

**Inter-state Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and the Global Compact for  
Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**

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***Seventh Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Inter-regional and  
Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 7)***

**“GRCP 7 Highlights Document”**

1. The Seventh Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional, Inter-regional and Global Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 7) was hosted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on the theme “Inter-state Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration” on 10 and 11 October 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland.
2. The objective was to gather perspectives of the many state-led consultation mechanisms on migration and other key relevant regional mechanisms and bodies on the Global Compact for Migration and develop their joint recommendations for the Global Compact.
3. These inter-state dialogue mechanisms on migration are pioneers at the forefront of migration governance. They are the principal mechanisms for regional dialogue and cooperation on migration, and have deep expertise to share. Their work at the regional and cross-regional levels has laid the ground for the development of the Global Compact for Migration. The compact is expected to build on existing systems of migration management and effective practices and partnership models developed through these mechanisms for addressing migration issues. The good practices developed by these fora and their main regional partners – Regional Economic Organizations and UN Regional Commissions – should be considered during the stock-taking phase of the Global Compact.
4. To this end, in preparation for the GRCP 7, a survey of these state-led mechanisms and their partner organizations was conducted to collect their key inputs to the Global Compact for Migration. Survey results showed a richness of experience and insight on all aspects of migration. The completed questionnaires will be submitted to the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for International Migration and the GCM Co-Facilitators for their consideration. The Survey results also served as the basis for regional breakout group discussions and the overall recommendations.
5. GRCP 7 discussions revealed a number of shared principles, priority areas and actionable recommendations as well as expectations for the focus of the Global Compact.
6. On matters of substance, the inter-state consultation mechanisms highlighted that the Global Compact should:

- Ensure the protection of the human rights of all migrants regardless of their migratory status, with particular attention to migrants in vulnerable situations;
- facilitate regular and combat irregular migration, including through promotion of circular labour migration schemes, recognition of qualifications and skills, and family reunification;
- promote social integration, including access to social services (such as health, education and social protection);
- combat xenophobia, racism, discrimination and intolerance towards migrants and promote a positive image of migrants and highlight their contributions to development; and
- enhance collection and analysis of migration data and promote data exchange between countries.

7. In support of the implementation of the Global Compact, the inter-state cooperation mechanisms on migration highlighted that they:

- constitute critical contributors to and mechanisms for migration governance at the regional and inter-regional level;
- will continue acting as the main platforms for policy dialogue on migration, peer learning, exchanges of good practices, innovation and capacity building;
- promote whole-of-government approaches to migration governance among their members;
- encourage complementarities and synergies between and among the national, regional, inter-regional and global levels and promote partnerships with all stakeholders, including non-governmental and civil society organizations, the private sector, academia, migrants and diasporas;
- consider how to ensure the sustainability of inter-state consultation mechanisms on migration, including in bringing forward their outcomes and views in their national positions during the Global Compact negotiations; and
- ensure that their work contributes to the implementation of the Global Compact and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by, amongst others:
  - building the capacities of their Members;
  - supporting exchange of data, statistics and analysis on migration among their members and with regional partners.

8. The importance of partnerships among all stakeholders at all levels was reiterated throughout the proceedings.

These include:

- (i) continued cooperation and synergies among the inter-state cooperation mechanisms themselves, particularly between the global processes on migration and the regional and inter-regional fora;
- (ii) partnerships with inter-governmental organizations such as IOM, the Regional Economic Organizations and UN Regional Commissions; and
- (iii) cooperation with non-governmental partners – including civil society, the private sector, media, diaspora, migrants and academia.

9. The GRCP 7 provided an important opportunity for inter-state consultation mechanisms on migration, particularly the regional consultative processes on migration and inter-regional fora, to convey their regional positions on and good practices relevant to the Global Compact for Migration.

10. This summary document together with the fuller report summarizing the discussions at the proceedings will be submitted to the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for International Migration and the GCM Co-Facilitators in addition to the completed survey questionnaires as critical input for the stock-taking and subsequent negotiations of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

**Geneva, 11 October 2017**