

Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration

Procedural Note for the First Informal Thematic Session:

“Human rights of all migrants, social inclusion, cohesion, and all forms of discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance”

**Geneva, 8-9 May 2017
Palais des Nations, Room XIX**

I. Introduction

In resolution A/RES/71/280 entitled “Modalities for the intergovernmental negotiations of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration”, the General Assembly requested the President of the General Assembly, with the support of the Secretary-General and by drawing on the expertise of the International Organization for Migration in particular, other members of the Global Migration Group and other relevant entities, to organize a series of informal thematic sessions on facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration that shall address, but not be limited to, the elements outlined in annex II, paragraph 8, of its resolution A/RES/71/1.

The first informal thematic session will address human rights of all migrants, social inclusion, cohesion and all forms of discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance.

II. Format

The informal thematic session will be held over the course of two days from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and from 3:00pm to 6:00pm and will be co-chaired by the co-facilitators. The session will include brief welcoming remarks, the presentation of the issue brief, three expert panels, a summary panel discussion, and closing remarks.

a. Welcoming remarks

The co-facilitators will make welcoming remarks presenting the informal thematic session (ten minutes).

b. Presentation of the issue brief

The Secretary-General of the intergovernmental conference will present the inter-agency issue brief for the informal thematic session.

c. Expert panels

Each expert panel will be moderated by a Member State, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly in accordance with paragraph 17 of resolution A/RES/71/280. The moderator will open and close each expert panel and ensure the interactive nature of the discussions. The opening remarks from the moderator will be of 7 minutes.

There will be three experts on each panel. Each expert will make a brief introductory presentation on the theme (five to seven minutes each). Panellists will be asked to briefly frame the issues to be discussed in their panel session, and to include in their remarks relevant facts and figures related to the scope of the issues to be discussed, highlight gaps in policy and implementation, and identify priorities for action.

The presentations of the panellists will be followed by an interactive discussion led by the moderator. During the discussions, delegations may ask questions and provide comments to the panellists or provide

brief observations on the theme. The limit for interventions from the floor is three minutes. There will not be a pre-inscribed speaker's list.

The interactive discussion will include alternating segments between Member States and panellists. Other accredited stakeholders may participate in accordance with resolution A/RES/71/280.

On taking the floor, all participants are encouraged to reflect on effective national, regional and international policies, key policy priorities, data collection and disaggregation (by age, sex and migratory status) as well as capacities for implementation. Participants are encouraged to provide examples of good practices and multi-stakeholder partnerships and to present actions and commitments to inform the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

The moderator will provide concluding remarks at the end of each panel (7 minutes), summarizing the main points discussed, any conclusions, and issues of major relevance to the interactive discussion.

The precise structure of each expert panel is outlined in the attached agenda.

d. Summary panel

At the conclusion of the three expert panels, a summary panel composed of the three moderators and a thematic expert will be co-chaired by the co-facilitators. The moderators of each panel will provide their perspectives of the various views expressed during their panel discussions (fifteen minutes each). The thematic expert will then provide remarks about the interlinkages and overarching themes between the panels, as well as offer ideas for further discussion, potential commitments to consider and options for ways forward (fifteen minutes). The co-facilitators will then open the floor to reactions and comments from Member States, who may in turn also ask questions and bring forward recommendations regarding the substantive topic of the informal thematic session.

e. Closing

At the conclusion of the summary panel, the co-facilitators will outline their main conclusions of the informal thematic session.

f. Side events

Side events may be organized during the lunch break (1:15pm to 2:45pm) or preceding or following the plenary sessions. Organizers of side events are responsible for making their own arrangements but are encouraged to coordinate their plans with the Office of the President of the General Assembly.

ANNEX I: Agenda

Day 1

Time	Concept	
10:00 – 10:15	Opening Segment: Welcoming remarks by the co-facilitators Remarks by the Secretary-General of the intergovernmental conference	
10:15 – 13:00	PANEL 1: Human rights of all migrants This panel would address issues relating to the human rights of all migrants with a focus on practical implementation of international norms, as well as identifying and analysing specific challenges at all stages of migration, including the needs of migrants in vulnerable situations.	
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch	Space for Side-Events
15:00 – 17:55	PANEL 2: Social inclusion and cohesion This panel will explore ways and means to promote social cohesion in destination societies. The panel would focus in particular on the promotion and protection of economic, social, political and cultural rights, including in respect of health, education, and adequate standard of living.	
17:50 – 18:00	Closing remarks by the Co-facilitators	

Day 2

Time	Concept	
10:00 – 10:05	Welcoming remarks by the co-facilitators	
10:05 – 13:00	PANEL 3: All forms of discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance This panel would examine ways to confront discrimination, racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance against migrants, including through national law that protects their rights, ensures equal access to justice, and through public discourse that supports a positive attitude towards migrants.	
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch	Space for Side-Events
15:00 – 17:30	SUMMARY PANEL: Synopsis of the main conclusions and outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moderators present the key recommendations resulting from their panels ▪ Thematic expert having followed both days provides a short overview of the main discussions ▪ Interactive exchange between, the moderators, the thematic expert and Member States on the outcomes of the session 	
17:30 – 17:50	Co-facilitators draw the main conclusions on the interlinkages and the overarching theme of the session	
17:50- 18:00	Closing remarks by the Co-facilitators	