Regional Migration Reviews

Migration Justice: A Practical Guide for Migrants and Other Stakeholders Using the Upcoming Regional Reviews to Safeguard Human Rights

December 2023 | Maria Kamenias

Quaker United Nations Office’s Human Rights & Refugees Programme

Grounded in our belief in the inherent worth of every individual, we focus on promoting and protecting human rights of all migrants regardless of status.

Viewing the Global Compact for Migration as a useful tool for human rights-based migration governance, we collaborate with States, the UN, migrants, civil society to ensure its ambitious, effective, and human rights-based implementation.

In the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) States committed to a human rights-based approach to migration policy, providing a new tool for engaging governments on migrant rights. It encourages national implementation plans and inclusive reviews, such as the second round of Regional Reviews, covering regional collaboration and monitoring progress. The next round of regional reviews will take place in 2024-2025 and offer the chance for States and stakeholders to collectively assess progress and strategize for further advances in GCM implementation.

All relevant regional processes are invited to contribute and meetings will be organized by each of the UN regional economic commissions with guidance and support from the UN Network on Migration (Network).

Outcomes will inform future reports from the Secretary-General and the next International Migration Review Forum.

Why Engage with the Regional Reviews?

Engagement of all stakeholders enables valuable information and alternative perspectives distinct from those presented by the participating States.

Multi-stakeholder consultations ahead of the reviews have been valuable, creating spaces for stakeholders to contribute insights on the progress and challenges in implementing the GCM within their region. Migrants and migrant-led networks were included in previous reviews, offering their insights on the regional review process. These regional reviews should build on the International Migration Review Forum’s outcomes, in particular pledges and the IMRF Progress Declaration. They offer a regular platform for States and stakeholders to hear from each other, set agendas for regional collaboration, and frame collective action. Migrant and other stakeholder participation can help enable human rights based migration governance.

Possible Aims for Engagement

- Sharing successful practices from a project for potential replication and scaling up.
- Highlighting rights violations in the region and the impact of regional collaboration.
- Ensuring representation of migrants.
- Following up on pledges made at the IMRF and ensuring accountability.
- Connecting with governments, intergovernmental organizations and other stakeholders.
- Initiating dialogue with government(s) for advocacy or partnership.

Financial Support

Efforts to secure funds for financial support for civil society are underway. Updates are expected on the Migration MPTF website.

Useful Links

- The Networks’ Regional Reviews 2024 Webpage
- The Networks’ Stakeholder Roadmap
- Global Compact for Migration Webpage
- QUNO Briefing on Meaningful Migrant Participation
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- Stay Informed

To stay informed about the evolving process, regularly check the Network’s website and sign up to their newsletter.
Regional GCM Talks
GCM Talks may occur in 2024 before the main Review meetings. These talks aim to provide a platform for discussion on GCM implementation. The first round of Regional Reviews the agendas clustered the objectives, similarly to in the IMRF.

Multi-Stakeholder Consultations
The Network will host consultations for each UN region to contribute to Regional Reviews. Member States are encouraged to attend. Summaries will be posted on the Network’s website. Regional Networks will coordinate engagement.

Migration Network Hub
The Network will initiate five regional Discussion Spaces on the Migration Network Hub. These will be platforms for all stakeholders, including Member States, to share input in writing and take part in online discussion forums with a focus on regional collaboration. Previous discussion spaces have allowed submissions in several languages. An analysis paper summarizing submissions from each Regional Discussion Space will be presented ahead of each Regional Review.

Regional GCM Talks
GCM Talks may occur in 2024 before the main Review meetings. These talks aim to provide a platform for discussion on GCM implementation. Previous talks have been held online or hybrid and included Member States, UN entities, migrants, civil society and other stakeholders as panelists, moderators and participants. Summaries are posted on the Network’s website.

How To Engage?
These suggestions are based on the information available at the time and focus on the processes planned by the Regional Migration Networks in coordination with the Regional Economic Commissions. Other regional bodies or processes (including Regional Consultative Processes) may choose to hold events as part of the regional review process.

Regional Review Meetings
Each UN Regional Economic Commission will hold a regional review meeting. These will aim to bring together Member States, UN entities and other stakeholders to discuss regional collaboration for GCM implementation.

Ideas for Action
- Register to participate (accreditation will be needed, details will be provided closer to the time) and prepare to raise your priorities
- Organize side events or virtual briefings during regional reviews (or in advance) for focused discussions on priority issues

Multi-Stakeholder Consultations
The Network will host consultations for each UN region to contribute to Regional Reviews. Member States are encouraged to attend. Summaries will be posted on the Network’s website. Regional Networks will coordinate engagement.

Ideas for Action
- Participate in pre-consultations
- Register to participate (accreditation will be needed, details will be provided closer to the time) and prepare to raise your priorities
- Hold side events or briefings at the time of the hearing or in advance

Migration Network Hub
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Ideas for Action
- Prepare and submit information to the Discussion Space(s)
- Engage with online discussion to draw attention to your reports, information and perspectives
- Monitor Discussion Spaces to see what is posted by governments and other stakeholders

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Ideas for Action
- Suggest a topic and outline for a GCM talk on a priority issue for regional collaboration in contact with the Regional Network and the Network Secretariat. To submit proposals, click here.
- Participate in upcoming GCM talks to raise your priority issues where relevant to the topic

Timeline for Regional Stakeholder Engagement 2023-2025

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<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Pre-Consultation</th>
<th>Multistakeholder Consultation</th>
<th>Regional Review</th>
<th>Contact/Link</th>
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<td>8 or 11 March 2024</td>
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<td>July 2024</td>
<td>14-16 October 2024</td>
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*Two separate pre-consultations for Asia and the Pacific, feeds into one multistakeholder consultation.