

**The role of inter-State
consultation mechanisms
on migration in the Global
Compact for Safe, Orderly
and Regular Migration**

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REVIEW

**The role of inter-State
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on migration in the Global
Compact for Safe, Orderly
and Regular Migration**



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List of abbreviations

Abu Dhabi Dialogue	Ministerial Consultation on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia
Bali Process	Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime
Colombo Process	Regional Consultative Process on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia
GRCP	Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISCM	inter-State consultation mechanism on migration
Khartoum Process	European Union-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative
Rabat Process	Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development
Puebla Process	Regional Conference on Migration
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

Executive summary

This review considers the role of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs) in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, with the aim of identifying their potential contribution to attainment of the commitments contained therein, together with the potential complementarities and added value of ISCM engagement in the Global Compact, recognizing their mostly regional and interregional nature.

The review is based on desktop research of existing documents and ISCM positions on the Global Compact, a survey and telephone interviews with ISCMs.

It builds on the recommendations arising from the [Seventh Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration \(GRCP7\) in 2017](#). It provides examples of the role played by ISCMs during the Global Compact process and considers the strengths and added value of such mechanisms in assisting their Member States to implement the Global Compact.

While the review is not exhaustive, it highlights good practices among the ISCMs surveyed. The total membership of those ISCMs is 160 States across all regions of the world.

The main findings and recommendations are intended to guide ISCMs when taking stock of existing initiatives and roles and planning their future engagement in the Global Compact. The findings show that the Global Compact has had an impact on the work of the majority of surveyed ISCMs, which have included it as an agenda item at their meetings or in their work programmes.

Two potential roles identified for ISCMs to support their Member States in Global Compact implementation at the national and regional levels are: acting as peer-to-peer platforms for the exchange of information and best practices; and building capacities of their Member States.

The review underscores that partnerships are an important tool for supporting implementation of the Global Compact. ISCMs already engage with other ISCMs and non-ISCM partners (intergovernmental organizations, United Nations Regional Commissions, civil society organizations, academia, etc.) in this regard. In addition, all actors should draw on good practices from implementation of the migration-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals for the implementation of the Global Compact.

The review also considers the obstacles that may limit the potential engagement of ISCMs in the implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact. For example, ISCM Member States may not prioritize migration governance issues; some ISCMs may not be mandated to pursue Global Compact-related activities; and there may be a lack of understanding among Member States about who leads the process and how the process is to be coordinated at the regional level.

As State-led mechanisms that are mostly regional or interregional dialogues on migration, ISCMs address a tangible gap in migration governance efforts by bringing global migration governance to the national and regional levels. This highlights the added value of their engagement in Global Compact implementation, follow-up and review.

1. Introduction

Background

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is the result of a Member State-led effort to elaborate a comprehensive international cooperation framework on migrants and human mobility by setting out a range of principles, commitments and understandings regarding international migration in all its dimensions. It is not legally binding and is the first intergovernmentally negotiated agreement prepared under the auspices of the United Nations to cover all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. Structured around 10 guiding principles, 23 objectives and a list of possible voluntary actions for implementing each objective, the aim of the Global Compact is to enable the international community to determine common benchmarks for orderly migration and thereby reduce irregular migration.

The implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact requires concerted efforts at global, regional, national and subnational levels by all actors. ISCMs have a key role to play in this respect, especially beyond national borders. ISCMs encompass regional consultative processes on migration, interregional forums on migration and global processes on migration. Through ISCMs, solid foundations have been developed for international dialogue and cooperation on migration.

Paragraphs 47, 50 and 52 of the Global Compact assign important roles to regional consultative processes on migration and other ICSCMs in implementation, follow-up and review, in particular by contributing to the International Migration Review Forum.

Since the 2016 United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants, and the resulting New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, various ISCMs have discussed the Global Compact at their meetings. A number of regional and interregional consultative processes drafted positions and recommendations on the Global Compact during its development. The main global processes on migration – the Global Forum on Migration and Development and the International Dialogue on Migration – also provided input to the negotiations on the Compact. Many of the recommendations made by the different processes were incorporated into the final text.

The Seventh Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 7) was held on 10 and 11 October 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland, under the theme “Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.” It resulted in the formulation of joint actionable commitments by ISCMs and their partner organizations (United Nations Regional Commissions and regional economic organizations), contained in the [GRCP 7 Highlights Document](#), which, together with the [Summary of the Results of the Survey conducted by IOM in preparation for GRCP 7](#) and the report of [GRCP 7](#), were taken into account during the stocktaking phase of the Global Compact process, and present a point of departure for this review.

Objective and methodology

In view of the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, IOM has reviewed the role of ISCMs in the Global Compact with the aim of outlining their potential contribution to the attainment of the commitments contained therein, and the potential complementarities and added value of ISCM engagement.

The review provides examples of and analyses the role played by ISCMs during the Global Compact process and outlines the recommendations for ISCMs emanating from GRCP 7. Looking ahead to implementation, the review considers the strengths and added value of ISCMs assisting their Member States in the implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact and provides recommendations on how to optimize the ISCMs' role in that regard. In addition, based on answers to a survey of ISCM Chairs regarding the Global Compact, the review provides an overview of how ISCMs – especially at the regional and interregional levels – have started to prepare themselves for the implementation phase.

The main findings and recommendations of the review are intended to help ISCMs to take stock of the existing initiatives and roles undertaken and to plan their future engagement in Global Compact implementation. The results of the review were presented at a side event during the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

The review methodology included desktop research of existing documents and ISCM positions on the Global Compact; and a survey and follow-up telephone interviews.

The survey aimed to identify developments in the positions of individual ISCMs on the Global Compact and what is needed to ensure ISCMs' engagement in its implementation, follow up and review. The questionnaire was divided into four sections: (a) general information about the ISCM; (b) ISCM positions or recommendations on the Global Compact; (c) plans for ISCM contribution to implementation; and (d) partnerships for the Global Compact.

Telephone interviews were semi-structured with a similar focus as the questionnaire, however allowing for more in-depth information on the position of ISCMs on the Global Compact and their role in its implementation. The survey and the telephone interviews identified effective practices and successful partnership models and further explored the potential complementarities and added value of ISCM engagement in Global Compact implementation.

Limitations

The review is not exhaustive as not all ISCMs responded to the survey. Eight responses were received for the questionnaire and three telephone interviews were conducted with ISCM Chairs. Eleven ISCMs therefore participated in the survey and telephone interviews, covering a total of 160 countries. ISCMs are State-led consultation mechanisms and are diverse in terms of thematic areas of focus and degrees of activity. While no representative image can be concluded on basis of the responses received through the questionnaire and telephone interviews, the data nonetheless reveal a snapshot of potential ISCM engagement in Global Compact implementation. Furthermore, as not all ISCMs have an official position on the Global Compact, the review should not be understood as a summary of such mechanisms' official positions, but rather an overview of good practices which have evolved in the ISCM arena. The review aims to be an informative piece contributing to the discourse on migration governance, focusing on the regional and interregional level, where most migration occurs and the demand for migration governance is the highest.

Migration governance: the regional, interregional and global dimensions

Migration governance is defined as “the combined frameworks of legal norms, laws and regulations, policies and traditions as well as organizational structures (subnational, national, regional and international) and the relevant processes that shape and regulate States’ approaches with regard to migration in all its forms, addressing rights and responsibilities and promoting international cooperation.”¹ It includes common principles and approaches for facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people. There has been relatively in-depth study of migration governance at national level, however, the building blocks and processes of regional and global migration governance continue to be identified.

Regional migration governance: From forum vacuum to the proliferation of State-led regional and interregional dialogues

Regional migration governance rests on the reality that most migration occurs regionally or between neighbouring regions. Migration can be defined not only as an inherently international phenomenon, but also as a regional one. Accordingly, discussions of migration governance have a strong regional focus.

Discussions of migration management and migration governance at regional level are firmly associated with ISCMs. These State-led, informal, dedicated dialogues on migration have, in fact, laid a solid foundation for migration management and have pioneered effective practices and partnership models for addressing migration issues.

The need for a discrete, informal environment for States to consider migration issues among themselves led to the emergence of policy dialogues on migration at regional level (the first ISCMs). ISCMs appeared with the aim of advancing discussions on specific policy issues at regional or interregional level. Moreover, in the absence of a global migration regime and keen to protect their sovereignty on migration, States resorted to ISCMs as parallel and more focused regional processes. While until 1985 there were no known regional forums on migration in the migration governance landscape,² ISCMs grew in number and activity within and between regions after this date – in particular following the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994 – reaching 30 globally in 2018. In 2018, no single region of the world remains without an inter-State consultation mechanism on migration.

Global migration governance: From the first global processes on migration to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Originally convened at the regional and interregional levels, and mainly known as regional consultative processes on migration, the proliferation of ISCMs has paved the way for the emergence of the first global processes on migration – the Berne Initiative, the CIS Conference, the International Dialogue on Migration, the United Nations High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, and the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

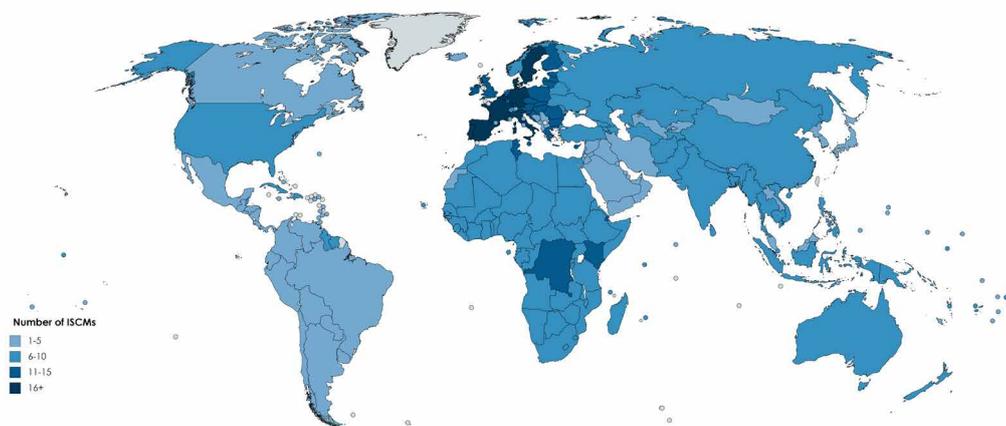
1 International Organization for Migration, *Glossary on Migration*, 3rd edition, (A. Sironi, C. Bauloz, M. Emmanuel, eds.), (forthcoming).

2 The Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees, established in 1985, is considered to be the first ISCM.

Thanks to these initiatives gradually expanding in scope and geographical coverage, governments in all regions of the world have increasingly committed themselves to regular dialogue and cooperation through ISCMs, thereby enabling acceptance of migration governance as a topic for consideration in international forums. ISCMs can be divided into the following categories: regional consultative processes on migration, interregional forums on migration and global processes on migration.³

In 2018, there were 15 active regional consultative processes on migration, 13 active interregional forums on migration and 2 active global processes on migration. A total of 186 countries are members of at least one regional consultative process, 178 are members of at least one interregional forum on migration, and nearly all are members of at least one global process on migration. Some countries participate in as many as 14 ISCMs at the same time.

Figure 1: Number of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration of which each State is a member



*This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

Overall, ISCMs have contributed to increasing the international community's willingness to discuss migration issues and challenges. The exchange of information and the improvement of the understanding of migration have had a substantial impact on migration governance worldwide, also paving the way for the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants on 19 September 2016, which resulted in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants.

Migration dialogues and consultative processes on migration at the global, interregional and regional levels represent an important source of good practices and partnership models. These consultation mechanisms have played an important role in promoting inter-State policy dialogue and shaping regional, interregional and global governance of migration. They have contributed to the emergence of common principles and approaches to address international migration, which guided the preparation of the Global Compact.

The Global Compact is not the beginning of the global governance of migration. Nonetheless, it reflects a new shift to global migration governance, significantly influenced by emerging consultative processes on migration. While through the International Conference on Population and Development, the Global Commission on International Migration and

3 International Organization for Migration, *Regional Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration: Approaches, Recent Activities and Implications for Global Governance of Migration*, Migration Research Series No. 45 (Geneva, 2013). Available from https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mrs45_en_10may2013.pdf.

the United Nations High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, consideration of global migration governance moved from ad hoc discussions to a more structured approach, the discussions themselves focused on the issue of migration in relation to other aspects, notably development. They did not put migration in all its dimensions on the international agenda. Described in 2011 as “a fragmented tapestry of institutions spread across policy fields and levels of governance”,⁴ global migration governance discussions continued to increase in speed and focus, with the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, under target 10.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals. The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants was a watershed moment, in which discussions at global level evolved from the structured discussion on migration and development, to one considering the human rights dimension and other aspects of international migration.⁵ It marked a historic moment where migration was discussed at global level for the first time in its own right, rather than only being discussed in the context of its linkages to other issues, such as development or security. The Global Compact is reflective of this development in global migration governance.

The momentum created by the New York Declaration cannot be overstated. It was the first step in discussing all relevant migration issues at the multilateral level, and led to the development and adoption of the Global Compact. The Compact follows up on the New York Declaration, by taking into account national, regional and institutional positions on migration and adopting an innovative approach which frames priority topics and issues of concern, drawing on practices and policies brought from all migration stakeholders.

ISCMs, with their broad geographic and thematic scope, have significantly contributed to this development. In 2018, ISCMs considered 29 thematic areas, with most devoting their consultations to multiple thematic areas.

4 A. Betts (ed.), *Global Migration Governance* (Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2011).

5 A. Betts and L. Kainz, *The history of global migration governance*, University of Oxford Refugee Studies Centre Working Paper Series No. 122 (Oxford, 2017).

2. From regional to global: Taking stock of ISCMs' positions and recommendations for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

GRCP 7 highlights

The review follows up on the recommendations – presented in the GRCP 7 Highlights Document – formulated during the Seventh Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 7) in October 2017, which was attended by 22 ISCMs, all five United Nations Regional Commissions and five regional economic organizations. The recommendations were then submitted as a formal contribution to the stocktaking phase of the Global Compact process.

GRCP 7 underscored the significant role of ISCMs in migration governance; recognized partnerships with governmental and nongovernmental partners as an essential part of the efforts to advance effective cooperation on migration and promote better and more effective migration policies; and reconfirmed the essential role of ISCMs in the implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact. The GRCP 7 Highlights Document included key priorities to consider in the development, implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact. These concrete contributions highlight the areas of convergence across all regions and acknowledge that ISCMs:

- (a) Are critical contributors to migration governance at regional and interregional levels;
- (b) Act as the main platforms for policy dialogue on migration, peer learning, exchanges of good practices, innovation and capacity-building;
- (c) Promote whole-of-government approaches to migration governance;
- (d) Encourage complementarities and synergies at the national, regional, interregional and global levels and promote partnerships with all stakeholders;
- (e) Will contribute to the implementation of the Global Compact and continue to support the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals by, among others:
 - (i) building the capacities of their members;
 - (ii) supporting the exchange of data, statistics and analysis on migration among their members and with regional partners.

The following thematic and substance areas pertinent to implementation have been considered by ISCMs:

- (a) Ensuring the protection of the human rights of all migrants;
- (b) Facilitating regular and combating irregular migration;
- (c) Promoting social integration;
- (d) Combating xenophobia, racism, discrimination and intolerance towards migrants and promoting a positive image of migrants;
- (e) Enhancing data collection, analysis and exchange between countries.

The GRCP 7 Highlights Document further acknowledged the importance of partnerships among all stakeholders at all levels, including continued cooperation and synergies among ISCMs themselves; partnerships with intergovernmental organizations, such as IOM, regional economic organizations and the United Nations Regional Commissions; and cooperation with nongovernmental partners, including civil society, the private sector, the media, diasporas, migrants and academia.

The GRCP 7 Highlights Document, together with the report of GRCP 7, were considered at the stocktaking meeting and paved the way for regional consultative processes on migration and other relevant forums being assigned roles in the Global Compact to support implementation, follow-up and review.

Individual positions of inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Since 2017, 18 ISCMs have addressed the Global Compact through individual meetings and during the consultation process. As shown in the table below, a number of regional, interregional and global consultative processes developed formal positions on the Global Compact during the consultations and negotiations process, while four other ISCMs (the Budapest Process, the European Union-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative, the Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development and the Prague Process) contributed to the stocktaking process through their technical secretariat, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD).⁶

In 2017, prior to GRCP 7, IOM conducted a survey of ISCMs, United Nations Regional Commissions and regional economic organizations to compile their respective good practices and other inputs to contribute to the stocktaking phase of the Global Compact process. Responses were received from 20 ISCMs, 4 United Nations Regional Commissions and 3 regional economic organizations (27 entities in total), and the responses analysed in the [Summary of the Results of the Survey conducted by IOM in preparation for GRCP 7](#).

⁶ International Centre for Migration Policy Development, *Global Compact for Migration: An Agenda for Tomorrow and Beyond. Recommendations by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development* (Vienna, 2017). Available from https://refugeemigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/gcm_-_an_agenda_for_tomorrow_and_beyond_icmpd.pdf.

ISCMs with formal positions on the Global Compact	ISCMs that had formulated recommendations according to the GRCP 7 survey in 2017	ISCMs surveyed for the current Review in 2018 that have formal positions on the Global Compact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugees Affairs • Bali Process • Global Forum on Migration and Development • International Dialogue on Migration • Abu Dhabi Dialogue • Puebla Process • Colombo Process • South American Conference on Migration <p>ICMPD position including the following ISCMs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budapest Process • Khartoum Process • Rabat Process • Prague Process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States–European Union Dialogue on Migration. • Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugees Affairs • Budapest Process • Colombo Process • Global Forum on Migration and Development • Intergovernmental Authority on Development Regional Consultative Process on Migration • Migration Dialogue for Central African States • Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa • Migration Dialogue for West Africa • Abu Dhabi Dialogue • Pan-African Forum on Migration • Puebla Process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugees Affairs • Rabat Process • Intergovernmental Authority on Development Regional Consultative Process on Migration • Abu Dhabi Dialogue • Pan-African Forum on Migration • Puebla Process • South American Conference on Migration

While more ISCMs are in the process of discussing their positions, some of the existing positions and recommendations demonstrate the readiness of ISCMs to support the Global Compact, and others outline thematic areas for their respective engagement in its implementation. Only a few have addressed the elements or objectives of the Global Compact in detail. The modalities of and resources required for ISCM engagement in the Global Compact remain mostly unaddressed.

The existing positions and recommendations nonetheless demonstrate the added-value that the ISCMs can bring to Global Compact implementation, follow-up and review, thanks to their vast knowledge base, data, and effective practices and partnership models, as well as their ability to build States' capacities, promote common positions on migration and advance peer-to-peer learning and review. Synergies among the various ISCMs and their participation in GRCP meetings and other global forums make ISCMs well-placed to support the regional dimensions of the Global Compact.

3. From global ‘back’ to regional?: analysis of survey and telephone interview responses

Overview of responses

A total of 11 ISCMs were reached through the questionnaire, the telephone interview or both. The responding ISCMs represent a membership of 160 States in total. The Pan-African Forum on Migration is the largest responding ISCM, with 55 Member States alone.

Questionnaire responses were received from the Chairs of:

- Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugees Affairs
- Caribbean Migration Consultations
- Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration, Mobility and Integrated Border Management
- Rabat Process
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development Regional Consultative Process on Migration
- Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees
- Puebla Process
- South American Conference on Migration

Telephone interviews were held with the Chair of:

- Abu Dhabi Dialogue
- Pan-African Forum on Migration
- South American Conference on Migration

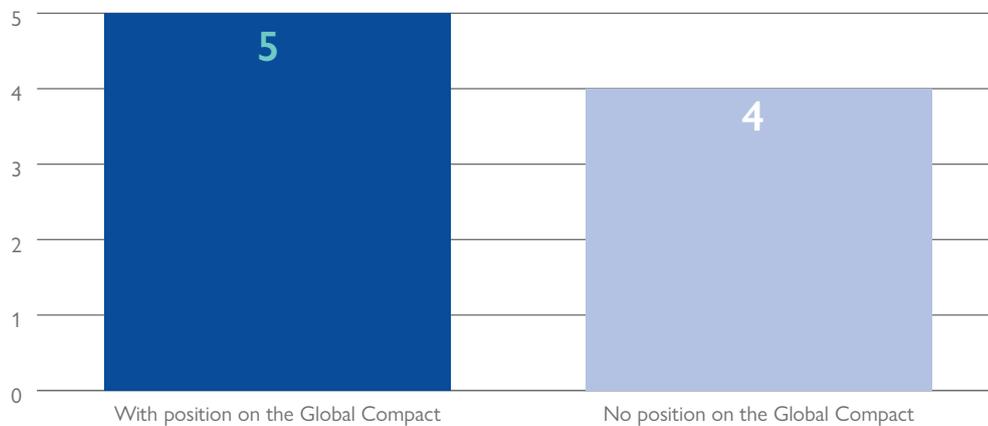
Key findings

The key findings of the review can be divided into two categories. Firstly, how ISCMs have engaged with the Global Compact so far, including whether ISCMs have developed positions on the Global Compact, what thematic areas they have acted upon, and what strategic actions they have already taken (e.g. standard agenda item, action plans). Secondly, how ISCMs further aim to engage with the Global Compact and support their Member States in its implementation in future.

(i) Engagement by ISCMs in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration process: positions, thematic areas, priority-setting, action plans

Several ISCMs have developed a position on the Global Compact. Of the nine ISCMs that responded to the questionnaire, five have formulated a position or concrete recommendations in that regard. Most of these positions were published before the issuance of the final draft of the text in July 2018 and have not been revised since. Four ISCMs have not formulated any position or recommendation, although one (Caribbean Migration Consultations) planned to finalize or further refine its position or recommendations after the adoption of the Global Compact in December 2018. The representative of the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees stated that the mechanism did not generally take formal positions, but rather shares information about its Member States' individual positions.

Figure 2: ISCMs with a formal position on the Global Compact



Those ISCMs which have formulated their position on the Global Compact provided details on and referred to specific themes, guiding principles and objectives. The themes were those covered by the series of informal thematic sessions on facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration, which were conducted during the consultation phase of the Global Compact process. They provided a framework for discussing the different elements outlined in Annex II of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. The guiding principles and objectives stem from the adopted text of the Global Compact.

Those ISCMs that responded to the survey or telephone interview together address all of the themes discussed during the consultation phase, and all of the guiding principles and objectives contained in the Global Compact. This reveals the wide fields of activity of the responding ISCMs and emphasizes the potential role of ISCMs in the Global Compact. There were a number of common themes, guiding principles and objectives reported by the respondents. These are detailed in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3: Themes, guiding principles and objectives addressed in all formal positions reported by ISCMs on the Global Compact

Themes	Guiding principles	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irregular migration and regular pathways, including decent work, labour mobility, recognition of skills and qualifications and other relevant measures Contributions of migrants and diasporas to all dimensions of sustainable development, including remittances and portability of earned benefits 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 Smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and contemporary forms of slavery, including appropriate identification, protection and assistance to migrants and trafficked victims 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principle 2: International cooperation Principle 4: Rule of law and due process Principle 5: Sustainable development Principle 6: Human rights Principle 7: Gender-responsive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 1: Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies Objective 2: Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin Objective 5: Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration Objective 7: Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration Objective 10: Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration Objective 16: Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion Objective 23: Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration

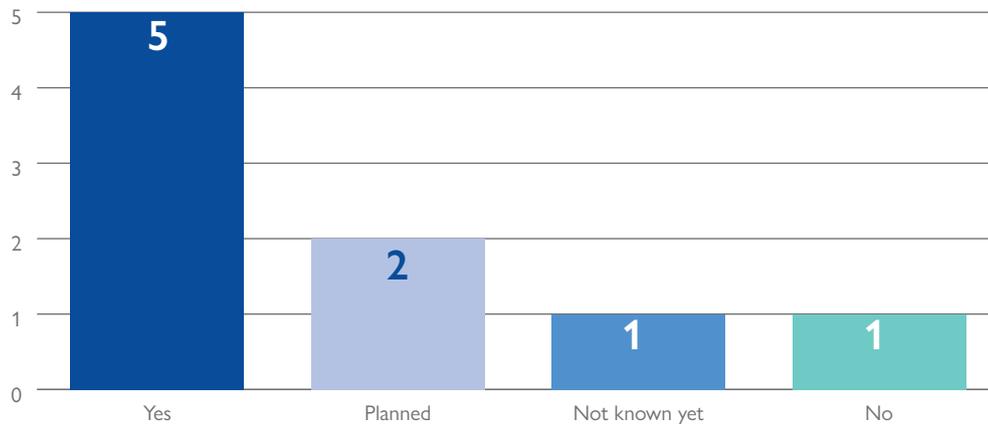
Most of the responding ISCMs indicated that the Global Compact has already had an impact on their work, including in terms of themes, programmes of work, and working modalities. None stated that their work had not been impacted, while two did not respond to this question.

Responses suggested that the Global Compact has had an impact on the work of ISCMs in the following ways:

- Included as an agenda item at meetings (e.g. Puebla Process, South American Conference on Migration)
- Reflected in ISCMs' work (e.g. Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugees Affairs, Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration, Mobility and Integrated Border Management)
- Used as a reference framework for priority-setting (e.g. Caribbean Migration Consultations)
- Included in the work programme (e.g. Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees)
- Provision of technical support to Member States (e.g. Intergovernmental Authority on Development Regional Consultative Process on Migration)

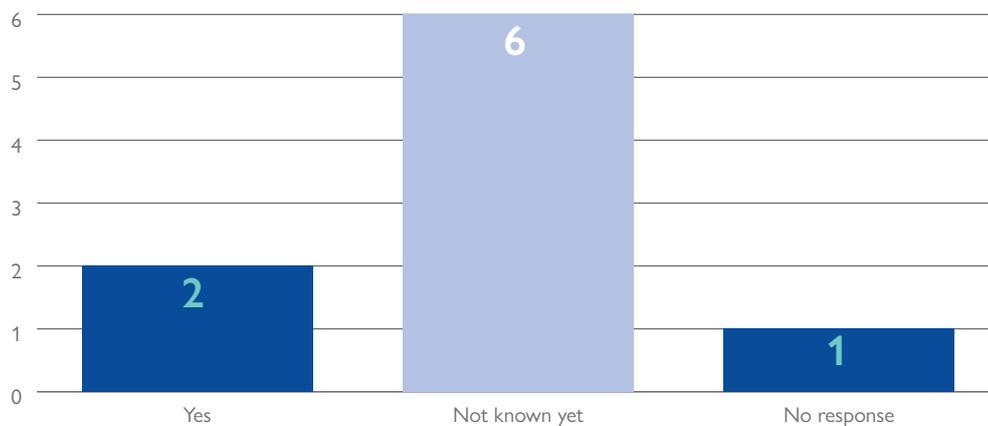
The majority of responding ISCMs have already included the Global Compact as a standard agenda item or are planning to do so. Interestingly, all ISCMs with a formal position have already made it a standard item or plan to do, and even two out of the four without a formal position on the Global Compact have already included it or planned to do so. This indicates that despite having no formal position on the matter, ISCMs still consider and see a role for their consultation mechanism in the implementation of the Global Compact.

Figure 4: ISCMs with a standard agenda item on the Global Compact



Uncertainty about the Global Compact remains. While some ISCMs are already considering an action plan to pursue the objectives of the Compact, most do not yet know if they will do so. Despite the Global Compact having had a broad impact on their work, six responding ISCMs indicated that they do not yet know whether they will formulate an action plan to pursue its objectives. Two ISCMs –the Puebla Process and the Caribbean Migration Consultations – have already formulated an action plan.

Figure 5: ISCMs developing action plans to pursue the Global Compact objectives



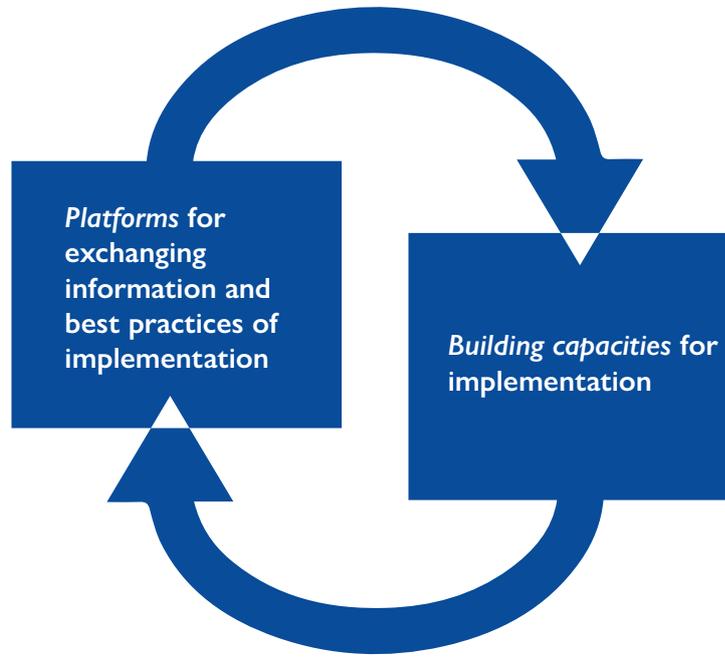
Is your ISCM considering an action plan to pursue the objectives contained in the global compact?

(ii) The future role of ISCMs in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: assisting Member States, building capacity, creating partnerships, hindering factors, learning from implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

Moving from engagement already pursued by ISCMs, this review also considered how ISCMs envisioned their future role in the implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact. In this regard, two areas of engagement can be identified: (a) how to assist Member States in the implementation of the objectives and actionable commitments of the Global Compact at the regional and national levels, and how to build the capacities of Member States in this regard; and (b) what partnerships ISCMs can enter into to support implementation of the Global Compact.

ISCMs are already exploring ways to assist Member States in the implementation of the Global Compact at the national and regional levels. When asked about this issue, the respondents provided a range of insightful answers, with two key suggestions emerging.

Figure 6: Two key roles of ISCMs in the Global Compact



As *platforms* for exchanging information and best practices on implementation of the Global Compact, it was noted that ISCMs could thereby promote cooperation and coordination among Member States. Several examples of ISCMs' envisioned roles are worth mentioning here.



The representative of the South American Conference on Migration stated that countries could present their effective practices, which could then be shared and implemented. In this regard, the response of the Pan-African Forum on Migration suggested that ISCMs could help Member States to translate international commitments into regional and national contexts by developing policy recommendations which can be easily adapted to context, starting with an open and frank discussion in an informal setting to clearly state the problems and explore solutions, which would then be tabled in the formal processes for agreement and endorsement by the concerned countries or region. Despite not having realized such mechanisms yet, in its response to the questionnaire, the representative of the Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration, Mobility and Integrated Border Management noted that:

“Meetings could offer an opportunity to informally exchange information among participating countries about the respective progresses under the GCM, at the technical level. Representatives of participating countries could as well find useful to raise and discuss eventual challenges encountered by States while implementing the GCM, including challenges at regional level.”

Regarding the building of Member States' implementation capacities, ISCMs noted that this could be done by providing technical support to Member States and by facilitating data sharing between Member States.



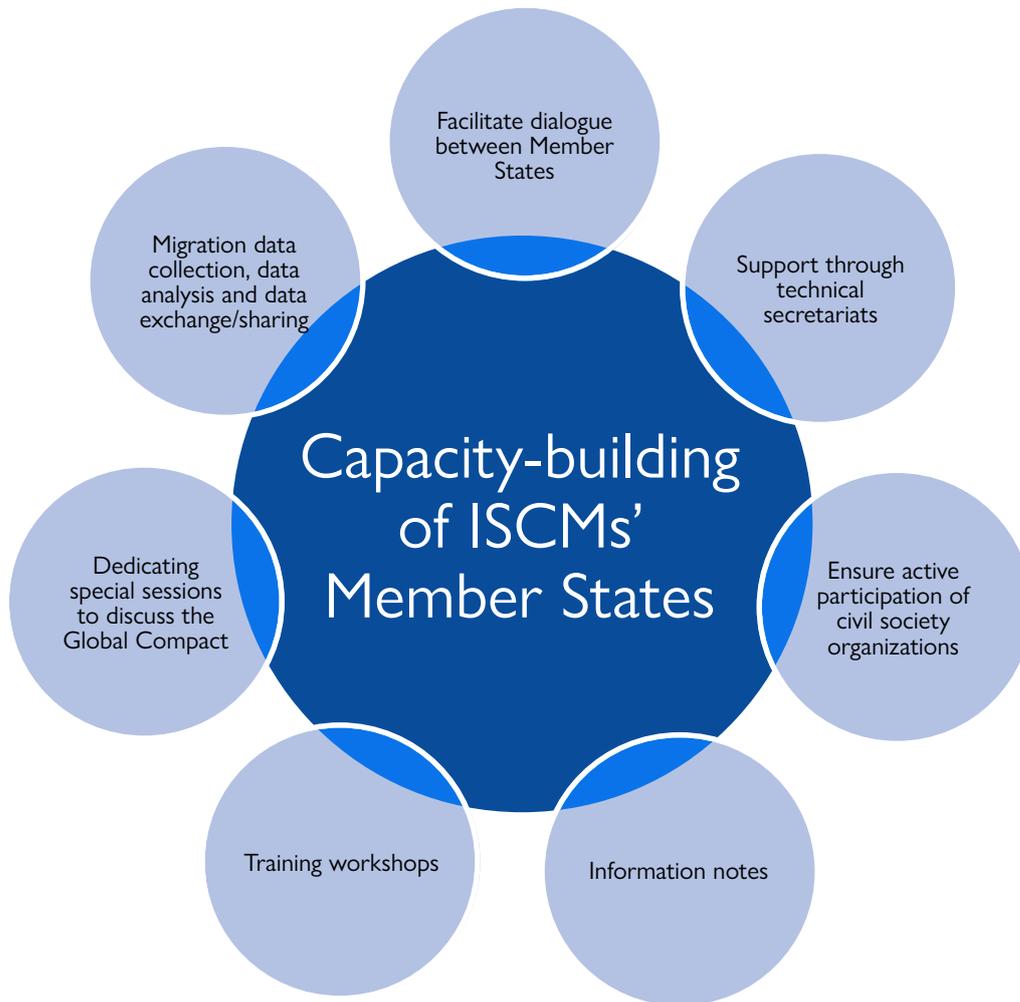
The respondent from the Caribbean Migration Consultations suggested offering awareness-raising and capacity-building opportunities across government agencies through a whole-of-government approach. In addition, the response of the Puebla Process stated that ISCMs could promote cooperation and coordination to obtain, use, and strengthen existing financial, material and human resources effectively. The answer from the representative of the South American Conference on Migration emphasized the importance of a technical secretariat and both face-to-face and online meetings as essential tools in support of Member States. Lastly, in a telephone interview, the representative of the Pan-African Forum on Migration recognized the importance of understanding the Global Compact:

“GCM implementation relies a lot on Member States' understanding of the content. Member states need a sustainable way to build their capacity not only in the knowledge of GCM but also in the operation ability of GCM. Capacity-building and knowledge management is therefore key. [...] The Pan-African Forum on Migration for example will be a good place to start for sustainability, capacity-building and knowledge management of GCM follow up and implementation on the continent.”

The representative of the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugees Affairs also suggested that ISCMs should be involved in reviewing implementation of the Global Compact within their respective regions in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies and commissions. Moreover, the State-led and voluntary nature of ISCMs was highlighted by various ISCMs. The representative of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue noted, for instance, that if a compliance architecture was created, it would lead to non-participation. This reveals a niche that ISCMs could fill: an informal dialogue for exchanging best practices and building capacities, with peer-to-peer learning and progress, without creating any compliance mechanisms.

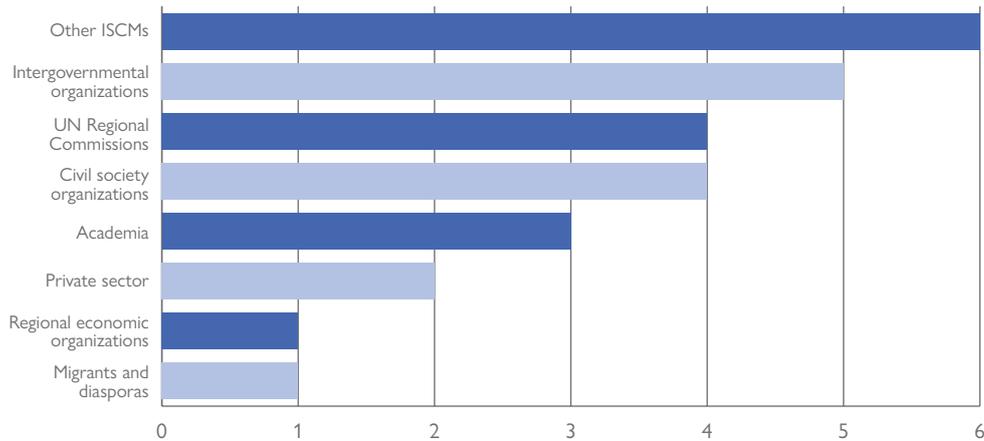
Several responding ISCMs are building or are planning to build their Member States' capacities to contribute to Global Compact implementation. Four ISCMs indicated that their capacity-building efforts have taken several different forms, including: facilitating dialogue between Member States, establishing technical secretariats, and ensuring the active participation of civil society organizations (Puebla Process). Moreover, the representative of the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugees Affairs suggested that ISCMs also contribute to the building capacity of their Member States by preparing information notes, organizing training workshops, and dedicating special sessions to discussions on the Global Compact and its implementation on the agenda of the regular meetings. Lastly, the representative of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development Regional Consultative Process on Migration noted that capacity is built by providing support to Member States on migration data collection, analysis and exchange/sharing.

Figure 7: Ways suggested by ISCMs to contribute to building the capacity of Member States to implement the Global Compact



Most responding ISCMs reported partnering with other organizations, processes or bodies in the context of Global Compact implementation. Beyond enabling dialogue and building Member States' capacities, ISCMs also regard forming partnerships with other entities as part of their role in the process. The results of the survey indicate that eight out of eleven responding ISCMs (both questionnaire and telephone interviews) have partnerships with other institutions and actors to facilitate its contribution to the Global Compact, including other ISCMs, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations Regional Commissions, regional economic organizations, non-governmental and civil society organizations, the private sector, academia, migrants and diasporas.

Figure 8: ISCMs' partnerships for Global Compact implementation



The cooperation undertaken by the South American Conference on Migration with a range of actors provides a good example of how partnerships can contribute to Global Compact implementation. The Conference established a first bilateral contact with another ISCM – the Puebla Process – in 2017 and runs strategic partnerships with intergovernmental organizations such as the International Labour Organization, IOM, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and UNICEF. Furthermore, it also works with one of the five United Nations Regional Commissions, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and partners with global and regional civil society organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross. In its response, the Conference secretariat also emphasized that any international organization could indicate its interest in working together.

ISCMs face three main hindering factors to their role in implementation. One ISCM mentioned that Member States do not equally prioritize migration governance issues. Secondly, it was noted that Member States had different speeds of dealing with the Global Compact, which although not an obstacle per se, was reported as a hindering factor. Lastly, it was recognized that ISCMs had not been given a clear mandate by their Member States to contribute to the Global Compact process. It was stated that partners struggled to reach an understanding of who led the process and how the process should be coordinated. Thus, different areas of action were prioritized instead.

Lessons learned from engagement on the Sustainable Development Goals can inform and guide implementation of the Global Compact. Three respondents observed how effective practices for implementation of the migration-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals could be applied to the Global Compact:



The representative of the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugees Affairs suggested that its role in realizing the migration-related Sustainable Development Goal targets could also be applied to the Global Compact. That role consists of raising awareness, improving the knowledge base on migration-related targets, coordinating policies of the Arab countries in the field of migration, enhancing

regional dialogue, implementing training programmes, and sharing information, experiences and best practices. Thus, a similar pattern of action can be realized in context of the Global Compact.

Furthermore, the representative of the Pan-African Forum on Migration indicated that efforts to implement the Global Compact must adapt and be flexible. Similar to the Sustainable Development Goals, the Global Compact does not apply equally to all contexts. It was noted that best practices had not yet been determined and that a one-size-fits-all approach would not be appropriate. It still necessary to: define the best set-up for implementation of the Global Compact; identify the key characteristics an effective practice; and adjust the existing ISCMs or establish new mechanisms for Global Compact implementation and review. The representative of the Puebla Process explained that Process is currently developing a proposal on regional lines of action for mainstreaming migration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The latter process could link up with implementation of the Global Compact.

4. Concluding remarks and recommendations

This review has revisited the role of ISCMs in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration with the aim of identifying their potential contribution to attaining the objectives and commitments enumerated in the Global Compact, and the potential complementarities and added value of ISCM engagement in that respect, especially given the mostly regional and interregional nature of ISCMs. The review was based on desktop research of existing documents and ISCMs' positions on the Global Compact, together with the results of a survey completed by and telephone interviews with ISCMs. While the review is not exhaustive and no representative image can be concluded based on the responses received, the review nonetheless reveals a snapshot of the role ISCMs foresee for themselves in Global Compact implementation, follow-up and review. It also highlights good practices of ISCMs.

It has found that an overwhelming majority of responding ISCMs – of which 160 States are members of at least one – had integrated the Global Compact into their activities. It revealed that the broad range of thematic areas already addressed by ISCMs – some ISCMs cover as many as 15 thematic areas – are also relevant for their engagement with activities related to the Global Compact. Together, the responding ISCMs address all of the themes discussed during the consultation phase, and all of the guiding principles and objectives contained in the Global Compact. This indicates the potentially supportive role of ISCMs in implementation of these objectives at national level. The review indicates that ISCMs primarily see two roles in assisting Member States on the implementation of the Global Compact at the national and regional levels: providing peer-to-peer platforms for exchanging information on and best practices for Global Compact implementation; and building the capacities of their Member States for implementation.

Respondents provided various practical suggestions to highlight the unique role of such forums, including providing a platform for the sharing of effective practices by States and the offering of awareness-raising and capacity-building opportunities across government agencies as part of a whole-of-government approach. Moreover, the respondents gave concrete examples of how to build Member States' capacities, such as establishing technical secretariats; offering technical workshops and information notes; providing migration data, collection and analysis; and ensuring active participation of civil society organizations. In offering these activities, ISCMs have a unique added value for migration governance.

This review also found that partnerships are an important tool for supporting the Global Compact implementation. Some respondents reported that they have entered into partnerships for Global Compact implementation with other ISCMs, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations Regional Commissions, civil society organizations, academia, and others. It was also suggested that drawing on good practices from implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals could also further support implementation.

Lastly, the review recognizes obstacles which limit ISCMs' role in Global Compact implementation, follow-up and review. Firstly, ISCMs noted that their Member States might not equally prioritize migration governance issues. Secondly, it was noted that ISCMs

have not been clearly mandated to act on the Global Compact and that Member States struggled to reach an understanding of who leads the process and how the process should be coordinated.

Thus, recognizing the importance of the regional and interregional dimension of migration governance and the pathways provided by State-led consultation mechanisms for doing so, it can be concluded that ISCMs, as informal, State-led, mostly regional or interregional dialogues on migration, fill a niche within the arena of migration governance as they provide unique ways of bringing global migration governance to the regional level, for example by encouraging peer-to-peer processes. This niche can be regarded as being of increasing importance in cases where global migration governance approaches, such as the Global Compact, require implementation at national level to address regional and interregional phenomena.

Recommendations

In the light of the above, and reiterating the recommendations outlined in the GRCP 7 Highlights, ISCMs should:

- (a) Develop positions on the Global Compact, if they have not already done so;
- (b) Elaborate modalities for ISCM engagement in Global Compact-related activities, including the resources required;
- (c) Take stock of ISCM engagement in the Global Compact process to date to better prepare them for their contribution to its implementation;
- (d) Act as platforms for exchanging information and best practices for Global Compact implementation;
- (e) Build Member States' capacities to implement the Global Compact;
- (f) Continue to transfer effective practices across ISCMs and regions and pilot new approaches and projects;
- (g) Support Member States' whole-of-government approaches to Global Compact implementation and migration governance;
- (h) Provide a platform for Member States to review their progress on implementation of the Global Compact to contribute to the development of relevant indicators;
- (i) Enhance partnerships with ISCMs in the same region/continent and with other regional entities that have a formal role in the Global Compact, such as regional political and economic organizations and the United Nations Regional Commissions; partnerships with other entities, such as civil society, the private sector, academia, in the spirit of the Global Compact's whole-of-society approach, should also be considered;
- (j) Develop a more visible representation of ISCMs in the Global Compact process to reflect the regional dimension of migration governance.

Annexes

Annex 1: Outline of the Review of the role of regional consultative processes on migration and other inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Annex 2: GRCP 7 Highlights Document

Annex 3: Survey questionnaire

Annex 4: Telephone interview questionnaire

Annex 5: List of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration per region

Annex 6: Global Compact for Migration themes, principles and objectives

Annex 7: Definitions

Annex 1

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Outline of the Review of the role of regional consultative processes on migration and other inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Objective: to outline the role of regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs), interregional forums on migration (IRFs) and other inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs) in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration implementation.

Background: ISCMs are State-led, ongoing information-sharing and policy dialogues at the regional (RCPs), interregional (IRFs) or global (global processes on migration) level for States with an interest in promoting cooperation in the field of migration. Through ISCMs solid foundations have been developed for international dialogue and cooperation on migration. ISCMs were referred to in A/71/1 New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (§54) and A/RES/71/280 Global compact for migration Modalities Resolution (§22) as mechanisms contributing to the preparatory process and negotiations towards the Global Compact. ISCMs are also referenced in the Global Compact intergovernmentally negotiated and agreed outcome as platforms to exchange experiences, share good practices on policies and cooperation, promote innovative approaches, and foster multi-stakeholder partnerships. ISCMs are invited to regionally review the implementation of the Global Compact and provide relevant data, evidence, best practices, innovative approaches and recommendations related to the Global Compact (§47, 50 and 52).

Since the 2016 UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants, and ensuing New York Declaration, 16 RCPs and IRFs have included a Global Compact item for review at their meetings. At least 7 RCPs and IRFs have developed positions and recommendations on the Global Compact. The main global processes on migration – the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and the International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) have also offered their recommendations. The 7th Global RCP meeting (GRCP 7), formulated eleven recommendations on ISCMs' role in the Global Compact which were reflected in GRCP 7 Highlights. Many of these recommendations have fed directly into the Global Compact text.

On 3 September 2018 the Ministry of Human resources and Emiratization of the United Arab Emirates, IOM and the Migrant Forum Asia (MFA) hosted a side-event “Mobilizing RCPs to support the implementation of Global Compact commitments” on the margins of the Preparatory Meetings of the GFMD 2017-2018 Co-Chairmanship in Geneva. The event provided a forum for multi-stakeholder reflection on how to operationalize the role of RCPs and other ISCMs in the Global Compact implementation, follow-up and review and prepare for the planned side-event on the Global Compact regional dimension during the migration week in Marrakesh in December 2018.

Following the GRCP 7 recommendations, IOM is reviewing ISCMs' (RCPs, IRFs and global processes on migration) role in the Global compact and their plans to realize the GRCP 7 Highlights' recommendations (Annex 1). This review will also address the recommendations of the 3 September 2018 side-event.

It is planned to illustrate the Review findings at a side-event in the margins of the intergovernmental conference to adopt the Global Compact in Marrakech in December 2018.

Suggested scope: The Review will explore whether ISCM's plans to contribute to Global Compact implementation following the Global Compact is adopted have changed and what partnerships are needed for their realization. It aims to examine whether ISCMs are prepared and equipped to include the Global Compact in their agenda and strategy and which mechanisms they will put in place to support the Global Compact implementation, review and follow-up.

This Review is part of an overall Assessment of ISCMs' relevance and contribution to migration governance at all levels (national, regional and international) which IOM has planned for 2018–2019.

Appendix to Annex 1

Guiding questions for review

These questions can serve as basis for the questionnaire to be administered among Chairs and Heads of Secretariats of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration, as part of the review process.

Note: The Seventh Global Meeting of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (GRCP 7) took place on 10 and 11 October 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland and focused on "Inter-state Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration". GRCP 7 brought together ISCMs – whether regional (RCPs), interregional (IRFs) or global – as well as their regional partners (UN Regional Commissions and Regional Economic Organizations) to jointly review respective roles and contributions to the preparatory process toward the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. In preparation for the event, a Survey was conducted among ISCM and their partner organizations (UN Regional Commissions and Regional Economic Organizations) to compile their respective experiences to the Global Compact. GRCP 7 proceedings resulted in the formulation of joint actionable commitments arising from recommendations to the Global Compact made by ISCM and partner organizations – the "GRCP 7 Highlights."

The aim of the 2018 Review of the role of RCPs and other ISCMs in the Global Compact is to outline the role of regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs), interregional forums on migration (IRFs) and other inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs) in the Global Compact implementation. In the spirit of a whole-of-society approach in the Global Compact text, the questions include a section on partnerships.

Suggested guiding questions

- (i) ISCMs' role in and positions on the Global Compact for Migration
 - What role can ISCMs play in the Global Compact?

- What role do ISCMs play currently in the Global Compact?
- Have ISCMs formulated (formal) position on the Global Compact already? If, yes please describe and / or provide a link to the given ISCM document(s).
- How ISCMs can be engaged in the regional dimension of Global Compact implementation?
- How ISCMs can be engaged in the regional dimension of Global Compact follow-up and review?
- Are ISCMs ready and willing to consider including the progress on the Global Compact as a standard item in their meeting agendas?
- Do ISCMs have plans to take stock of their strategies and identify their respective priorities and action-plans in relation to the Global Compact for Migration objectives following their adoption?
- How can ISCMs act as platforms to build their respective Members' capacities to contribute to the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration?
- How can ISCMs promote whole-of-government approaches to migration governance among their Member States?
- What resources can ISCMs allocate to render their engagement in the Global Compact sustainable?

(ii) Partnering for the Global Compact for Migration

- What partnerships are required to facilitate ISCMs' contribution to the Global Compact?
- Are ISCMs ready and willing to pursue partnerships on the Global Compact with each of the following entities. If so, please list which ones and describe the type of cooperation:
 - other ISCMs?
 - IGOs?
 - UN Regional Commissions?
 - Regional Economic Organizations?
 - non-governmental and civil society organizations?
 - the private sector?
 - academia?
 - migrants and diasporas?
- With the aim of ensuring Global Compact's whole-of-society approach and without jeopardizing their State-led nature, are ISCMs ready and willing to consider horizontal and vertical expansion (including observership or membership of other entities, such as UN RCs, regional organizations, and non-state actors)? If yes, which entities and with what status.

Annex 2

GRCP 7 Highlights Document

Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Seventh Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 7)

“GRCP 7 Highlights Document”

1. The Seventh Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 7) was hosted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on the theme “Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration” on 10 and 11 October 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland.
2. The objective was to gather perspectives of the many state-led consultation mechanisms on migration and other key relevant regional mechanisms and bodies on the Global Compact for Migration and develop their joint recommendations for the Global Compact.
3. These inter-State dialogue mechanisms on migration are pioneers at the forefront of migration governance. They are the principal mechanisms for regional dialogue and cooperation on migration, and have deep expertise to share. Their work at the regional and cross-regional levels has laid the ground for the development of the Global Compact for Migration. The compact is expected to build on existing systems of migration management and effective practices and partnership models developed through these mechanisms for addressing migration issues. The good practices developed by these fora and their main regional partners – Regional Economic Organizations and UN Regional Commissions – should be considered during the stock-taking phase of the Global Compact.
4. To this end, in preparation for the GRCP 7, a survey of these state-led mechanisms and their partner organizations was conducted to collect their key inputs to the Global Compact for Migration. Survey results showed a richness of experience and insight on all aspects of migration. The completed questionnaires will be submitted to the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for International Migration and the Global Compact co-facilitators for their consideration. The Survey results also served as the basis for regional breakout group discussions and the overall recommendations.
5. GRCP 7 discussions revealed a number of shared principles, priority areas and actionable recommendations as well as expectations for the focus of the Global Compact.

6. On matters of substance, the inter-state consultation mechanisms highlighted that the Global Compact should:
 - Ensure the protection of the human rights of all migrants regardless of their migratory status, with particular attention to migrants in vulnerable situations;
 - facilitate regular and combat irregular migration, including through promotion of circular labour migration schemes, recognition of qualifications and skills, and family reunification;
 - promote social integration, including access to social services (such as health, education and social protection);
 - combat xenophobia, racism, discrimination and intolerance towards migrants and promote a positive image of migrants and highlight their contributions to development; and
 - enhance collection and analysis of migration data and promote data exchange between countries.

7. In support of the implementation of the Global Compact, the inter-State cooperation mechanisms on migration highlighted that they:
 - constitute critical contributors to and mechanisms for migration governance at the regional and interregional level;
 - will continue acting as the main platforms for policy dialogue on migration, peer learning, exchanges of good practices, innovation and capacity building;
 - promote whole-of-government approaches to migration governance among their members;
 - encourage complementarities and synergies between and among the national, regional, interregional and global levels and promote partnerships with all stakeholders, including non-governmental and civil society organizations, the private sector, academia, migrants and diasporas;
 - consider how to ensure the sustainability of inter-state consultation mechanisms on migration, including in bringing forward their outcomes and views in their national positions during the Global Compact negotiations; and
 - ensure that their work contributes to the implementation of the Global Compact and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by, amongst others:
 - building the capacities of their Members;
 - supporting exchange of data, statistics and analysis on migration among their members and with regional partners.

-
8. The importance of partnerships among all stakeholders at all levels was reiterated throughout the proceedings.

These include:

- (i) continued cooperation and synergies among the inter-state cooperation mechanisms themselves, particularly between the global processes on migration and the regional and interregional fora;
 - (ii) partnerships with intergovernmental organizations such as IOM, the Regional Economic Organizations and UN Regional Commissions; and
 - (iii) cooperation with non-governmental partners – including civil society, the private sector, media, diaspora, migrants and academia.
9. The GRCP 7 provided an important opportunity for inter-state consultation mechanisms on migration, particularly the regional consultative processes on migration and interregional fora, to convey their regional positions on and good practices relevant to the Global Compact for Migration.
10. This summary document together with the fuller report summarizing the discussions at the proceedings will be submitted to the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for International Migration and the Global Compact co-facilitators in addition to the completed survey questionnaires as critical input for the stock-taking and subsequent negotiations of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

Geneva, 11 October 2017

Annex 3

International Organization for Migration (IOM) International Partnerships Division (IPD)

Review of the role of regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs) and other inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs) in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

The Seventh Global Meeting of regional consultative processes on migration and other inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration ([GRCP 7](#)) held on 10 and 11 October 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland, focused on “Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration (ISCMs) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”; it resulted in the formulation of joint actionable commitments by ISCMs and their partner organizations (UN Regional Commissions and regional economic organizations) – the “[GRCP 7 Highlights](#).” The latter document together with the [GRCP 7 Survey Summary](#) and [GRCP 7 Report](#) were taken into account in the Global Compact stocktaking phase.

RCPs and other ISCMs are referenced in the [intergovernmentally negotiated and agreed outcome of the Global Compact](#) as experience-exchange and partnership platforms on Global Compact implementation and review (§§ 47, 50 and 52).

On the eve of Global Compact adoption, IOM is reviewing ISCMs’ role in the Global Compact with the aim to outline their potential contribution in attaining the Global Compact and the ways of realizing it.

This survey is conducted to inform the Review and aims to identify:

- any developments regarding individual ISCMs’ positions on the Global Compact;
- whether the ISCMs have developed strategies on how they are going to contribute to Global Compact implementation; and
- what is needed to ensure ISCMs do engage in the Global Compact (such as revision of programmes and strategies, capacity building, partnerships, human, financial or other resources, etc.).

Please note that in the questionnaire the acronym ISCM is used to indicate RCPs, interregional forums on migration (IRFs) and global processes on migration.

The Review and the findings of this survey will be submitted to the President of the Global Compact [Intergovernmental conference](#) and are intended to be summarized at a side-event on Regional Dimensions in the Global Compact Implementation, Follow Up and Review in Marrakesh in December 2018.

Please provide your feedback to the questions below and submit the completed questionnaire to IOM at grcp@iom.int by 9 November 2018.

We kindly request to receive one completed questionnaire per ISCM, which should be coordinated with the ISCM (Co-)Chair(s).

The IOM International Partnerships Division is ready to provide further details on the Review and answer your queries at grcp@iom.int and / or +41227179419.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

Questions

I. General Information	
1.	Please indicate the name of your Inter-state consultation mechanism (ISCM):
2.	Please indicate the Chairing country and the current Chair's name and title (including Ministry / institution).
3.	Please indicate the name and title (including institution) of the Head of the ISCM Secretariat:
II. ISCM positions or recommendations on the Global Compact	
4.	Has your ISCM formulated any (formal) position or concrete recommendations for the Global Compact? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> In process, not final yet
5.	If yes, please provide the weblink of the adopted document, if available, or describe briefly in the opposite cell.
6.	Please provide the date and title of the Meeting at which such position / recommendations were formulated / agreed on / adopted.
7.	In case the position / recommendation was formulated in 2017, has it been revised after the July 2018 issuance of the agreed outcome of the Global Compact ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8.	Does your ISCM plan to finalize or further refine its position / recommendations after the Global Compact adoption in December 2018? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
9.	Please list which Global Compact individual themes the position/the recommendations address. <i>NB: Annex 3 lists the Global Compact themes, principles and objectives.</i>
10.	Please list which Global Compact principles the position/the recommendations address. <i>NB: Annex 3 lists the Global Compact themes, principles and objectives.</i>
11.	Please list which Global Compact objectives the position/the recommendations address. <i>NB: Annex 3 lists the Global Compact themes, principles and objectives.</i>
12.	How does your ISCM intend to pursue its positions and recommendations on the Global Compact?
III. Plans for ISCM contribution to Global Compact implementation	
13.	Has the Global Compact been included as a standard item in your ISCM meeting agendas? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned <input type="checkbox"/> Not known yet
14.	Has the Global Compact already influenced your ISCM (e.g. themes, programme of work, working modalities, etc.), and if so, how?
15.	Does your ISCM plan to take stock of its strategies and work that are in relevance to the Global Compact objectives? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Already done <input type="checkbox"/> Not known yet
16.	In case you have already conducted a stocktaking, please indicate in the opposite cell the title of the document and weblink, if applicable.

17.	Is your ISCM considering an action-plan to pursue the Global Compact objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Already done <input type="checkbox"/> Not known yet
18.	If yes, please mention when this stocktaking is planned for.	
19.	Please describe any activities by your ISCM on the following: (i) data exchange on the Global Compact. (ii) awareness raising on Global Compact.	
20.	Please describe how your ISCM builds or plans building its Member States' capacities to contribute to the Global Compact implementation. Please list such activities in the cell opposite with titles and dates, and provide links, if applicable.	
21.	How can your ISCM assist its Member States in the implementation of the Global Compact at respectively national and regional levels?	
22.	Please provide examples of any activities by your ISCM promoting whole-of-government approaches to migration governance among its Member States?	
23.	Please highlight any effective practices by your ISCM in the implementation of migration-related SDG targets , which can be applied to the Global Compact as well.	
24.	What resources can your ISCM allocate to enable its engagement in the Global Compact? Please provide examples.	
IV. Partnering for the Global Compact		
25.	Please indicate any partnerships your ISCM has engaged in, in order to facilitate its contribution to the Global Compact? Below are the categories of potential partners, for those applicable please specify the names and describe the nature of such partnership with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • other ISCMs. • NB: Annex 4 lists all active ISCMs. • Intergovernmental organizations. • UN Regional Commissions. • Regional Economic Organizations. • non-governmental and civil society organizations. • the private sector. • academia. • migrants and diasporas. 	
26.	Please list examples of your RCP or IRF meeting outcomes and recommendations submitted to or presented at the meetings of global processes on migration (e.g. IDM or GFMD), if any.	
27.	Is your ISCM considering cooperation, association with or expansion to include other States, other ISCMs, UN RCs, regional organizations, and other non-state actors)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Existing <input type="checkbox"/> Not known yet
28.	If yes, please indicate with whom and how (observership, membership or any other modality).	

Submitted by: _____

Date: _____

Annexes:

GRCP 7 Highlights

Definitions

Global Compact Themes and objectives

List of ISCMs

Annex 4

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

International Partnerships Division (IPD)

Review of the role of regional consultative processes on migration and other inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Telephone interview questions

IOM is reviewing the role of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs) in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration with the aim to outline their potential contribution in attaining the Global Compact and the ways of realizing it.

The review will comprise a survey and follow-up telephone interviews. The survey will be administered among all ISCMs to identify the developments regarding individual ISCMs' positions on the Global Compact and what is needed to ensure ISCMs' engagement in the implementation, follow up and review of the Global Compact.

Telephone interviews will be conducted by an IOM-appointed consultant among selected ISCMs to identify effective practices and successful partnership models. The telephone interview will further explore the potential complementarities and added value of ISCM engagement in the Global Compact. Questions will be shared with the interviewees beforehand.

The Review and the findings of the survey and telephone interviews will be submitted to the President of the Global Compact Intergovernmental conference and are intended to be summarized at a side-event on Regional Dimensions in the Global Compact Implementation, Follow Up and Review in Marrakesh in December 2018.

Core questions

1. Name of ISCM.

2. Name and title of the interviewee.

3. Date of the interview.

4. What is the value added of your ISCM in assisting its Member States in the Global Compact implementation?

5. What specific features of your ISCM may hinder it facilitating its Member States in the implementation of Global Compact?
-

6. The Seventh Global Meeting of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (GRCP 7) held on 10 and 11 October 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland, resulted in the formulation of joint actionable commitments by ISCMs and their partner organizations (UN Regional Commissions and regional economic organizations) as reflected in the “GRCP 7 Highlights.”

What progress has your ISCM achieved on these recommendations since October 2017?

7. Are there any other tools or methodologies which could further facilitate ISCM assistance to its Member States in Global Compact implementation?
-

8. Please provide examples of your ISCM’s partnerships and coordinating mechanisms with other ISCMs, UN Regional Commissions, Regional economic organizations, intergovernmental organizations and other non-state actors that assist ISCM Member States in the Global Compact implementation.
-

Optional questions

9. The Sixth Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 6) held in October 2016 concluded that ISCMs have a role in migration-related SDGs and were already supporting their implementation through policy dialogue, networking, policy development, targeted project interventions, capacity-building, data collection, analysis and research.⁷ What lessons and effective practices can be derived from ISCM’s experience with the SDGs that can be replicated in the Global Compact implementation?
-

10. The Global Compact should foresee a follow-up mechanism with clear roles and responsibilities for different structures and mechanisms and explicitly recognize the role of RCPs, IRFs and global processes on migration.⁸ How should RCPs and IRFs support their Member States in translating international commitments into the national and regional contexts?
-

11. Please provide examples of your ISCM’s influence in shaping its Member States’ national positions on the Global Compact.
-

7 “Summary Report of the Seventh Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Interregional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 7): Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration” (2017), page 8, http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/iom_grcp7.pdf

8 *Ibid.*, page 13.

Annex 5. List of Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration⁹ per region

Regional Consultative Processes on Migration¹⁰

Europe (Eurasia)

Almaty Process on Refugee Protection and International Migration

Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration, Mobility and Integrated Border Management

Prague Process

Middle East

Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugee Affairs (ARCP)

Africa

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Regional Consultative Process on Migration (IGAD-RCP)

Migration Dialogue from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa Member States (MIDCOM)

Migration Dialogue for Central African States (MIDCAS)

Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA)

Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA)

Asia and Pacific

Regional Consultative Process on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process)

Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC)

Americas

Regional Conference on Migration (RCM or Puebla Process)

South American Conference on Migration (SACM)

Caribbean Migration Consultations (CMC)

Central American Commission of Migration Directors (OCAM)

- 9 The general term Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on migration (ISCM) refers to all state-led, regular information-sharing and policy dialogues at the regional, interregional or global level among States interested in promoting cooperation in the field of migration. ISCMs comprise of global processes on migration, interregional forums on migration (bridging two or more regions) and regional consultative processes on migration (covering one region). This list includes only active ISCMs.
- 10 Regional Consultative Processes on migration (RCP) are state-led, ongoing, regional information-sharing and policy dialogues dedicated to discussing specific migration issue(s) in a cooperative manner among States from an agreed (usually geographical) region, and may either be officially associated with formal regional institutions, or be informal and non-binding. Currently there are 15 active RCPs (15).

Interregional Forums on Migration¹¹

Africa – Europe

5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean

EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative (Khartoum Process)

Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process)

Africa – Asia – Americas – Europe

African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) – European Union (EU) Dialogue on Migration

Americas – Europe

Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development (FIBEMYD)

European Union – Latin America and the Caribbean Structured and Comprehensive Bi-regional Dialogue on Migration (EU-CELAC)

Ibero-American Network of Migration Authorities (RIAM)

Asia – Europe

The Asia – European Union Meeting's (ASEM) Conference of the Directors General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows

Budapest Process

Asia – Middle East

Ministerial Consultation on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia (Abu Dhabi Dialogue)

Europe – Asia – Americas

Inter-Governmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC)

Europe – Asia – Americas – the Middle East

Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime

Intra-African

Pan-African Forum on migration (formerly Intra-regional Forum on Migration in Africa)

¹¹ Interregional Forums on Migration (IRFs) are state-led, ongoing, information-sharing and policy dialogues on migration, usually connecting two or more regions, and may either be officially associated with formal interregional institutions, or be informal and non-binding. Only active IRFs (13) are listed here.

Global Processes on Migration¹²

Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)

International Dialogue on Migration (IDM)

¹² Global Processes on Migration are government-led international policy dialogues on migration at the global level, usually facilitated by an intergovernmental organization, and focusing either on overall migration governance at the global level (e.g. International Dialogue on Migration), or specific themes (targeted migration consultations and discussions in global bodies that have specific responsibilities over certain elements of migration through international conventions and protocols), or interlinkages between migration and other areas, such as development (e.g. UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, the Global Forum on Migration and Development). Only major global processes are listed here. Other global processes that address specific areas of migration management include the UNHCR High Commissioner's Dialogues on Protection Challenges; the UNODC Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; the International Labour Conference; and the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

Annex 6. Global Compact themes, principles and objectives

Elements and themes of the Global Compact¹³

- Human rights of all migrants, social inclusion, cohesion, and all forms of discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance.
- Irregular migration and regular pathways, including decent work, labor mobility, recognition of skills and qualifications, and other relevant measures.
- International cooperation and governance of migration in all its dimensions, including at borders, on transit, entry, return, readmission, integration and reintegration.
- Contributions of migrants and diasporas to all dimensions of sustainable development, including remittances and portability of earned benefits.
- 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.
- Smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and contemporary forms of slavery, including appropriate identification, protection and assistance to migrants and trafficked victims.

Global Compact Principles and Global Compact Objectives, taken from the intergovernmentally negotiated and agreed outcome of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (13 July 2018)

Global Compact cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles:

1. People-centred
2. International cooperation
3. National sovereignty
4. Rule of law and due process
5. Sustainable development
6. Human rights
7. Gender-responsive
8. Child-sensitive
9. Whole-of-government approach
10. Whole-of-society approach

¹³ The elements are listed in the New York Declaration for Refugees, Annex II paragraph 8. The themes are taken from the Migrants and the Modalities for the intergovernmental negotiations of the Global Compact, paragraph 16. In this Annex the elements are grouped under the themes by IOM.

Objectives for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

1. Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
2. Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin
3. Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
4. Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation
5. Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration
6. Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work
7. Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration
8. Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants
9. Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants
10. Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration
11. Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner
12. Strengthen certainty and predictability in migration procedures for appropriate screening, assessment and referral
13. Use migration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives
14. Enhance consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle
15. Provide access to basic services for migrants
16. Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion
17. Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration
18. Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences
19. Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries
20. (20) Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants
21. Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration
22. Establish mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits
23. Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration

Annex 7. Definitions

inter-State consultation mechanism on migration (ISCM)	<p>State-led, ongoing information-sharing and policy dialogues on the regional, interregional or global level for those States with an interest in promoting cooperation in the field of migration.</p> <p>ISCMs comprise of global processes on migration, interregional forums on migration (bridging two or more regions) and regional consultative processes on migration (covering one region).</p>
regional consultative process on migration (RCP)	<p>State-led, ongoing, regional information-sharing and policy dialogues dedicated to discussing specific migration issue(s) in a cooperative manner among States from an agreed (usually geographical) region, and may either be officially associated with formal regional institutions, or be informal and non-binding.</p>
interregional forum on migration (IRF)	<p>State-led, ongoing, information-sharing and policy dialogues on migration, usually connecting two or more regions, and may either be officially associated with formal interregional institutions, or be informal and non-binding.</p>
global process on migration	<p>Government-led international policy dialogues on migration at the global level, usually facilitated by an intergovernmental organization, and focusing either on overall migration governance at the global level (e.g. International Dialogue on Migration), or specific themes (targeted migration consultations and discussions in global bodies that have specific responsibilities over certain elements of migration through international conventions and protocols), or interlinkages between migration and other areas, such as development (e.g. UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (to be recast as the International Migration Review Forum), the Global Forum on Migration and Development).</p>
Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration	<p>A Member-State-led effort to elaborate a comprehensive international cooperation framework on migrants and human mobility by setting out a range of principles, commitments and understandings among UN Member States regarding international migration in all its dimensions.</p>

Annex 8. List of literature used

Webpages:

<https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/migration-compact>

and

www.iom.int/global-compact-migration

- United Nations General Assembly Resolution of 3 October 2016 A/71/1 “New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants” [www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/A_RES_71_1_E.pdf]
- UN GA A/RES/71/280 “Modalities for the intergovernmental negotiations of the Global Compact for safe, orderly and regular migration” of 17 April 2017 [www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/71/280]
- Intergovernmentally negotiated and agreed outcome of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration [www.un.org/pga/72/wp-content/uploads/sites/51/2018/07/180713_Agreed-Outcome_Global-Compact-for-Migration.pdf]
- GRCP 7 Background Note [www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/ICP/RCP/2017/Background-Note-GRCP-7.pdf]
- GRCP 7 survey summary [https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/grcp7_summary.pdf or www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/ICP/RCP/2017/GRCP7-Survey-Results-Summary.pdf]
- GRCP 7 Highlights [www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/ICP/RCP/2017/keydocs/GRCP%207%20Highlights%20Document%2010%20October%202017%20FINAL.pdf]
- GRCP 7 Summary Report [http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/iom_grcp7.pdf]
- GRCP 6 Summary Report [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/grcp_6_en.pdf]
- “Mobilising RCPs to Support the Implementation of the Global Compact” Consolidated Notes from Geneva Side Event (04 September 2018) [*shared by email*]
- IPD Note for file: Side-event “Mobilizing Regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs) to support the implementation of Global Compact commitments” organized by the United Arab Emirates Ministry of Human resources and Emiratization, IOM and the Migrant Forum Asia (MFA) on the margins of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Friends of the Forum on 3 September 2018 at the Palais des Nations [*shared by email*]
- Regional Dimensions in the Implementation, Follow Up and Review of the Global Compact for Migration: Side Event Concept Note for Marrakesh

- IPD Outline of the Review of the role of regional consultative processes on migration and other inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
- Definitions of terms related to ISCMs
- Questionnaire of the GRCP 7 survey
- IPD Matrix of Global Compact Regional consultation activities and stakeholders per Region

ISCM Positions on the Global Compact

- ADD – Cooperating to Improve Temporary Labour Mobility Governance among Asian Countries of Origin and Destination: Inputs from the Abu Dhabi Dialogue to Inform the Development of a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
- ARCP – En
- Bali Process – Global Compact paper
- Colombo Process – www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwjW3YCYZgandAhVDPFAKHcCUCecQFjAAegQIABAC&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.colomboprocess.org%2Fimages%2FCP-Joint-Recommendation-to-the-GCM--final.pdf&usg=AOvVaw05n9swcZt77h9pmUqT-3M6
- RCM – http://portal.rcmvs.org/sites/default/files/Documentos%20Finales/xxii_crm_declaracion_viceministerial_final_eng.pdf; MEETING OF THE REGIONAL CONSULTATION GROUP ON MIGRATION (RCGM) OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION (RCM); Reports of the TS's participation at Meetings Related to the Negotiations of the Global Compact on Migration (Spanish only)
- SACM – www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwingOrt_ajdAhWKmbQKHToUCZsQFjAAegQICRAC&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.comillas.edu%2Fimages%2FBOBIMID%2FNoticias%2FSOUTH_AMERICAN_CONFERENCE_LIMA_DECLARATION.pdf&usg=AOvVaw2OpJg6XiMqmtW8nR8IDILe
- GFDM – <https://gfmd.org/gfmd-and-global-compact-migration-gcm>
- IDM – Final Report; Final Report; Summary of conclusions
- Budapest Process, Prague Process, Rabat Process and Khartoum Process - Global Compact for Migration: An Agenda for Tomorrow and Beyond. Recommendations by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/gcm_-_an_agenda_for_tomorrow_and_beyond_icmpd.pdf
- UNRC on the Global Compact [www.regionalcommissions.org/regional-consultations-on-migration]

