Summary
UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/73/326 of 19 July 2019 “Format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums” (IMRF Resolution) outlines the modalities of the review of the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM or Global Compact).

IMRF Resolution establishes the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) as the primary intergovernmental global platform for UN Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the GCM, including as it relates to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

The GCM review is an inclusive process, and inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs) and in particular regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs) are invited to review the GCM implementation, contribute to the IMRF particularly by providing relevant data, evidence, best practices, innovative approaches and recommendations relevant for the GCM implementation.

ISCMs are referred to in the IMRF Resolution as “existing mechanisms, platforms and frameworks to address migration” (preamble), “subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms” (§10), “regional processes, platforms” (§ 21d), and “regional consultative processes on migration” (§10; §12).

RCPs are singled out for ensuring regional aspects of the GCM review.

The Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) is referred to individually in §11.

With the GCM adoption and creation of the IMRF, the UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (UN HLD IM) is discontinued.

Other regional actors – partners of ISCMs, such as intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), including UN regional economic commissions (UN ReC), are invited to contribute to the GCM reviews.

“Subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations” seems to be a common phrase to cover main regional inter-State stakeholders, including ISCMs and IGOs.

References to ISCMs in the IMRF Resolution text

- “Reaffirming also that the Global Compact will be implemented through enhanced bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation and a revitalized global partnership in a spirit of solidarity, building on existing mechanisms, platforms and frameworks to address migration in all its dimensions.” (preamble)

- “Invites relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions and regional consultative processes on migration, to review the implementation of the Global Compact,

1 Bold emphasis in the quoted resolution paragraphs’ text is added by IOM.
within their respective regions, and to contribute to the work of the forums, with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders.” (§10)

- “Invites forums such as the IOM International Dialogue on Migration, regional consultative processes on migration and others to contribute to each forum by providing relevant data, evidence, best practices, innovative approaches and recommendations as they relate to the implementation of the Global Compact.” (§12).

- “Decides that:” … “Adequate space should be reserved during each round table for participation of non-governmental stakeholders and representatives of local authorities, as well as of regional processes, platforms and organizations.” (§21d)

- “Invites also the Global Forum on Migration and Development, including its civil society, business and mayoral mechanisms, to provide a space for informal exchanges on the implementation of the Global Compact, and report the findings, best practices and innovative approaches to the forums.” (§11)

Other important references

- “Reiterates the importance of the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders in the forums, and invites non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as all stakeholders that were accredited to the preparatory process of the intergovernmental consultations of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration or that were accredited to participate in the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, and encourages them to register with the Secretariat in order to participate in the forums.” (§4)

References to other regional actors in the IMRF Resolution text

- “Also decides that the forums shall be open to participation by all States Members of the United Nations and all members of specialized agencies that have observer status with the General Assembly.” (§2)

- “Invites intergovernmental organizations and other entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly and organizations and bodies of the United Nations to participate as observers in the forums.” (§3)

- “Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the expertise of the United Nations system as a whole, including specialized agencies, funds and programmes, related organizations and regional economic commissions, as well as all relevant special procedures mandate holders and treaty bodies, in accordance with their respective mandates, giving due regard to Geneva-based expertise, is coordinated to support the State-led forums and to facilitate their participation therein.” (§7)

- “Invites relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations regional economic commissions and regional consultative processes on migration, to review the implementation of the Global Compact, within their respective regions, and to contribute to the work of the forums, with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders.” (§10)

- “Decides that:” … “Adequate space should be reserved during each round table for participation of non-governmental stakeholders and representatives of local authorities, as well as of regional processes, platforms and organizations.” (§21d)