The International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) is IOM’s main forum for migration policy dialogue, founded in 2001 to provide migration experts worldwide an informal and non-binding setting where to promote exchange of policy approaches and best practices, and advance understanding and cooperation on migration.

Building on discussions held during the first session of the 2018 IDM which took place in New York on 26 and 27 March, this second session proposes to elaborate further on the overarching topic of partnership and cooperation with a focus on capacity development to meet the current challenges of effective governance of migration. Throughout the negotiations of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration there was a strong call for strengthening States and other actors’ capacity in the migration area, a call that was also echoed strongly by Member States and other relevant stakeholders during the first IDM event.

The second IDM session will provide a timely opportunity, before the intergovernmental conference to adopt the global compact is held in Marrakech in December, to discuss ways to identify and address capacity development needs of States and other stakeholders in the framework of the global compact process. The event will present examples of capacity development instruments and partnerships, and provide a platform for experience exchange among a wide range of stakeholders. Participants will be able to evaluate best practices of whole-of-government, whole-of-society and UN system-wide coordination approaches to support migration governance.

Coordination and cooperation are key to ensure coherent solutions to capacity development gaps and to allocate appropriate funding. There are several key aspects that require consideration with a view to promoting effective migration governance, namely: strengthened partnerships which cut across all levels of governance; United Nations system coordination of support; and tools and mechanisms to assess and review progress. The role of international organizations, regional institutions and cooperation mechanisms, as well as regional civil society coordination tools and frameworks for financing, will be of crucial importance.

It will be important to continue to build on the momentum and progress achieved in deliberations on migration governance through the Global Compact process. Between the planned end of the negotiations of the Compact in July and its adoption in December, the IDM session in October will offer a space to reflect upon and introduce concrete and appropriate proposals in support of the global compact process.