

PANEL 1: Sustainable development and poverty eradication

As recognized by Agenda 2030, human mobility can be a catalyst for sustainable development and inclusive growth. From our own domestic perspective, we see immigration as fundamental building block of our future inclusive, socio-economic growth. From a global perspective, we also recognize the need for both donors and developing countries to better integrate migration considerations into development assistance programming.

How can we improve global cooperation to strengthen the migration-development nexus?

We would like to share four suggestions for the Global Compact.

- 1) Let's explore innovative mobility mechanisms that advance development objectives.** Economist, Dr. Michael Clemens, from the Centre for Global Development has been working on developing Global Skills Partnerships. These are bilateral public-private agreements to link skill creation and skill mobility in a mutually beneficial and equitable way. Such partnerships can lead to economic gains from skill mobility and the development of skill creation in origin countries. The Global Compact could advance the piloting such initiatives through bilateral agreements between sending and receiving countries as a concrete action.
- 2) The Compact should look at enhancing intra-regional mobility.** A number of regional organizations promote improved integration and mobility opportunities but we believe they could benefit from greater support to realise these policy objectives. According to a paper published by the African Development Bank, constraints to labor mobility in African sub-regions have negative impacts on migrants' well-being as well as on the poverty- and inequality-reducing potential of migration. Greater capacity building and technical support for regional or sub-regional bodies could leverage the benefits of migration for poverty eradication.
- 3) Through the Global Compact, member states should commit to developing national action plans to improve comprehensive migration systems.** Action plans could include an enhanced focus on mechanisms to link migration and economic development, for example by ensuring effective coordination between labour market and migration policies. Such action plans could also help identify gaps and need for international cooperation and support.
- 4) The global compact should recognise how gender affects migration experiences and outcomes.** Women's economic empowerment is a prerequisite for sustainable development and inclusive growth. The UK think-tank ODI in their 2016 policy brief, *Women on the Move*, makes a number of recommendations that could be used in the Global Compact, including improving monitoring and enforcement of labour standards, policies and legal frameworks for female migrant workers to ensure that women can benefit from the economic and social benefits of migration.

PANEL 2: Human-made crises as drivers of migration

We appreciate the focus of this panel discussion on preventing conflict and establishing inclusive, responsive governance. As Canada stated at the during the open debate in the Security Council on January 10, we need to strike a better balance between the considerable resources spent on peace operations and those supporting conflict prevention and sustaining peace, particularly at the field level.

In much the same way that we support a long-term view of migration, our collective action should focus on long-term investments for sustainable peace.

As noted in the Issue Brief, we recognize the complex relationships between drivers, such as conflict, resource scarcity, and environmental change. As IOM Director General Bill Swing has said, we must ensure that migration is a matter of choice and not necessity.

We would like to put forward four concrete recommendations for the Global Compact:

- 1) **The Global Compact should reaffirm the obligations of States and parties to armed conflicts to respect international humanitarian and human rights laws**, particularly in situations of widespread armed violence. Respect for these norms can reduce the forced displacement of people within their country or across borders. Respect for such rules can also diminish suffering and increase possibilities for voluntary, safe and dignified returns.
- 2) **International finance institutions, such as the World Bank and regional banks, have an important role to address complex drivers of forced migration.** We are encouraged to see greater investment by the World Bank in fragile and conflict affected states. We also strongly support migration and forced displacement lenses being applied to country and regional planning and programming. IFIs could play a key role in the implementation of Global Compact commitments by bridging data gaps, financing pilots, creating new financing approaches, and facilitating dialogue among states.
- 3) **The Global Compact could call on member states to develop national action plans to improve or build comprehensive migration systems.** Action plans could establish flexible migration policy tools to enable responses to the immediate humanitarian needs of migrants in vulnerable situations, in order to facilitate the provision of appropriate assistance. This could include processes for discretionary protection or regular status to be granted for those fleeing man-made crises.
- 4) **The voluntary Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) guidelines and principles should be promoted.** MICIC offers concrete recommendations to stakeholders at the local, national and regional levels on how to better prepare for and respond to crises in ways that protect and empower migrants. Guidelines should be integrated within national and regional frameworks for preparing for, and responding to complex emergencies as well as natural disasters.

PANEL 3: Adverse effects of climate change and natural disasters as drivers of migration

Climate change, extreme weather, and environmental degradation will have important impacts on global migration over the coming decades.

We have an opportunity, through the Global Compact on Migration, to consider and promote collective measures and approaches that will help tackle environmental drivers of forced displacement which can lead to internal displacement and cross-border movement; increase assistance to the most vulnerable; and where feasible, facilitate mobility as a positive adaptation strategy.

We have four recommendations for the Global Compact:

- 1) **We need to identify existing mechanisms as well as policy gaps.** As an international community, we have made a number of important commitments to climate change, sustainable development and migration. These include: the Paris Agreement, SDGs, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Platform for Disaster Displacement, but also regional tools and resources such as the Guide to effective practices for member countries of the Regional Conference on Migration, for the protection of persons moving across borders in the context of disasters. The Global Compact should weave these together to create a more coherent approach to climate-induced human mobility.
- 2) **Member states should provide more support for research on climate-change-induced migration.** This recommendation has been made by the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights, Francois Crépeau. Greater research could identify complex drivers of environmental migration, identify populations that are vulnerable and develop appropriate national and regional strategies. Better data collection, through tools such as IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix, could also be useful in this regard. Research and data collection could be built into Global Compact national action plans based on the gaps.
- 3) **Let's engage more with cities in ensuring effective response to increasing disaster risks.** Climate change and environmental displacement can have a significant impact on urban centres. Greater efforts are needed to connect municipal administrators, community leaders and urban planners across the globe to discuss how to address disaster displacement, particularly in hazard prone areas in at-risk countries.
- 4) **Finally, the Compact could endorse migration as an adaptive strategy to climate change.** This will not apply to all contexts; however, in some situations voluntary migration can lessen the risk of displacement by reducing exposure to climate hazards and could be managed through national migration systems. This could be facilitated by expanding regular migration opportunities offered as part of more planned and comprehensive national migration systems.

PANEL 4: Summary Panel

Canada would like to thank the Co-Facilitators, SRSG Louise Arbour, as well as the moderators and panelists, for their work in preparing and supporting this Second Thematic Consultation.

Looking back at the last two days, it is evident **there is broad consensus among member states and civil society to reinforce existing frameworks** on sustainable development, peace building, human rights, climate change and disaster responses, and ensuring their effective implementation to tackle and prevent the negative drivers of forced migration. As IOM DG Swing said yesterday, migration should be driven by choice, not necessity.

This Second Thematic also brought to light the **need for the Compact to take note of the complexity of forced migration** and the linkages between **internal displacement** and the push and pull factors that can lead to subsequent **cross border movements**.

Compared to our last meeting in Geneva earlier this month, Canada notes and welcomes the efforts made in this session to ensure a more **inclusive discussion** by allocating more time slots to civil society organizations.

As we work towards a Global Compact that will strengthen safe, regular and orderly migration pathways, we hope that we can all focus on **concrete, action-oriented recommendations** in the next consultations that can be included for consideration in the Co-Facilitators' zero draft, and generate new tangible, collaborative actions and pilots. We also continue to support the idea that **the GCM could be accompanied by national plans of action** allowing to measure progress against voluntary commitments.

Thank you.