

CLOSING REMARKS

Laura Thompson
Deputy Director General, International Organization for Migration

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Honorable Ministers,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I'd like to start by thanking you all for taking the time to join this timely discussion and for having been active and engaged actors over the course of these past two days.

This was the second of the two IDMs scheduled by the IOM in 2018 under the overarching theme “Inclusive and innovative partnerships for effective global governance of migration”, with a focus on capacity development to meet the current challenges of effective governance of migration.

It has been a productive and insightful last couple of days. I am very pleased with the outcomes of the six sessions we have had the pleasure of taking part in. I hope you will all return to your capitals and offices with all the good practices and recommendations you have learned from this two-day session.

Allow me to share with you several key takeaways from the last two days:

Migration, being a cross-cutting and complex issue, requires collaboration across several policy areas to develop the capacities of a broad range of actors to ensure coherence of actions.

Speakers emphasized the multi-dimensional nature of migration and the need for capacity to address the relationship between migration and other transnational issues. Migration capacity development activities have to be mainstreamed throughout all levels of policy making in a range of fields, including immigration and border management, human rights, development, human and national security, and the environment, among others. This requires a whole of government and whole of society approach that invests in capacity development among multiple actors that intersect with migration or have relevant expertise.

I would like to recall here that ownership of the beneficiaries of capacity development programmes should be strengthened and encouraged through their involvement in all stages of programmes' design and elaboration. As Ms. Bralo said today in the Migrant's Voice session: "The ones that share their stories of migration are the ones that may have the solutions". Those who know best of what is working and what is not are migrants themselves. Being at the heart of migration management, the migrants and their representatives must be involved in efforts of capacity development in order to contribute their knowledge and resources, as our speaker from SINGA Deutschland mentioned today.

Regional mechanisms and partnership frameworks are valuable in facilitating capacity development on migration in general and implementation of the Global Compact in particular.

We heard yesterday rich examples of regional approaches to capacity development - the Council of Europe's action plan on migration to protect migrants and refugees, the African Union's migration policy framework to harness the benefits of migration, the Arab Parliament's call for capacity development for regional legislators in areas of protection of the rights of migrants and displaced persons, protection of children and vulnerable women, and emergency health care and shelter in mass arrival situations, as well as several binational and regional consultative mechanisms in North and Central America on health and protection of migrants.

Another message of the discussion was that capacity development mechanisms at the national level, with an established structure and dedicated resources, are necessary to guarantee policy coherence in priority areas.

Speakers recalled the need for migration mainstream into highest level of government, and technical assistance to lead the identification of gaps and determine further goals with the

expected outcomes; investing in knowledge on capacity development by engaging the countries collectively in the design of capacity development indicators for the definition of capacity development activities.

We heard today from the African Development Bank speaker that capacity development is an enabler as well as an outcome and its success of measurement will largely depend on quality and accuracy of planning. Speakers shared good practices that should be promoted including the setting up of an accessible data management platform. The Migration Governance Indicators as a framework to support the measurement of the impact of capacity development efforts was mentioned by several speakers.

Adequate financing of capacity requires innovative approaches going beyond traditional donors.

Panelists spoke of both challenges and opportunities for financing capacity development. On the one hand, the Global Compact for Migration offers a unique opportunity to help mobilize resources from additional stakeholders in a targeted and complementary manner. On the other hand, resources are limited. Prioritization is essential. A good approach identifies areas where there are capacity development gaps and concentrates on situations in which additional expertise and resources could help achieve significant, positive outcomes. Involvement of the private sector in the discussion about migration governance has been highly recommended by speakers who urged using multiple sources of funding, including governments, the private sector, and philanthropists. Partnerships between migration and development actors can be useful in sharing the cost of capacity development among multiple parties. The Global Fund noted the need for stronger communication between agencies like IOM and UNCHR and the Fund at headquarter level as well as in country to better address migrant needs.

Engaging youth in capacity development is critical.

This was mentioned by so many of our speakers and members of the audience. “Partnering with youth means partnering with leaders and changemakers” to quote the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth representative whom we heard earlier today. It is in governments and societies best interest to also build the capacity of young migrants themselves to co-create solutions and provide evidence and feedback on the impact of migration practices. As UNICEF recalled in quoting Anas Ansar, a young migrant: “One way

of making migration safer and better for young people is to have us be part of the discussion”. There needs to be space offered which allows young people to meaningfully contribute throughout the process of setting strategies, planning and implementing accordingly. This was a message reinforced by our speakers from the African Renaissance Diaspora Network, as well as by the African Development Bank who presented many of their capacity development projects aimed at empowering youth such as Boost Africa, the recent joint African Development Bank - European Investment Bank initiative in support to young African entrepreneur empowerment.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, allow me also to highlight the importance of coordinated action on promoting international efforts on capacity development in migration management. Many of you **called for the United Nations system to continue to support States’ and relevant stakeholders’ capacity on migration governance because the implementation of the global compact will require reinforced synergies and tools to assess needs and develop capacities in key areas identified in the agreement.**

Many speakers endorsed the UN’s decision to form a UN migration network to assist States in the implementation of the global compact. There was consensus that more inter-agency coordination will promote synergies, increase efficiency and avoid duplication, as one speaker described the need. There was also consensus that the capacity building mechanism foreseen by the global compact is a concrete step in the right direction to increase capacity and policy coherence.

You highlighted the need to develop capacity on migration consistent with other major UN initiatives, such as Agenda 2030, the Paris agreement on climate change, development financing. But in order for the network to be successful in delivering on supporting Member States you urged it to offer its expertise not just to the national government agencies but also to parliamentarians, local governments, civil society, and migrant and diaspora agencies while engaging of all these actors in sharing their best practices and their expertise in capacity development. Speakers from WHO and UNICEF gave concrete examples of ways that their agencies support capacity building regarding the

intersection between migration and health and children's rights, respectively. Many of the speakers from the floor described positively their interactions with IOM's capacity building initiatives.

This is a brief recap of the main messages of this debate. As always, a longer summary will be available in the coming days, followed by a comprehensive report of this and the first session held in New York.

I thank all panelists and all of you once more for your participation and important contributions to this IDM session. It was a great opportunity to have such a numerous and diverse audience during these 2 days and to hear so many of your best practices and perspectives on capacity development on migration at the local, national and regional level, as well as global joint efforts.

We trust that once more the IDM discussion responded to your interests and will provide you a set of tools and recommendations to share with your relevant offices and implement in your day-to-day work.