



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

14 July 2017

Excellency,

In accordance with paragraph 30 of the General Assembly resolution A/RES/71/280 on the modalities for the intergovernmental negotiations of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, I will convene the first informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing as part of the preparatory process, on 26 July 2017 United Nations Headquarters, New York. The hearing will take place in Trusteeship Council Chamber.

Representatives of Member States, observers of the General Assembly, national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles, parliaments, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as accredited civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector are invited to attend. The interactive hearing will provide participants with an opportunity to contribute constructively to the preparations for the intergovernmental conference on international migration and the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

I am pleased to enclose herewith, for your consideration, a note containing further information on the hearing, including the provisional agenda.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Thomson'.

Peter Thomson

To all Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

First informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing

Preparatory process for the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration and the intergovernmental conference on international migration

26 July 2017

Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ New York

Background

In accordance with paragraph 30 of the General Assembly resolution A/RES/71/280, the President of the General Assembly is organizing a series of informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearings as part of the preparatory process for the intergovernmental conference on international migration to adopt the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

The first informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing will be organized at the United Nations in New York on 26 July 2017.

All information related to the preparatory process of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration and the intergovernmental conference on international migration is made available online at <http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/migration-compact>

Objectives and expected outcomes

The President of the General Assembly will issue a summary of the hearing. This summary will be made available as an input for the intergovernmental negotiations on the global migration compact.

The first hearing will focus on the issues addressed in the first four informal thematic sessions, held by the General Assembly between May and July 2017.

The Secretary-General's issue briefs prepared for these four thematic sessions provide insight, food for thought and recommendations on the topics to be discussed during the hearing. In addition, participants are encouraged to consult the summaries of the four informal thematic sessions prepared by the co-facilitators, who are leading the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations, in particular the areas they identified as needing further discussion.

Issue briefs and summaries of thematic sessions are available online at <http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/thematic-sessions>.

Participation

The hearing is intended for representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, diaspora groups, migrant organizations and the private sector, which are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or have received a special accreditation to participate in the preparatory process.

In addition, the hearing is intended for representatives of parliaments and national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles.

Member States are invited and encouraged to participate in the hearing.

Structure of the hearing

The informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing will consist of an opening and a closing segment and four interactive panel discussions. The themes of the panel discussions are consistent with the four informal thematic sessions held by the General Assembly between May and July 2017.

A detailed programme of the hearing is enclosed.

Each panel discussion will feature short introductory remarks from the moderator, followed by remarks of each of the panelists and an interactive exchange with interventions from the floor. Each panel will be guided by a set of suggested topics for discussion, as contained in the enclosed detailed programme.

The selection of panelists and moderators takes into account regional and gender considerations, with a diversity of expertise and ages.

Panelists, moderators as well as speakers from the floor are encouraged to focus their statements on concrete recommendations for the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

Interventions from the floor will be strictly limited to three minutes.

There will be no formal list of speakers for the hearing.

Stakeholder representatives interested in making a statement are invited to express their interest immediately prior to the beginning of the meeting or by requesting the floor from their seat.

Member States interested in making an interactive intervention in the hearing are encouraged to contact Ms. Elina Lemmetty-Hartoneva at the Office of the President of the General Assembly (lemmetty@un.org).

Logistical arrangements

Stakeholders wishing to participate must have applied to attend this session by 20 June. Those approved who do not possess a UN Grounds Pass will receive a special event ticket. Instructions for picking up these tickets will be emailed to applicants approved for attendance.

Approved participants must present a national identification card or passport to receive their special event ticket and to access the UN Headquarters.

Entry into the UN Trusteeship Council Chamber for stakeholders will be provided through the 3rd floor.

This special event ticket will also allow access to the fourth thematic session, which will be organized on 24-25 July 2017.

Requests for side events should be shared with 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.

First informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing

Preparatory process for the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration and the intergovernmental conference on international migration

26 July 2017

Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ New York

Time	Morning Meeting
10.00	<p>Opening of the Informal Interactive Multi-stakeholder Hearing</p> <p>Opening remarks by the President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson</p> <p>Statement of the Secretary-General of the intergovernmental conference on international migration, Ms. Louise Arbour</p>
10.15-11:35	<p>Panel 1: Human rights of all migrants</p> <p>Human rights of all migrants, social inclusion, cohesion and all forms of discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance</p> <p><i>Suggested topics to be addressed:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>How can the international community move forward from acknowledging the link between protecting the human rights of migrants and the recognition of migration and mobility as a key to sustainable development in the SDGs?</i>• <i>How to support Member States grapple with protecting national borders while at the same time protecting the rights of migrants, acknowledging this is not a zero-sum game?</i>• <i>What are practical measures/best practices that can be implemented/replicated on social inclusion of migrants which engages the entire community to counter xenophobia and discrimination?</i> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ms. Raísa Ortiz Cetra, Member of the International Work Team, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales Asociación Civil▪ Mr. Marc Schenker, Professor, University of California, Davis▪ Mr. Dennis Sinyolo, Senior Coordinator, Education International <p>Moderator: Mr. Craig Mokhiber, Director of the New York Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</p> <p>Interactive discussion with interventions from the floor</p>
11.40-13.00	<p>Panel 2: Drivers of migration</p> <p>Addressing drivers of migration, including adverse effects of climate change, natural disasters and human-made crises, through protection and assistance, sustainable development, poverty eradication, conflict prevention and resolution</p> <p><i>Suggested topics to be addressed:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What are the linkages between drivers of migration and development and how can these be addressed, building on existing international instrument such as the 2030 Agenda, to strengthen the positive contributions of</i>

	<p><i>migration to development?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Given that drivers of irregular migration occur in both the country of origin and country of destination, how can the complex interrelationship between drivers be addressed holistically, at the international, regional, national, and local levels?</i> • <i>Recognising that migration can be an adaptation strategy for persons compelled to migrate due to environmental drivers/climate change, what mechanisms could be put in place to address their needs, including temporary, circular or permanent migration?</i> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Alice Thomas, Climate Displacement Program Manager, Refugees International ▪ Mr. Jonathan Crush, Professor, CIGI chair in global migration and development ▪ Ms. Wardarina, Programme Officer, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development <p>Moderator: Mr. Gregory Maniatis, Columbia University, MPI, Open Society Foundation, former senior advisor to SRSG Sutherland</p> <p>Interactive discussion with interventions from the floor</p>
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Time	Afternoon Meeting
15.00-16.20	<p>Panel 3: International cooperation and governance of migration</p> <p>International cooperation and governance of migration in all its dimensions, including at borders, on transit, entry, return, readmission, integration and reintegration</p> <p><i>Suggested topics to be addressed:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What are the practical and policy gaps where international cooperation on migration governance could further enhance the benefits of migration for countries of origin, transit, destination and migrants themselves?</i> • <i>What are examples of best practices of cooperation (bilateral, regional) that can help facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration including at borders, on transit, entry, return, readmission, integration, reintegration?</i> • <i>How could the existing platforms and mechanisms in migration governance be strengthened or transformed to be useful in implementing?</i> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Hannah Leach, Regional Analyst, Mixed Migration Platform ▪ Ms. Sophie Ogilvy, Senior Government Relations Advisor, De La Rue plc ▪ Representative of a parliament, TBC <p>Moderator: Ms. Michele Klein-Solomon, Senior Policy Advisor to the Director-General, IOM</p> <p>Interactive discussion with interventions from the floor</p>

16.25-17:45	<p>Panel 4: Contributions of migrants</p> <p>Contributions of migrants and diasporas to all dimensions of sustainable development, including remittances and portability of earned benefits</p> <p><i>Suggested topics to be addressed:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What are the key knowledge and data gaps on the relationship between migration and development?</i> • <i>How can contributions of migrants and diaspora to sustainable development be maximized?</i> • <i>How can remittances be leveraged for development?</i> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Najim Azahaf, Senior Project Manager, Bertelsmann Stiftung ▪ Ms. Sringatin, Chairperson of Indonesian Migrant Workers Union ▪ Ms. Stéphanie Winet, Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Business Mechanism Liaison Adviser, International Organisation of Employers <p>Moderator: Mr. Bela Hovy, Chief of Migration Section, UN DESA</p> <p>Interactive discussion with interventions from the floor</p>
17.50-18.00	<p>Closing of the Informal Interactive Multi-stakeholder Hearing</p> <p>Concluding remarks by H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations, co-facilitator of the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration</p> <p>Closing of the informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing by the President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson</p>