



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

26 September 2017

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 15 September 2017 concerning the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations on issues related to the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, I have the pleasure to enclose herewith a note on the organization of work for the Sixth Informal Thematic Session titled "*Irregular migration and regular pathways, including decent work, labour mobility, recognition of skills and qualifications and other relevant measures*" which will take place on 12-13 October 2017 in Conference Room XIX at the United Nations Office at Geneva. A related note on the organizational arrangements of the session is also enclosed for your consideration.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Laščák', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Miroslav Laščák

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration

Sixth Informal Thematic Session:
“Irregular migration and regular pathways, including decent work, labour mobility,
recognition of skills and qualifications and other relevant measures”¹

Geneva, 12-13 October 2017
Palais des Nations, Conference room XIX

Organization of work

Day 1: Thursday, 12 October 2017

Time	Concept
10.00-10.15	<p>Opening segment</p> <p>Welcoming remarks by H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, President of the United Nations General Assembly</p> <p>Opening remarks by the co-facilitators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations▪ H.E. Mr. Juan José Gómez Camacho, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations <p>Remarks by Ms. Louise Arbour, Secretary-General of the intergovernmental conference</p>
10.15-13.00	<p>PANEL 1: Irregular migration and regular pathways</p> <p>This panel will examine ways of reducing the incidence of irregular migration, including through the promotion and expansion of safe, orderly and regular migration pathways. The panel will also share ways of analyzing consequences and effects of migration laws and policies, as well as innovative practices relating to family reunification, regularization, transition from informal to the formal economy, and labour market needs testing. The impacts of irregular migration in countries of origin, transit and destination will also be explored, as well as ways of addressing the consequences. The panel will highlight different human mobility arrangements implemented as part of planned and well-managed migration policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mr. Michael Clemens, Senior Fellow at Center for Global Development Economics▪ Mr. Nando Sigona, Senior Birmingham Fellow & Senior Lecturer Institute for Research into Superdiversity

¹ For further information, see:

- General concept note - Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. Phase I - consultations (April to November 2017) (<http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/member-states>)

- Procedural note and the SRSG's issues brief for the sixth thematic session (<https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/labour-mobility>)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Amalia Dolores García Medina, Secretary of labour and employment promotion at Mexico City Government <p>Moderator: H. E. Ms. Antje Leendertse, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations in Geneva and H.E. Mr. Mohamed Khaled Khiari, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations in New York</p>	
13.00-15.00	Lunch	Space for Side Events
15.00-18.00	<p>PANEL 2: Decent work and labour mobility</p> <p>This panel will discuss the promotion of labour migration that benefits societies of origin, transit and destination, and protects the rights of migrant workers and their families, particularly women, youth and those in precarious employment. The panel will examine ways to promote and facilitate regular labour mobility, including circular, temporary and permanent migration, including through bilateral and regional arrangements. It will further explore ways to safeguard and realize decent work for migrant workers to enhance the development outcomes for them and their families, as well as for countries of origin, transit and destination. The panel will focus on reducing the costs of labour migration, fair and ethical recruitment, comprehensive national labour migration policies aligned with international standards, and social protection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Ibrahim Awad, Professor, Director, Center for Migration and Refugee Studies, The American University in Cairo ▪ Ms. Jenna Hennebry, Director of the International Migration Research Centre (IMRC) at Wilfrid Laurier University ▪ Ms. Vicky Kanyoka, Africa Regional Coordinator at International Domestic Workers' Federation <p>Moderator: H.E. Mr. Ravinatha Pandukabhaya Aryasinha, Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in Geneva</p>	

Day 2: Tuesday, 25 July 2017

Time	Concept
10.00-13.00	<p>PANEL 3: Recognition of skills and qualifications and relevant measures</p> <p>This panel will discuss ways to address labour market needs and skills shortages at all skill levels in both countries of destination and origin, through regular pathways for migration. The panel will explore good practices for facilitating the interjurisdictional recognition and validation of qualifications, skills and competencies, as well as prior learning of migrant workers to ensure optimal mobility and matching of these skills to available jobs. This panel will further examine how public employment services, employers and the private sector, public-private partnerships, trade unions and other civil society actors can support skills mobility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Natasha Iskander, Associate Professor of Public Policy, New York University ▪ Ms. Lynn Shotwell, Executive Director for the Council for Global Immigration

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Mega Santoso, Vice-Chair of the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework Committee <p>Moderator: H.E. Mr. Michel Lastschenko, Special Envoy for Migration and Asylum of Belgium and H.E. Ms. Marta Maurás, Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations in Geneva</p>	
13.00-15.00	Lunch	Space for Side Events
15.00-17.50	<p>SUMMARY PANEL: Synopsis of the main conclusions and outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moderators present the key recommendations resulting from their panels ▪ Mr. Pablo Ceriani, Professor of Law and Coordinator of the Migration & Human Rights Program at the National University of Lanús and Vice-chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of Migrant Workers, thematic expert provides a short overview of the main discussions and the interlinkages between the panels ▪ Interactive exchange between the moderators, the thematic expert and Member States on the outcomes of the session 	
17.50-18.00	Closing remarks by the co-facilitators	

Organizational arrangements for the informal thematic session on “Irregular migration and regular pathways, including decent work, labour mobility, recognition of skills and qualifications and other relevant measures” to be held on 12 and 13 October 2017 in the United Nations Office at Geneva

A letter from the President of the General Assembly, on behalf of the co-facilitators and the Secretary-General for the intergovernmental conference, dated 15 September 2017, was sent to all permanent representatives and permanent observers which include:

- A general concept note
- A procedural note for the sixth thematic session
- The Inter-Agency issue brief for the sixth thematic session

All related information can be found on the website: <https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/labour-mobility>

Further details on organizational arrangements:

1. The thematic session will take place on 12 and 13 October in CR XIX at the United Nations Office in Geneva.
2. The co-facilitators are inviting all stakeholders for an informal dialogue on 13 October at 9:00 to 10:00 AM in CR XIX (invitation letter sent by the co-facilitators, dated 11 September 2017). Member States are welcome to attend. There will be no interpretation for this session.
3. All sessions (also the informal dialogue with the co-facilitators on 13 October at 9-10 AM) will be webcasted and recorded: <http://webtv.un.org/>
4. Member States will be seated in alphabetical order and will be allocated one seat at the table (plus one). Extra participants can be seated in the gallery along the sides or on the available “second” advisor seats on the floor (third row seats).
5. The remaining 30 table seats will be reserved for International Organizations and entities that have observer status, UN agencies and stakeholders (seated on a first-come, first-served basis). Two of the seats for stakeholders at the table will have a “reserved” sign and will be used by stakeholder representatives requesting the floor. The remaining 190 seats in the gallery are free seating.
6. Member States will be given speaking priority and will make their interventions from the floor. Time permitting other speakers will be invited for an intervention.
7. There will be no pre-established list of speakers. Speaking requests should be raised in the room. Delegations are encouraged to limit their interventions to three minutes.
8. Delegations and stakeholders can submit written inputs via email to gcmigration@un.org. Inputs will be uploaded to the website. Furthermore, delegations and stakeholders are kindly requested to forward any prepared written statements to Meetings Servicing Unit (alexis.dubouchet@un.org) for interpretation services.

9. All side event requests should be shared with the Office of the Secretary-General for the intergovernmental conference (gcmigration@un.org). There is a limited availability of rooms. Information on side events will be made available on the website.
10. All participants will need a UN ground pass to attend the meeting. Delegations and UN staff with a valid UN grounds pass for the UN headquarters in New York or Geneva can access the UN Office in Geneva with their pass at the Nations Gates or Pregny Gates and in the building by one of the open doors (door 6, 17 and 40). Participants coming from capitals should arrange their grounds pass via their missions based in Geneva. A note verbale stating the participants for the meeting must be provided to gcmigration@un.org in advance (deadline: 9 October). A valid photo ID is required to access the premises.
11. Stakeholders wishing to participate must be registered by 4 September (<https://www.un-ngls.org/index.php/global-compact-migration/apply-to-attend-thematic-sessions>). Those approved who do not possess a UN grounds pass will receive a special event pass. This pass can be picked up between 8 AM to 5PM at the Pregny Gates. Participants with a special event pass must present a national identification card or passport. There could be a bit of a wait so please arrive in due time prior to the start of the session.
12. This special event pass will also allow access to the multi-stakeholder hearing on 11 October.