

Regional Consultation on International Migration in the Arab Region

In preparation for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

UN House, Beirut, 26-27 September 2017

Programme

Day One: Tuesday 26 September 2017	
08:30-09:00	Registration of Participants
09:00-09:30	<p>Opening Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Mohamed Ali Alhakim, Under-Secretary-General, and Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) ▪ Mr. William Lacy Swing, Director General, International Organization for Migration (IOM) ▪ Ms. Enas El Fergany, Director, Refugees, Expatriates and Migration Affairs Department, General Secretariat of the League of Arab States (LAS) ▪ Mr. Jürg Lauber, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations, Co-facilitator of the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations on the GCM ▪ Ms. Louise Arbour, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for International Migration, Secretary-General of the Intergovernmental Conference on International Migration
09:30-10:45	<p>Session One: Setting the scene: The Global Compact for Migration and the Regional Context This session will present the context for regional and international cooperation on migration. It will introduce the New York Declaration and the Global Compact for Migration and their relation to other global frameworks such as the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It will provide an overview of the drivers, trends and patterns of migration in the Arab region. This session will also serve to present key outcomes of regional consultations and meetings, including the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugee Affairs (ARCP), the Abu Dhabi Dialogue, and regional civil society consultations.</p> <p>Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Jaouad Dequieuc, Director of Cooperation, Research and Sectoral Coordination, Ministry Delegate to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, in charge of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs, Morocco (co-chair of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, 2017-2018) <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Bela Hovy, Chief of the Migration Section, Population Division, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>International Migration and Development: Past, Present, Future</i> ▪ Mr. Hassan Abdel Moneim Mostafa, Senior Regional Adviser for North Africa and the Middle East, International Organization for Migration (IOM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Drivers of Migration in the Arab Region</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Karima El Korri, Chief, Population and Social Development Section, Social Development Division. ESCWA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>International migration trends and patterns: the Arab regional context</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Lobna Azzam, Refugees, Expatriates and Migration Affairs Department, General Secretariat of the League of Arab States (LAS) on behalf of the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugee Affairs (ARCP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Key messages from the July 2017 Extraordinary Meeting of the ARCP in preparation for the consultations on the GCR and GCM</i> ▪ Mr. Alex Zalami, on behalf of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Key messages from the Abu Dhabi Dialogue to the GCM process</i> ▪ Mr. Charles Nasrallah, Director of “Insan”, on behalf of the MENA Civil Society Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Outcome of the August 2017 Civil Society Regional Consultation</i>
10:45	Group Photo
10:45-11:15	Coffee Break
11:15-13:15	<p>Session Two: Decent Work and Labour Mobility <i>(in collaboration with ILO Regional Office for Arab States)</i></p> <p>The second session discusses decent work and labour mobility in the Arab States. It attempts to capture the dynamic nature of labour mobility affecting the region, including the large numbers of mainly low-skilled and low-wage migrant workers from outside the region, labour mobility within the region, as well as from the region. It identifies a number of the key issues and challenges concerning migrant worker recruitment, including related issues such as pre-departure orientation, provision of reliable information, and skills development and recognition; decent working conditions for migrants; the situation of those migrant workers who fall into situations of irregularity; and the governance of labour mobility, both nationally and across key labour migration corridors.</p> <p>Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Naser Al Hayn, Plenipotentiary, Assistant Foreign Minister for International Organizations Affairs, Kuwait <p>Presenter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Ryszard Cholewinski, Senior Migration Specialist, Regional Office for Arab States, ILO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Key issues, opportunities and challenges of labour mobility in the Arab region</i> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Anne-Marie El-Hage, Journalist, Lebanon <p>Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Alex Zalami, Adviser to the Minister, Ministry of Human Resources & Emiratisation, United Arab Emirates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Coordination on labour migration between destination and origin countries</i> ▪ Mr. Ausamah Al Absi, CEO, Bahrain Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), Bahrain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Flexible visa and worker mobility</i> ▪ Ms. Touriya Lahrech, Head of the Women's Committee, Arab Trade Union Confederation (ATUC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Challenges of migrant worker protection in the region and ways forward</i> ▪ Ms. Dina Khayyat, Vice Chair, Jordan Garments, Accessories, and Textiles Exporters Association (JGATE), Jordan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Ensuring fair recruitment of migrant garment sector workers in Jordan</i> <p>Discussion</p>
13:15-14:30	Lunch Break

14:30-16:00	<p>Session Three: Protection of Migrants in Vulnerable Situations</p> <p>This session focuses on protecting migrants in vulnerable situations. The discussion will highlight key issues relevant to the human rights of all migrants, irrespective of their migration status, social inclusion and cohesion, and all forms of discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance. This session will identify vulnerabilities, existing protection systems in the Arab region and the protection gaps and needs, as well as the appropriate policy responses to address and respond to vulnerabilities before, during and after the migration process.</p>
Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Youssef Abu Bakr Beshir, Minister of State for Migrants and Displaced Affairs, Libya
Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Michele Klein-Solomon, Senior Policy Adviser to the Director General, IOM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Migrants in vulnerable situations, including in crises</i> ▪ Ms. Gamalat Al Aghbari, Director General of Data and Information, Ministry of Water and Environment, Yemen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Migrants in vulnerable situations in Yemen</i>
Discussion	

Day Two: Wednesday, 27 September 2017

09:00-10:30	<p>Session Four: Migration and Development, Remittances and Links with SDGs</p> <p>This session addresses the importance of human mobility for development in the Arab region, exploring the complex inter-linkages between migration and development within the framework of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. It will showcase examples of policies on diaspora engagement and migrant empowerment and inclusion to guide the formulation of recommendations on how to maximize the positive development impacts of migration. The discussion will also focus on dynamics of remittances and their macroeconomic and microeconomic impact on poverty alleviation in countries of origin will be highlighted.</p>
Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Limiaa Abdelgafar Khalfalla, Secretary General, National Population Council, Sudan
Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Roberto Gil Cancel Comas, Regional Labour Mobility and Human Development Specialist, Regional Office Cairo, International Organization for Migration (IOM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>The migration and development nexus in the Arab region</i> ▪ Mr. Saber Suleiman, Assistant to the Minister on Institutional Development and Expatriate Affairs, Ministry of Immigration and Expatriate Affairs, Egypt ▪ Mr. Nasser Youssef, Member of Board of Directors, Syrian International Business Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>The role of the Syrian International Business Association (SIBA) in managing Syrian migrants in host countries</i>
Discussion	
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-12:30	<p>Session Five: International and Regional Cooperation and Migration Governance</p> <p>The fifth session is dedicated to addressing the role of regional and international cooperation and the promotion of good migration governance. It will identify ways to strengthen dialogue and partnerships between governments, CSOs, the private sector, employers' and workers' organizations, and international and regional organizations. It will also discuss how international cooperation can build capacity in migration governance and what role civil society and the private sector could have especially in migration data collection, analysis and dissemination, promoting investments in countries of origin, and engaging diaspora communities. Promising practices of Arab countries and beyond the region would also serve as basis to identify ways to maintain dialogue and cooperation.</p>

<p>Chair</p> <p>Speakers</p> <p>Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Mohamed Ghoneim, Deputy Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs on Migration, Refugees and Counter Trafficking, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt ▪ Mr. Ibrahim Awad, Director, Center for Migration and Refugee Studies, School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, The American University in Cairo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Migration Governance: Global, regional and national dimensions</i> ▪ Mr. Jimmy Doueihy, Head of Migration Department, Ministry Of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Lebanon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>ARCP as an inter-governmental mechanism to facilitate policy dialogue in the Arab region</i>
<p>12:30-14:30</p>	<p>Lunch Break</p>
<p>14:30-16:30</p> <p>Co-chairs</p>	<p>Presentation of Key Messages of the Regional Consultation and Open Discussion</p> <p>The outcome document of the Regional Consultation will summarize the main messages from the two-day discussions and will inform the global preparatory process of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. It will set out the Arab region’s priorities and recommendations for the Global Compact on Migration (GCM) and will highlight the main messages to the Member States and other major stakeholders participating in the negotiations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TBD
<p>16:30-17:00</p>	<p>Closing Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Jürg Lauber, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations, Co-facilitator of the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations on the GCM ▪ Ms. Enas El Fergany, Director, Refugees, Expatriates and Migration Affairs Department, General Secretariat of the League of Arab States (LAS) ▪ Ms. Carmela Godeau, Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) ▪ Mr. Mohamed Ali Alhakim, Under-Secretary-General, and Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)