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Role of the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration (ARCP) in Supporting the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda



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Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration (ARCP)

Established according to a resolution issued by LAS Council at ministerial level in 2014 as a State-driven, non-binding, flexible and informal forum to facilitate dialogue and cooperation between LAS member States on migration issues. The ARCP was officially launched during the “**Fifth Global Meeting for Chairs and Secretariats of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration**” hosted by LAS at its headquarters and organized in collaboration with IOM in October 2015. The ARCP endorsed its programming document and 2016-2017 work plan in its second meeting in May 2016, the migration related SDG targets are reflected in the both documents.

The ARCP's role in realizing the migration-related SDG targets

- Raising awareness;
- Improving knowledge base on migration related targets;
- Coordinating policies of the Arab countries in the field of migration and providing policy guidance through enhancing regional dialogue;
- Providing capacity building programs;
- Sharing information, experiences and best practices.

The ARCP strategy and the SDGs

The ARCP was keen to formulate a comprehensive and integrated Arab strategy, in an effort to maximize the benefits of migration and minimize its hazards, strengthen the position of Arab states in negotiating migration issues regionally and globally, and open new horizons for cooperation and partnership between sending, transit and receiving countries.

In this framework, the ARCP has endorsed its Programming Document as well as its first work plan for 2016-2017 during its second meeting in May 2016.

The migration related SDG targets are reflected in the ARCP's Programming Document and its 2016-2017 work plan.

2016-2017 Work Plan

- Partnership with UN-ESCWA, as the United Nations regional commission in charge of monitoring the implementation of the SDGs in the region, and IOM, as the organization in charge of migration, to provide the necessary technical support to Member States in their implementation of the migration related targets.
- A training workshop aiming at raising awareness and improving knowledge base on migration related SDG targets to be organized in December 2016.
- Follow up and review with Member States on the regional level on the migration related targets is a permanent item on the agenda of the ARCP's annual ordinary meetings.

The ARCP contribution to the implementation of the migration-related SDG targets at the national and regional levels

The ARCP will work on:

- Facilitating the exchange of best practices;
- Periodic review of the progress in implementation;
- Prepare reports on the achievements of the Member States;
- Help define coherent regional policies and approaches;
- Provide technical support/capacity building to the related bodies on the national level.

National, Regional and Global Levels

The ARCP will work as a link between the national level and the global one; inputs and perspectives from the national level should be considered and analyzed at the regional level and feed into the global process. It can also help countries to translate global goals into policies, norms, standards, and guidelines that can be implemented at the national level, as well as mobilize partnerships and cooperation.

Challenges facing the Arab Region

- Displacement and forced migration caused by: armed conflicts, violent extremism, poverty, food insecurity as well as climate change;
- Irregular migration and mixed migration flows;
- Human trafficking and migrants smuggling;
- Brain drain.

Gaps and Needs

•Gaps:

- Lack of unified definitions ex “International migrant”;
- Measuring international migration;
- Lack of transparency in sharing or publicizing some of the collected data.

•Needs :

- Improving research and developing analytical tools;
- Providing technical support to Member States in the preparation of their censuses and building their capacities in collecting and analyzing data;
- Using modern statistical methods to provide the necessary data on time in order to provide support/assistance to refugees and IDPs;
- Help member states take legislative procedures, put adequate policies, work plans and programs on the national level.

Recommendations

RCPs/ ISCMs in the upcoming period should work on the following:

- Promoting implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development migration-related targets;
- Supporting Member States to develop more effective policies for utilizing migration in favour of development on both national and regional level
- Following up on the outcomes of the *High-Level Meeting on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants* at the Arab regional level;
- Ensure member states` active participation and input in the ongoing discussions of the *global compact on responsibility sharing for refugees*, and *the global compact for orderly, safe, and regular migration*;

Thank You..

