**Inputs by Migrant Advocates on Meaningful Migrant Participation in Global Compact for Migration Implementation**

*This document summarizes contributions from some of the migrant advocates QUNO works with on meaningful migrant participation including in Global Compact for Migration (GCM) implementation. QUNO thanks everyone who contributed. These inputs were used to inform Maria Kamenias’ contribution as panelist during the Multistakeholder Hearing meeting as part of the second UNECE Regional Review that took place in March 2024.*

Experts by experience

* Migrants are experts by experience, having lived through the challenges and obstacles of migration firsthand.
* Migrants can provide insights that policymakers may not have access to otherwise.
* Migrants have the experience and leadership necessary to really shape fair and effective migration policies.
* Migrants’ experiences vary from country to country and region to region – involving migrants from all over the world ensures that processes and policies remain relevant and successful in the contexts they are applied in.
* Migrants want to engage and contribute to processes, policy design and implementation. They have the experience, knowledge, and empathy to make sure efforts remain fair and successful.

Participation at all levels

* Migrants should be involved in all levels of decision-making, from policy design to operational assessment on the ground.
* Significant focus on the role of migrants when it comes to supporting community integration initiatives. Migrants can play a crucial role in facilitating the integration of other migrants into their new society by fostering cultural exchange, language learning, and forming of social connections to combat isolation and promote a sense of belonging.
* Support capacity building and skills development to further facilitate migrant participation in processes and implementation.

Migrant advisory groups

* Migrant advisory groups should be set up at all levels (local, national, and regional) to give regular input on migration policy decisions.
* Migrant advisory groups should be supported by legislation to ensure allocated budget from governments’ national and local plans.
* Migrant advisory groups can ensure that GCM implementation reflects the diverse needs and perspectives of the migrant community for a more inclusive framework and implementation.

Replication of good practices

* The European Commission created the Migrant Expert Group on Asylum, Integration, and Migration. This could be replicated on other regional levels, local levels, and intergovernmental levels.
* Showcasing the positive contributions of integration programs would help enhance inclusivity and fight stereotypes and xenophobia.