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Migration and the Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration & of Regional Economic Organizations

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**SESSION 3. THE PLACE OF RCPS IN MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. POTENTIAL AREAS
OF COOPERATION AMONG THE RCPS AND THE UN REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC
ORGANIZATIONS TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MIGRATION-RELATED SDGS**

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Presentation Outline

- ❑ Introduction
- ❑ The Regional Commissions and the SDGs
- ❑ Regional Commissions and the migration-related SDGs
- ❑ Conclusion

Introduction

Regional Commissions (RCs) of the UN are characterized by:

- their universal coverage,
- convening power,
- intergovernmental nature and strength,
- broad-based cross-sectoral mandate, and
- experience in mobilizing regional consensus on key intergovernmental agreements (ICPD, Beijing Platform for Action, COP 21, HABITAT-III, etc.)

Regional Commissions and Agenda 2030-1

Particularly in relation to the SDGs and their means of implementation which recognize the regional dimension of development, RCs have been assigned explicit and implicit mandates to:

- ❖ assist member States in integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development,
- ❖ provide technical support for SDG implementation through effective leveraging of the means of implementation, and
- ❖ facilitate effective follow-up and review (UN 2015)

Regional Commissions and Agenda 2030

In particular, the following areas have been identified:

- ❑ Integrating SDGs into national development planning and fiscal frameworks
- ❑ Promoting policy coherence, consistency and coordination;
- ❑ Enhancing data and statistical capacities of Member States for implementation of the 2030 Agenda;
- ❑ Identifying and promoting alternative and innovative sources of financing for development;
- ❑ Leveraging science, technology and innovation in support of Agenda 2030;
- ❑ Tapping South-South and regional partnerships;
- ❑ Translating regional models into global public goods

Regional Commissions' joint work on Migration

RCs have already been engaged on joint work on migration.

Some recent examples include:

- ❑ Cf. regional consultative process in June 2011, which brought together ministers of labour from the Asia Pacific countries at a workshop on “strengthening dialogue between ESCWA and ESCAP countries on international migration and development.
- ❑ In September 2011, a second interregional workshop on “strengthening national capacities to deal with international migration: maximizing development benefits and minimizing negative impacts” was jointly organized by ECLAC, ECE and ECA
- ❑ April 2015- UN Expert Group Meeting on the ‘Post-2015 Era: Implications for the Global Research Agenda on Population and Development’ and panel on international migration

Regional Commissions and the implementation of migration-related SDGs

Cf. Role of RCs in implementation of SDGs.

Cf. Integrated nature of SDGs

In relation to the migration-related SDGs, 5 areas stand out:

- ❑ Integrating migration-related SDGs into national development planning and fiscal frameworks
- ❑ Promoting policy coherence, consistency and coordination;
- ❑ Enhancing data and statistical capacities of Member States for implementation of the 2030 Agenda;
- ❑ Tapping South-South and regional partnerships;
- ❑ Translating regional models into global public goods

Conclusion

- ❑ Cooperation, exchange of experiences and joint work between the Regional Commissions with: member states, RECs, other UN agencies, and other stakeholders is one of the most valuable roles of the RCs
- ❑ Agenda 2020 provides an opportunity for deepening this cooperation and forging new ones for mutual effectiveness, accountability and learning in ensuring that no one is left behind
- ❑ Specifically in relation to the migration-related SDGs, RCs can develop new partnerships and systemise their existing work in the area of migration to advance the achievement of the targets

Sources

United Nations (2015). 'Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: The role of Regional Commissions'. New York: United Nations

Available on <www.regional-commissions.org/Agenda2030p.pdf>