| 11:10 – 13:00 | **SESSION 2. THE ROLE OF RCPS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA. OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**<br>*Moderator: Mr Nadir El Habib, Secretary General, Ministry of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs of Morocco, Chair of the 5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean* |
| | **Panel 1. RCPs formally associated with regional economic organizations**<br>• *Mr N'faly Sanoh, Director of Free Movement and Tourism, Economic Community of West African States, Chair of the Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA), and Member of the Rabat Process Steering Committee*<br>• *Mr Anthony Masilela, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs Swaziland, Chair of the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA)*<br>**Panel 2. Stand-alone processes**<br>• *Mr Akmadi Sarbassov, Chairman, Committee of Labour, Social Protection and Migration of Kazakhstan, Chair of the Almaty Process*<br>• *H.E. Mrs Thalatha Atukorale, Minister of Foreign Employment of Sri Lanka, Chair of the Regional Consultative Process on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process)*<br>**Panel 3. The role of RCP secretariats**<br>• *Ms Enas El Fergany, Director, Population Policies, Expatriates and Migration Department, League of Arab States, Head of Secretariat of the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration (ARCP)*<br>• *Mr Salvador Gutiérrez, Regional Policy and Liaison Officer, IOM Regional Office for Central and North America and the Caribbean, Ad Interim Technical Secretary of the Regional Conference on Migration (Puebla Process)*<br>Discussion |
| 13:00 – 13:15 | *Group photo* |
| 13:15 – 15:00 | *Lunch Break* |

7 All sessions will be held in the Palais des Nations, in Room XVII. Interpretation will be arranged into English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic during all sessions.

| | |
|---|---|
| 15:00 – 17:30 | **SESSION 3. THE PLACE OF RCPS IN MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. POTENTIAL AREAS OF COOPERATION AMONG THE RCPS AND THE UN REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MIGRATION-RELATED SDGS**<br>*Moderator: H. E. Ms María Andrea Matamoros Castillo, Vice Minister for Foreign Relations of the Republic of Honduras, Chair of the Regional Conference on Migration (Puebla Process)* |
| | **Panel 1. UN Regional Economic Commissions**<br>*Main presenter: Ms Takyiwaa Manuh, Director, Social Development Policy Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)*<br>Tour de table with the Representatives of the UN Regional Economic Commissions on potential areas for cooperation with the RCPs on SDG implementation at the regional level<br>**Panel 2. Multilateral and Cross-Regional Initiatives**<br>• *H.E. Dr Olawale Maiyegun, Director, Department of Social Affairs, African Union Commission*<br>• *Mr Erwan Marteil, First Counceillor (Migration and Asylum), European Union Delegation to UN and International Organizations in Geneva*<br>• *H.E. Mr Timur Suleimenov, Member of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEAC) Board, EEAC Minister for Economic and Financial Policy*<br>**Regional Economic Organizations**<br>Tour de table with the Representatives of the Regional Economic Organizations on potential areas for cooperation with the RCPs on SDG implementation at the regional level<br>Discussion |
| 17:30 – 18:00 | **OFFICIAL CLOSING** |
| | **CHAIR'S SUMMARY AND WAY FORWARD**<br>*Rapporteur: H. E. Ambassador Laura Thompson Chacón, Deputy Director General, IOM*<br>**CLOSING REMARKS**<br>*H. E. Ambassador Laura Thompson Chacón, Deputy Director General, IOM* |

# Annex III. Participant List

## I. Participants from RCPs, IRFs and Global Processes on Migration

| # | RCP | Name | Position |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean RCP | Mr El Habib Nadir | Secretary General, Ministry of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs of Morocco |
| 2. | Almaty Process on Refugee Protection and International Migration RCP | Mr Akmadi Sarbassov | Chairman, Committee of Labour, Social Protection and Migration of Kazakhstan, Ministry of Healthcare and social development of Kazakhstan |
| 3. | Almaty Process on Refugee Protection and International Migration RCP | Mr Timur Shaimergenov | Deputy Director, Library of the 1st President, Presidential Administration of the Government of Kazakhstan |
| 4. | Almaty Process on Refugee Protection and International Migration RCP Secretariat | Ms Tatiana Hadjiemmanuel | Deputy Coordinator for Central Asia, Senior Programme Coordinator, IOM Kazakhstan |
| 5. | Almaty Process on Refugee Protection and International Migration RCP | Ms Ainour Danenova | First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan |
| 6. | Arab RCP | Mr Sami Nagga | Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission in Tunisia |
| 7. | Arab RCP Secretariat / League of Arab States | Ms Enas El Fergany | Director, Population Policies, Expatriates and Migration Department, League of Arab States |
| 8. | Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime RCP | H. E. Mr Andrew Goledzinowski | Ambassador for People Smuggling and Human Trafficking for Australia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia |
| 9. | Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime RCP Secretariat | Mr Lars Johan Lönnback | Senior Migration Policy Officer, Bali Process Regional Support Office |
| 10. | Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime RCP Secretariat | Ms Lisa Crawford | Co-Manager (Australia), Regional Support Office |
| 11. | Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime RCP Secretariat | Mr Lance Bonneau | Senior Programme and Strategy Development Officer, IOM Mission in Australia |
| 12. | Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime | Ms Tika Wihanasari Tahar | First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Indonesia |
| 13. | Budapest Process RCP | Ms Özlem Kural | Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Turkey to UN in Geneva |
| 14. | Budapest Process RCP | Mr Aydin Topcu | Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Turkey to UN in Geneva |
| 15. | Budapest Process RCP Secretariat | Ms Sedef Dearing | Senior Regional Adviser – Silk Routes, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) |
| 16. | Migration Dialogue from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa Member States (MIDCOM, formerly COMESA RCP) | Mr Moola Milomo | Director General of Immigration, COMESA Secretariat |
| 17. | Migration Dialogue from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa Member States (MIDCOM, formerly COMESA RCP) Secretariat | Mr Absieh Houssein Guedi | Immigration, Free Movement and Labour Expert, Legal and Corporate Affairs Department, COMESA Secretariat |
| 18. | Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process) | H. E. Dr Mr Abdramane Sylla | Minister of the Malians Abroad and African Integration |
| 19. | Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process) | Ms Néma Guindo | Technical adviser |
| 20. | Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process) | Mr Sidi Mohamed Youba Sidibé | Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Mali |

| # | RCP | Name | Position |
|---|---|---|---|
| 21. | Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process) | Abdoulaye Konate | Adviser, Permanent Mission of Mali |
| 22. | Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process) Secretariat | Ms Ausrey Jolivel | Programme Manager |
| 23. | Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) RCP | Ms Fadiya Aboubaker Alouhan | Programme manager, health and social development, IGAD Secretariat |
| 24. | Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) RCP Secretariat | Mr Aron Tekelgzi | National Liaison Officer to AU/UNECA/IGAD, SLO Addis Ababa, IOM |
| 25. | Inter-Governmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC) RCP | H. E. Mr Michel Lastschenko | Ambassador, Special Envoy Migration and Asylum, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium |
| 26. | Inter-Governmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC) RCP Secretariat | Ms Kelly Ryan | Coordinator, IGC Secretariat |
| 27. | Inter-Governmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC) RCP Secretariat | Mr Patrick Wall | Consultant, IGC Secretariat |
| 28. | Migration Dialogue for Central African States RCP (MIDCAS) | Mr Paul Bernard Ondze | Director of Emigration and Immigration, Ministry of Interior and Decentralization of the Republic of the Congo |
| 29. | Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa RCP (MIDSA) | Mr Anthony Masilela | Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs Swaziland |
| 30. | Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa RCP (MIDSA) | Mr Sandile Alton Lukhele | First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Swaziland |
| 31. | Migration Dialogue for West Africa RCP (MIDWA) | Mr N'faly Sanoh | Director of Free Movement and Tourism |
| 32. | Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment RCP (Abu Dhabi Process) | Dr Abdallah Al Rashidy | Head of Technical Unit - Public Authority for Manpower of Kuwait |
| 33. | Prague Process | Dr Radim Žák | Programme Manager, Prague Process - Building Migration Partnerships, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) |
| 34. | Prague Process | H. E. Mr Piotr Stachańczyk | Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the UN Office at Geneva |
| 35. | Prague Process | Mr Łukasz Różycki | Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the UN Office at Geneva |
| 36. | Regional Conference on Migration RCP (Puebla Process) | H. E. Ms María Andrea Matamoros Castillo | Vice Minister for Foreign Relations of the Republic of Honduras, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and international Cooperation of Honduras |
| 37. | Regional Conference on Migration RCP (Puebla Process) | H.E. Mr Rizzo Alvarez | Permanent Mission of Honduras |
| 38. | Regional Conference on Migration RCP (Puebla Process) | Ms Lilian Juarez | Permanent Mission of Honduras |
| 39. | Regional Conference on Migration RCP (Puebla Process) Secretariat | Mr Salvador Gutierrez | Ad Interim Technical Secretary, Regional Conference on Migration RCP |
| 40. | Regional Consultative Process on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process) | Mrs Thalatha Atukorale | Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Welfare of Sri Lanka |
| 41. | Regional Consultative Process on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process) Secretariat | Mr Petta Gamage Gamini Senarath Yapa | Acting Deputy General Manager (Foreign Relations), Ministry of Foreign Employment Promotion and Welfare of Sri Lanka |
| 42. | Regional Consultative Process on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process) Secretariat | H.E. Mr. Ravinatha P. Aryasinha | Ambassador, Permanent representative to the UN, Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka |

| # | RCP | Name | Position |
|---|---|---|---|
| 43. | Regional Consultative Process on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process) Secretariat | Mrs Samantha Jayasuriya | Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka |
| 44. | Regional Consultative Process on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process) Secretariat | Ms Hettiwattage Shashlka Thavishani Somaratne | Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka |
| 45. | South American Conference on Migration (SACM) RCP | H. E. Mr Carlos Appelgren | Director of Consular Affairs and Immigration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile |
| 46. | South American Conference on Migration (SACM) RCP | Mr Jorge Brizuela | Permanent Mission of Paraguay |
| 47. | South American Conference on Migration (SACM) RCP | Mr Pedro O. Hernández | Sub-Director of International Migration, Directorate of Consular Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile |
| 48. | South American Conference on Migration (SACM) RCP | Mr Carlos Ramón Vera Aguilera | Director of Political Consular, Directorate General of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay |
| 49. | South American Conference on Migration (SACM) RCP Secretariat | Mr Diego Beltrand | Regional Director for South America, IOM |
| 50. | Caribbean Migration Consultations [emerging RCP in the Caribbean Region] | Ms Charmaine Gandhi-Andrews | Chief immigration Officer, Ministry of national Security of Trinidad and Tobago |
| 51. | Intraregional Forum on Migration in Africa (Pan-African Forum) | Mr Charles Kwenin | Head of Technical Secretariat, Senior Regional Adviser for Africa (SSA), IOM |
| 52. | Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Chairmanship | Ms Nahida Sobhan | Political Affairs, Permanent Mission of Bangladesh in Geneva |
| 53. | Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Support Office | Ms Estrella Lajom | Head, GFMD Support Unit |

## II. Non-ISCM Participants

### II.A. Regional Economic Organizations / Economic Communities

| # | RCP | Name | Position |
|---|---|---|---|
| 54. | African Union Commission | H.E. Dr Olawale Maiyegun | Director, Department of Social Affairs |
| 55. | African Union Commission | Ambassador Jean-Marie Ehouzo | Permanent Representative, African Union Delegation |
| 56. | Eurasian Economic Commission | H.E. Mr Timur Suleimenov | Member of the EEC Board, Minister for Economic and Financial Policy |
| 57. | Eurasian Economic Commission | Mr Samat Aliev | Acting Head of EEC Department of Labour Migration |
| 58. | European Union Delegation | Ambassador Peter Sørensen | Head of European Union Delegation |
| 59. | European Union Delegation | Mr Erwan Marteil | First Counceillor (Migration and Asylum) |
| 60. | South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) | Ms Rita Dhital | Director, Information and Poverty Alleviation, Secretary-General, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation |
| 61. | Southern Common Market / Mercado Común del Sur (Mercosur) | Mr Rafael Reis | Chief of Staff of the High Representative |

## II.B. United Nations and UN Regional Commissions

| # | RCP | Name | Position |
|---|---|---|---|
| 62. | UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) | Ms Takyiwaa Manuh | Director, Social Development Policy Division |
| 63. | United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA) | Ms Karima El Korri | Chief, Population and Social Development Section, and Head of the Unit on Agenda 2030, Social Development Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia |
| 64. | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) | Mr Michele Cavinato | Head, Asylum and Migration Unit, UNHCR Headquarters |
| 65. | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) | Ms Sarah Elliott | UNHCR Headquarters |

## II.C. Donors of the Event

| # | RCP | Name | Position |
|---|---|---|---|
| 66. | Australian Permanent Mission to the United Nations | Mr Shaun Choon | Executive Officer (Immigration) |
| 67. | U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration | Ms Suzanne Sheldon | Director, Office of International Migration |
| 68. | U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration | Ms Karrie Peterson | Programme Officer |

## II.D. Organizers (IOM)

| # | RCP | Name | Position |
|---|---|---|---|
| 69. | International Organization for Migration (IOM) Headquarters | Ambassador William Lacy Swing | Director General |
| 70. | IOM Headquarters | Ambassador Laura Thompson Chacón | Deputy Director General |
| 71. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Ana Duran Salvatierra | Senior Regional Adviser for the Americas |
| 72. | IOM Headquarters | Mr Akio Nakayama | Senior Regional Adviser for Asia |
| 73. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Jill Helke | Director, Department of International Cooperation and Partnerships |
| 74. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Nicoletta Giordano | Head, International Partnerships Division, ICP |
| 75. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Kristina Galstyan | Migration Policy Officer, International Partnerships Division, ICP |
| 76. | IOM Headquarters | Mr David Martineau | Associate Migration Policy Officer, Multilateral Processes Division, ICP |
| 77. | IOM Headquarters | Mr Azzouz Samri | Head, Governing Bodies Division |
| 78. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Mailan Thai | Associate Migration Policy Officer, International Partnerships Division, ICP |
| 79. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Rachel Velasco | Associate Migration Policy Officer, International Partnerships Division, ICP |
| 80. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Patricia Reber | Head, Meetings Secretariat, Governing Bodies Division, ICP |
| 81. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Caludine Favrat | Meetings Assistant, Meetings Secretariat, Governing Bodies Division, ICP |
| 82. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Melissa Pollick Shira | Meetings Assistant, Meetings Secretariat, Governing Bodies Division, ICP |
| 83. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Eleni Alexandrou | Research Consultant, ICP |
| 84. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Amanda Nero | Communication Officer (Multimedia), Media and Communications Division, ICP |
| 85. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Cecilia Hedlund | Intern, Multilateral Partnerships Division, ICP |
| 86. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Paula Benea | Migration Policy Officer, Governing Bodies Division, ICP |
| 87. | IOM Headquarters | Ms Annalisa Pellegrino | Governing Bodies Division, ICP |

# Annex IV. Background Note of Sixth Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration

## Contents:


- General background on Global RCP Meetings
- General background on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- The role of UN Regional Economic Commissions in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda
- The role of other regional actors in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda:
  - Regional Economic Organizations
  - Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration
- Issues to be addressed during the Sixth Global RCP Meeting and Guiding questions for sessions' discussion

Annex 1. Migration-related targets in "Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"

Annex 2. Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration (including a table on ISCM areas of focus of relevance for migration-related SDG targets)

Annex 3. List of Regional Economic Organizations, African Union Regional Economic Communities and United Nations Regional Economic Commissions

## General background on Global RCP Meetings

**Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration** (ISCM) are state-led processes at the regional (regional consultative processes on migration (RCP)), interregional (interregional forums on migration (IRFs)) or global (global processes on migration) level promoting policy dialogue, cooperation and partnership on migration issues among their Member States.

**Global Consultations of Chairs and Secretariats of Principal Regional Consultative Processes on Migration**, also known as Global RCP Meetings (or GRCP Meetings), have been organized since 2005, bringing together representatives of Chairs and Secretariats of the main ISCMs (RCPs, IRFs and global processes) to:

**(i)** foster synergies and exchanges, share information, experiences and good practices on a range of migration topics;

**(ii)** contribute to improved policy coherence at the national and regional levels and promote convergence in migration policy in different regions;

**(iii)** strengthen collaboration among RCPs / IRFs, and enhance their interaction with global processes on migration, thus contributing to policy dialogue on migration at the global level; and

**(iv)** strengthen collaboration among the various ISCM secretariats.

Each Global RCP Meeting builds on the outcomes of the previous one. **Migration and development** has been a frequent focus of discussion. The Fourth Global RCP Meeting resulted in specific recommendations for the UN Secretary General and the UN General Assembly consideration in the context of the 2013 United Nations High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development (UN HLD) thus further contributing to the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[8] (hereafter the 2030 Agenda).

The fact that RCPs also contribute towards the attainment of migration-related sustainable development goal (SDG) targets was highlighted at the Fifth Global RCP Meeting. Consequently, IOM conducted a survey to baseline their involvement in the implementation of migration-related SDG targets. The survey outcomes have helped shape the agenda of the Sixth Global RCP Meeting.

Under the theme of "Migration and the Sustainable Development Goals: the Role of Inter-state Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and of Regional Economic Organizations", the **Sixth Global RCP Meeting** is expected to have a practical focus and further facilitate the identification of potential partnerships between the ISCMs and other actors at the regional level. To this end, representatives of regional economic organizations,[9] regional economic communities (RECs)[10] and UN Regional Economic Commissions (UN RECs)[11] have been invited to participate in the Sixth Global RCP Meeting as well.

8 United Nations General Assembly Resolution of 21 October 2015 A/RES/70/1 "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E].

9 Regional economic organizations are intergovernmental organizations, usually established by treaty and composed primarily of sovereign member states from a particular region, with the aim of coordinating the economic policies of their member states. They can include regional economic unions (trade blocs composed of a common market with a customs union).

10 The most recurrent Regional Economic Communities (RECs) are those regional groupings of African states, which facilitate regional economic integration among members of the eight African Union (AU) regions and through the wider African Economic Community (AEC). The RECs are closely integrated in AU work and constitute its building blocks.

11 United Nations Regional Economic Commissions (UN RECs) operate under the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and are the regional outposts of the United Nations in their respective regions to foster economic integration at the sub-regional and regional levels, to promote the regional implementation of internationally agreed development goals, and to support regional sustainable development by contributing to bridging economic, social and environmental gaps among their member countries and sub-regions. To achieve these objectives, the five Regional Economic Commissions promote multilateral dialogue, knowledge sharing and networking at the regional level, and work together to promote intraregional and interregional cooperation, both among themselves and through collaboration with other regional organizations.

While Global RCP Meetings are usually co-hosted by an RCP Chair country and IOM, the Sixth Global RCP Meeting will be hosted by IOM solely on the occasion of IOM's 65th Anniversary, and will be held back to back with the IOM International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) Workshop.[12] A briefing on the outcomes of the IDM Workshop will be made at the opening of the Sixth Global RCP Meeting.

## General background on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Adopted by UN Member States in September 2015, the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs will guide international development efforts to the year 2030. It is an ambitious framework of unprecedented scope, addressing a wide range of cross-cutting and interlinked issues of critical importance to the three pillars of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental.

The 2030 Agenda sets out a long-term plan to address issues that fundamentally challenge sustainable development, many of which also constitute the drivers of forced migration. As such, the 2030 Agenda should represent a priority for migration actors as well, including those at the regional level.

The 2030 Agenda includes a number of targets specifically related to migration, whereby migrants and migration are fully integrated in the global development policy approaches. Thus, it acknowledges the role that frequent and intense natural disasters, spiralling conflict, violent extremism and terrorism play in humanitarian crises and forced displacement of people. It also recognizes the "positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development" and the "multi-dimensional reality" of migration.

Numerous migration-related targets across the 2030 Agenda address issues such as eradicating forced labour and human trafficking; promoting a safe and secure working environment for all workers, including for migrant workers, with particular attention to women; reducing the costs of migrant remittances; significantly reducing the number of people affected by disasters, and achieving universal health coverage, among others.

Target 10.7 of the Agenda in particular calls upon governments to "facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies". This target provides greater impetus for governments to adopt "high-road" migration policies to promote dignified, orderly and safe migration for the benefit of all.

**Implementing the SDGs**

In taking full ownership of the 2030 Agenda, countries are expected to establish national frameworks for achieving the SDGs, as well as to translate the list of global SDG indicators into national ones, taking into consideration their specific context. They are likely to adapt and synchronise their policies and strategies to the commitments they have undertaken by adopting the 2030 Agenda, including through United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs)[13] and other national development plans, policies and strategies.

**Partnerships for SDGs**

National governments cannot act in isolation and the success of the 2030 Agenda relies on partnerships with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society, local and regional authorities, international organizations, etc. These actors should take full advantage of the various fora available to share good practices and discuss challenges related to the implementation of the SDGs.

12 IOM IDM Second 2016 Workshop "Follow-up and review of migration in the SDGs", 11-12 October 2016, Geneva. The IDM is IOM's principal platform for policy dialogue, and in 2016 it focuses on migration in the SDGs.

13 UNDAFs are expected to be called United Nations Sustainable Development Frameworks in the near future, to be more closely aligned with SDGs.

Regional level actors will be instrumental in the implementation and review of the SDGs, including within migration context. The UN RECs have been mandated to assist Member States[14] in integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development, to provide technical support for SDG implementation, and to facilitate effective follow-up and review.[15]

International organizations are also expected to develop tools and guidance to assist countries achieve the various goals and targets. For instance, in line with SDG 10.7 on well-managed migration policies, IOM Member States endorsed IOM's Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF),[16] to date the only internationally agreed definition of planned and well-managed migration governance. Based on this definition, a policy-benchmarking framework, the Migration Governance Index (MGI)[17] has been developed to offer insights on policy "levers" that countries can pursue to strengthen their migration strategies and policies.

The Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Initiative "Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster"[18] is also a useful tool for implementing and advancing commitments under the 2030 Agenda, including: (a) contributing to achieving well-managed migration policies; (b) building resilient communities and disaster risk reduction; (c) reducing the impact of humanitarian crises; (d) empowering vulnerable groups, including migrants; and (e) recognizing the positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development.

**Means of implementation**

A core feature of the 2030 Agenda are the "means of implementation" – the interdependent mix of financial resources, technology development and transfer, capacity-building, inclusive and equitable globalization and trade, regional integration, as well as the creation of a national enabling environment required to implement the SDGs, including data, monitoring and accountability, policy and institutional coherence, and multi-stakeholder partnerships.

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda[19] provides a foundation for implementing the 2030 Agenda by addressing all sources of finance, and covering cooperation on a range of issues including technology, science, innovation, trade and capacity-building. As part of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the countries commit to pursuing policy coherence and an enabling environment at national and international level, agree to an array of measures aimed at widening the revenue base, improving tax collection, and combatting tax evasion and illicit financial flows, and reaffirm their commitment to official development assistance to be directed to support sustainable development. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda recognises the importance of science, technology and innovation for sustainable development and proposes measures for the transfer of environmentally-friendly, resource-efficient technology and more effective knowledge transfer.

**Follow-up and review**

The 2030 Agenda envisages a multi-layered follow-up mechanism to **review the progress made on SDG targets** over the next fourteen years, based on regular, voluntary and inclusive country-led reviews at the national level feeding into reviews at the regional and global levels. At the global level, the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) will have

14 UN GA Resolution of 21 October 2015 A/RES/70/1 "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", paragraphs 80, 81 and 85.

15 "Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: The Role of the Regional Commissions" (2015), http://www.regionalcommissions.org/Agenda2030p.pdf.

16 Resolution C/106/RES/1310 "Migration Governance Framework" adopted on 24 November 2015 by the Council at its 106th Session.

17 "Measuring well-governed migration. The 2016 Migration Governance Index". A Study by The Economist Intelligence Unit commissioned by the IOM (2016), https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/EIU-Migration-Governance-Index-20160429.pdf.

18 https://micicinitiative.iom.int/sites/default/files/document/micic_guidelines_english_web_13_09_2016.pdf

19 A/CONF.227/L.1 "Outcome document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development: Addis Ababa Action Agenda", 13 - 16 July 2015.

the central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes.[20] In addition to regular reviews of country-level implementation, HLPF will also hold a number of yearly thematic reviews on cross-cutting aspects of the 2030 Agenda in order to illustrate the Agenda's integrated nature. The themes should cover the whole agenda within a four-year cycle.

While the follow-up and review mechanisms have been outlined at the global and national levels, at the regional level, UN Member States are encouraged to identify the most suitable regional or sub-regional fora and formats for such review that can contribute to the follow-up and review at the HLPF, recognizing the need to avoid duplication.[21]

## The role of UN Regional Economic Commissions in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

The United Nations Regional Commissions (UN RECs) have been mandated to assist Member States in integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental), provide technical support for SDG implementation through effective leveraging of the necessary resources, and facilitate effective follow-up and review. Such mandate was entrusted to the UN RECs given their universal coverage, convening power, intergovernmental nature and strength, broad-based cross-sectoral mandate, and experience in mobilizing regional consensus on key intergovernmental agreements.

The UN RECs are collectively articulating new strategies and action plans to prioritize support to UN Member States in cooperation with the UN development system towards the attainment of the SDGs. They offer Member States forums to: "**(a)** forge regional voices on the global agenda; **(b)** promote a balanced integration for sustainable development; **(c)** support South-South cooperation and sustaining the rise of middle-income countries; **(d)** help create a solid follow-up and review architecture for the 2030 Agenda; **(e)** strengthen national capacity to harness the data revolution; **(f)** promote multi-stakeholder partnerships and policy coherence; **(g)** coordinate the United Nations system at the regional level."[22]

The UN RECs support Member States in integrating SDGs into their national development planning and fiscal frameworks thus promoting policy coherence, consistency and coordination at the regional level. They provide countries with "one-stop shops" for advice on how to facilitate integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and offer technical cooperation to implement the SDGs at the regional, sub-regional and country implementation level.

They support Member States' statistical capacities towards implementation of the 2030 Agenda, help to identify and promote alternative and innovative sources of financing for development, and leverage science, technology and innovation in support of the 2030 Agenda.

With respect to translating regional models into global public goods, the UN RECs have contributed to many SDG-related outputs, such as legally binding intergovernmental agreements, norms and standards, good practice guidelines including for transport, trade facilitation, environment,

20 The HLPF will meet every year under the auspices of the UN ECOSOC, and every four years at the level of Heads of State and Government.

21 UN GA Resolution A/70/L.60 of 26 July 2016 "Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level", paragraph 10, http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/L.60&Lang=E.

22 "The United Nations Regional Commissions and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Moving to Deliver on a Transformative and Ambitious Agenda" (2015), http://www.unescobkk.org/fileadmin/user_upload/efa/TWG/39th_TWG/RECs_and_the_2030_Agenda.pdf.

sustainable energy, housing and statistics.[23] Such products are well attuned to the development needs of their respective regions and can act as models for similar approaches in other regions; in many cases they have become global public goods available for all UN Member States and are used increasingly all over the world.

## The Role of other regional actors in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

### *i. The role of Regional Economic Organizations*

The 2030 Agenda provides an opportunity for regional economic organizations to support their Member States in their effective implementation, follow up and review of the SDGs. They can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete actions at the national level and promote convergence in policy and legislation among their Member States.

Regional organizations can contribute to strengthening sustainable and responsive democratic processes in their regions and ensuring their members accountability and effective implementation of global commitments. This represents an additional layer of accountability over existing national checks and balances.

Regional organizations' existing structures can be used effectively to monitor SDGs implementation at the national level and accountability thereof, while at the same time ensuring national ownership and leadership of the review processes (e.g. the African peer review mechanism — a self-monitoring instrument voluntarily agreed to by the African Union Member States — could be used to carry out periodic reviews of the progress towards achieving the SDGs).

### *ii. The role of ISCMs in supporting the implementation of the migration-related targets in the 2030 Agenda*

ISCMs are important mechanisms to promote inter-state policy dialogue, cooperation and partnership on migration issues at the regional, interregional or global level. ISCMs already contribute to the attainment of the migration-related SDG targets, implement projects and encourage governments to elaborate legislation or policies that tackle issues addressed by the SDGs.

Most ISCMs focus on migration policies and thus can contribute to planned and well-managed migration policies (SDG target 10.7) in their respective regions. Numerous IRFs/RCPs focus on migration and development; others on labour migration (SDG target 8.8); counter-trafficking (SDG targets 5.2/8.7/16.2); and other areas of migration management linked to a SDG target. **Annex 2** includes a table of ISCM areas of focus of relevance for SDGs.

In the coming years, IRFs and RCPs can support attainment of the SDGs through the below suggested actions:

- Provide a platform for Member States to discuss regional challenges and opportunities in their implementation of migration aspects of the SDGs.
- Revisit their existing strategies, areas of focus, workplan and programmes to reflect the new sustainable development goals and align their respective focus and strategies to relevant SDGs.
- Plan and implement projects, activities and research in support of the implementation of those SDGs close to their area of focus.

23 For example UNECE's conventions and standards on population, environment, trade facilitation, transport, statistics, economic cooperation and integration, sustainable energy, trade, forestry and timber, and housing and land management are available for UN Member States (http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/1501960_E_ECE_INF_2015_2_WEB.pdf). Another example is UNECLAC's Damage and Loss Assessment Methodology (DALA) for disaster assessment (https://www.gfdrr.org/damage-loss-and-needs-assessment-tools-and-methodology), which is applied globally.

- Promote legislation and policies in support of SDGs at the regional and national level; contribute to the harmonization of the legislation of their participating states, and promote convergent policy approaches in their respective regions.
- Build capacities of respective member states, conduct experience exchange, implement peer-learning and peer-review mechanisms.
- Collect data, conduct research, and produce reports, which can be included in national or regional reviews, reported at relevant regional forums, or feed into relevant reviews at HLPF.
- Connect the migration/development discussions and bring the "migration perspective" to discussions in other regional bodies.
- Seek and enter into partnerships towards SDG attainment with other actors at the regional level.

Given the importance of partnerships for the attainment of SDGs, those RCPs / IRFs, which are formally associated with regional economic organizations or regional economic communities can avail of the frameworks of the latter to contribute to attainment of SDGs, and elaborate, adopt and implement decisions in this respect. Similarly, those IRFs and RCPs, which are stand-alone processes, can greatly benefit from partnership with regional economic organizations to promote common initiatives and projects and implement common decisions.

## Issues to be addressed during the Sixth Global RCP Meeting

The following questions could be addressed during the discussions.

- What new opportunities have been created for inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs) with the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda?
- What are the ISCMs already doing to achieve the migration-related targets?
- What are the gaps to be addressed? What can ISCMs do to (further) support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?
- What is needed in order to support the ISCMs' active involvement in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?
- What are the UN Regional Economic Commissions (UN RECs) doing to achieve the migration-related targets?
- What are the regional economic organizations doing to achieve the migration-related targets?
- Are there any existing partnerships between ISCMs and regional economic organizations and UN RECs?
- What are the areas where ISCMs can partner with UN RECs to support the implementation of the migration-related targets?
- What are the areas where ISCMs can partner with regional economic organizations to support the implementation of the migration-related targets?
- What steps are needed for such partnerships?

## Guiding questions for sessions' discussion

**Session 1.**

- How can inter-state consultation mechanisms on migration contribute to the implementation of the migration-related SDG targets in the 2030 Agenda at the national and regional levels?
- How can partnerships on migration aspects of SDGs be strengthened and what can be the place of the inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration in multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development?

**Session 2.**

- What is the position of the ISCMs on the role that they can play in realizing the migration-related targets in the 2030 Agenda?
- Have the inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration revisited their respective programmes / strategies to reflect the new sustainable development goals?
- How inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration contribute to the implementation of the migration-related SDG targets in the 2030 Agenda at the national and regional levels?
- What are the challenges faced in this process?
- What are the gaps and the needs?
- What are the differences between IRFs / RCPs formally associated with regional economic organizations and IRFs / RCPs that are stand-alone processes?

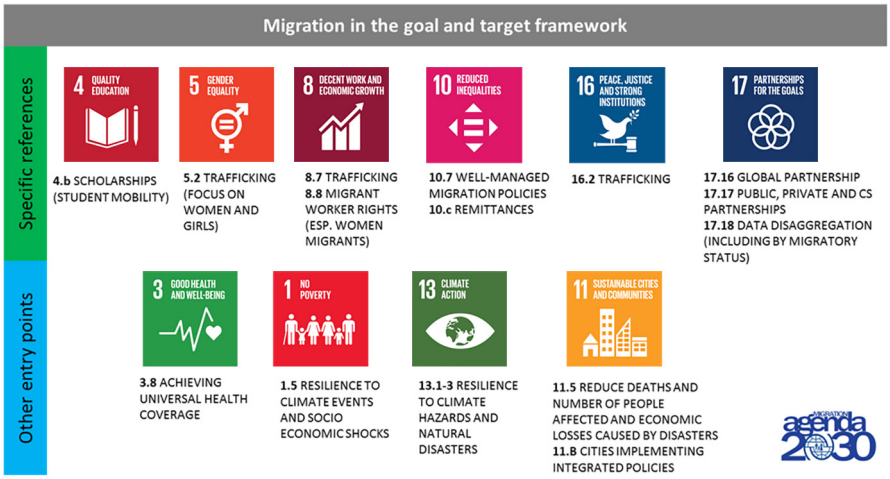
**Session 3.**

- What are the areas for ISCMs to cooperate (or enhance existing cooperation) with UN RECs on the implementation of migration-related targets?
- What steps are needed to start cooperation or enhance the existing cooperation between UN RECs and ISCMs?
- What are the areas for ISCMs to cooperate (or enhance existing cooperation) with regional economic organizations on the implementation of migration-related targets? What are the related challenges?

## Annex 1. Migration-related targets in "Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"

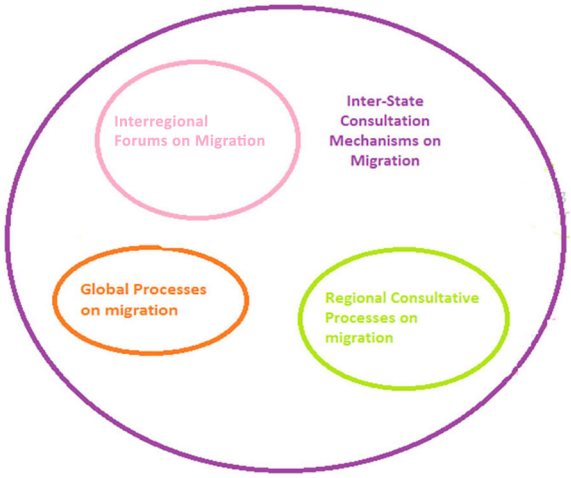
The Sustainable Development Goals are contained in paragraph 54 United Nations Resolution A/RES/70/1 of 25 September 2015.

**HOW MIGRATION IS REFLECTED IN THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**




* This is an indicative list of migration-related targets, not an exhaustive one.

## Annex 2. Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration




**Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on migration** (ISCM) are state-led, ongoing information-sharing and policy dialogue forums on the regional, interregional or global level for those States with an interest in promoting cooperation in the field of migration.

**Regional Consultative Processes on migration** (RCP) are state-led, ongoing, regional information-sharing and policy dialogue meetings dedicated to discussing specific migration issue(s) in a cooperative manner among States from an agreed (usually geographical) region, and may either be officially associated with formal regional institutions, or be informal and non-binding.

**Interregional Forums on migration** (IRFs) are state-led, ongoing, information-sharing and policy dialogue meetings on migration, usually connecting two or more regions, and may either be officially associated with formal interregional institutions, or be informal and non-binding.

**Global Processes on migration** are policy dialogue forums on migration at the global level. They may discuss overall migration governance at the global level, or be theme specific and look at the interlinkages between migration and other areas, e.g. development, labour, etc.

### *List of Major Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration per Region*[24]

| Regional Consultative Processes on Migration | |
|---|---|
| **Eurasia** | **Almaty Process on Refugee Protection and International Migration**<br>**Budapest Process**<br>**Prague Process** |
| **Middle East** | Arab Regional Consultative Process on migration (ARCP) |
| **Africa** | Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) RCP<br>Migration Dialogue for Central African States (MIDCAS)<br>Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA)<br>Migration Dialogue from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa Member States (MIDCOM)<br>Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA) |
| **Asia** | Regional Consultative Process Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process) |
| **Americas** | Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC)<br>Regional Conference on Migration (Puebla Process)<br>South American Conference on Migration (SACM) |

| Interregional Forums on Migration | |
|---|---|
| **Americas – the Caribbean – Europe** | Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development (FIBEMYD) |
| **Asia – Europe** | The Asia – European Union Meeting's (ASEM) Conference of the Directors General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows<br>Asia - EU Dialogue on Labour Migration |
| **Asia – Middle East** | Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment RCP (Abu Dhabi Process) |
| **Africa – Europe** | EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative (Khartoum Process)<br>5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean<br>Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process) |
| **Europe – Africa – Pacific and Caribbean States** | African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) – European Union (EU) Dialogue on Migration |
| **Europe – Australasia – North America** | Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC) |
| **Europe – Asia – North America – South Africa** | Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime |
| **Intra-African** | Intraregional Forum on Migration in Africa (Pan-African Forum on Migration) |
| **Intra-Asian** | Association of Southeast Asian Nations' (ASEAN) Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML) |
| **Global Processes on Migration** | Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)<br>International Dialogue on Migration (IDM)<br>United Nations High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development |





24 Includes the main currently active processes.

***ISCM areas of focus of relevance for migration-related SDG targets[25]***

| SDG | Corresponding area of focus | ISCM |
|---|---|---|
| | Migration and development | 5+5 Dialogue on Migration<br>Almaty Process<br>ARCP<br>Budapest Process<br>COMESA RCP<br>FIBEMYD<br>IGAD RCP<br>MIDCAS<br>MIDSA<br>MTM<br>Prague Process<br>Puebla Process<br>Rabat Process<br>SACM<br>GFMD<br>IDM |
| | Migrant Rights | ACP-EU Dialogue<br>AFML<br>Almaty Process<br>ARCP<br>COMESA RCP<br>FIBEMYD<br>MISDA<br>Puebla Process<br>Rabat Process<br>SACM |
| | Migration and education | Asia EU Dialogue on Migration<br>ASEM Conference |
| | Counter-trafficking | ACP-EU Dialogue<br>AFML<br>Almaty Process<br>ASEM Conference<br>Asia-EU Dialogue on Labour Migration<br>Bali Process<br>Budapest Process<br>COMESA RCP<br>EU-LAC Dialogue<br>Khartoum Process<br>MIDWA<br>Rabat Process<br>SACM |

25 This is an indicative list, it is not exhaustive.

| SDG | Corresponding area of focus | ISCM |
|---|---|---|
| | Labour migration | 5+5 Dialogue on Migration<br>ACP-EU Dialogue<br>ADD<br>AFML<br>Almaty Process<br>ARCP<br>ASEM Conference<br>Asia-EU Dialogue on Labour Migration<br>Budapest Process<br>Colombo Process<br>COMESA RCP<br>EU-LAC Dialogue<br>FIBEMYD<br>MIDCAS<br>MIDSA<br>MIDWA<br>Prague Process<br>Rabat Process |
| | Migration policy | Almaty Process<br>ARCP<br>COMESA RCP<br>FIBEMYD<br>IGAD RCP<br>Pan-African Forum<br>Puebla Process<br>Rabat Process |
| | Remittances | ACP-EU Dialogue<br>Colombo Process<br>EU-LAC Dialogue<br>FIBEMYD<br>MIDWA |
| | Border management | ACP-EU Dialogue<br>EU-LAC Dialogue<br>IGC<br>MIDSA<br>Pan-African Forum<br>Puebla Process<br>Rabat Process |
| | Return, reintegration, readmissions | ACP-EU Dialogue<br>EU-LAC Dialogue<br>MIDCAS<br>MIDSA<br>MIDWA<br>Prague Process<br>Puebla Process<br>Rabat Process |
| <br> | Migrant integration | 5+5 Dialogue on Migration<br>Almaty Process<br>ARCP<br>Budapest process<br>IGC<br>MIDCAS<br>Puebla Process<br>Rabat Process<br>SACM |

| SDG | Corresponding area of focus | ISCM |
|---|---|---|
| | Irregular migration and Mixed migration flows | 5+5 Dialogue on Migration<br>Almaty Process<br>ARCP<br>ASEM Conference<br>COMESA RCP<br>EU-LAC Dialogue<br>IGC<br>Khartoum Process<br>MIDCAS<br>MIDSA<br>MTM<br>Pan African Forum<br>Prague Process<br>Rabat Process |
| | Asylum and refugees | Almaty Process<br>ACP-EU Dialogue<br>ARCP<br>Budapest process<br>IGC<br>Puebla Process<br>Rabat Process |
| | Partnerships (e.g. with Civil society, private sector) | Almaty Process<br>Puebla Process |
| | Migration data | 5+5 Dialogue on Migration<br>ARCP<br>COMESA RCP<br>EU-LAC Dialogue<br>IGC<br>MIDCAS<br>MIDWA<br>SACM |
| | Migration health | 5+5 Dialogue on Migration<br>Almaty Process<br>Colombo Process<br>COMESA RCP<br>MIDCAS<br>MIDSA<br>Puebla Process |
| | Migration, environment and climate change | Almaty Process<br>MIDCAS |

| SDG | Corresponding area of focus | ISCM |
|---|---|---|
| | Humanitarian emergency preparedness | Almaty Process<br>FIBEMYD |

## Annex 3. List of Regional Economic Organizations, United Nations Regional Economic Commissions and African Union Regional Economic Communities

**United Nations Regional Economic Commissions**

- UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
- UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC)
- UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
- UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)

**Regional Economic Organizations and Regional Economic Unions**

- African Economic Community
- Andean Community
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
- Association of Caribbean States (ACS)
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- Caribbean Community
- Central American Integration System (SICA)
- Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA)
- East African Community
- Eurasian Economic Commission
- European Economic Area
- Gulf Cooperation Council
- Latin American and the Caribbean Economic System (SELA)
- Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)
- South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)
- Southern Common Market / Mercado Común del Sur (Mercosur)
- Union of South American Nations (UNASUR)

**African Union Regional Economic Communities**

- Arab Maghreb Union (UMA)
- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) [MIDCOM is a pillar within the COMESA REC]
- Community of Sahel–Saharan States (CEN–SAD)
- East African Community (EAC)
- Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) [Migration Dialogue for Central Africa is a pillar within ECCAS]
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) [Migration Dialogue for West Africa RCP is a pillar within ECOWAS]
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) [Intergovernmental Authority on Development RCP is a pillar within the IGAD REC]
- Southern African Development Community (SADC) [Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa is a pillar within SADC]

GLOBAL
RCP
L. THOMPSON
W.L. SWING

BUDAPEST PROCESS

GLOBAL
RCP
MEETING
T. ATUKORALE
E. EL FERGANY
S. GUTIERREZ
N. GIORDANO
E. MARTEIL
65 YEARS
International Organization for Migration
6th Global RCP Meeting
Migration and Sustainable Development Goals:
the Role of Inter-state Consultation Mechanisms o
Migration & of Regional Economic Organizations
13 October 2016 – Geneva, Switzerland
T. MANUH
O. MAIYEGUN
T. SULEIMENOV
E. MARTEIL

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The UN Migration Agency