

## Second regional review of the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Africa

Addis Ababa, 8–10 October 2024

---

### Concept note

#### Background

1. In the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration,<sup>1</sup> Heads of State and Government and High Representatives committed to a review of the progress made “in implementing the Global Compact in the framework of the United Nations through a State-led approach and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders”<sup>2</sup> and invited “United Nations regional economic commissions ... to review the implementation of the Global Compact within the respective regions ... with the participation of all relevant stakeholders”.<sup>3</sup>

2. Recognizing that most international migration took place within regions, they called upon relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations to review the implementation of the Compact at the regional level beginning in 2020, then every four years thereafter.<sup>4</sup> The first regional review the implementation of the Compact by African States was held on 31 August and 1 September 2021. The findings contained in the resulting summary report<sup>5</sup> were used to inform the first International Migration Review Forum, which was held at United Nations Headquarters from 17 to 20 May 2022 and resulted in the adoption of the Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum.<sup>6</sup>

#### Objectives

3. In the document “Framework on the preparation and organization of the regional reviews of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”,<sup>7</sup> the organizers of the second round of reviews have proposed ways by which regional dynamics and enhanced regional cooperation in Compact implementation can be highlighted. The second regional

---

<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution 73/195, annex.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, para. 48.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, para. 50.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Hakima Haithar, “Wrap up/summary of the multistakeholder consultation at the African regional review of the GCM” (United Nations Network on Migration, 2021). Available at

[https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/g/files/tmzbd1416/files/docs/african\\_rr\\_multi\\_stakeholder\\_wrap\\_up.pdf](https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/g/files/tmzbd1416/files/docs/african_rr_multi_stakeholder_wrap_up.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> General Assembly resolution 76/266, annex.

<sup>7</sup> Available at <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/resources/regional-reviews-framework>.



review is, therefore, aimed at facilitating greater regional collaboration among African States in reviewing the implementation of the Compact and formulating recommendations for the next Forum, to be held in 2026. During this second review, discussions will be framed around regional priorities and gaps in Compact implementation, opportunities for regional cooperation on migration, integration of Compact objectives into existing migration governance frameworks, and monitoring of regional progress and challenges.

4. The objectives of the second regional review in Africa are as follows:

(a) To enable African States and other relevant stakeholders to assess progress in the implementation of the Compact and to identify gaps and challenges, in the light of the outcomes of the first round of regional reviews;

(b) To enable African States and other relevant stakeholders to assess regional progress and challenges in implementing the recommended actions set out in the Declaration and to formulate critical findings and recommendations to inform the International Migration Review Forum to be held in 2026;

(c) To discuss existing initiatives and experiences with a view to strengthening the linkages among the Compact, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other relevant global and regional frameworks;

(d) To provide a space for strengthening regional, subregional and cross-regional cooperation on migration.

5. The outcome report of the second review will be submitted to the President of the General Assembly and the co-facilitators of the Declaration. It is expected that during the review, participants will assess progress made in the implementation of the Compact; engage in peer-learning exchanges; highlight sector-specific and thematic priorities related to migration; identify subregional priorities and gaps in the implementation of Compact; discuss opportunities to enhance regional and cross-regional cooperation on migration; mainstream Compact objectives into existing regional migration governance frameworks; and establish mechanisms to monitor regional progress and challenges in undertaking actions that were recommended in the Progress Declaration.

## **Organization**

6. The second regional review will be attended by representatives of African States, United Nations entities and other intergovernmental organizations, and other stakeholders in Africa, including migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, faith-based organizations, local authorities and communities, the private sector, trade unions, parliamentarians, national human rights institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, academia and the media. The regional review will provide an opportunity to build on relevant discussions held within the framework of subregional, regional and cross-regional processes and platforms, such as the “GCM Talks”,<sup>8</sup> the outcomes of which have been made available on the Migration Network Hub website.<sup>9</sup>





---

<sup>8</sup> <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/gcmtalks>.

<sup>9</sup> <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/migration-network-hub>.

7. As part of the second review, ECA, together with the African Union Commission and the International Organization for Migration, will convene an intergovernmental meeting to review the implementation of the Compact in Africa. In the lead up to that meeting, African States will receive support from the United Nations Network on Migration in preparing for the regional review. The intergovernmental meeting will consist of an opening session, followed by four thematic sessions that will provide African States and relevant stakeholders with a space for discussion and to present and review progress in the implementation of the Compact, in line with the 360-degree vision for international migration, which reflects the recognition that a comprehensive approach is needed to optimize migration’s overall benefits.

8. The thematic sessions will be organized on the same basis as the four roundtables of the International Migration Review Forum (see table).<sup>10</sup> For each thematic session, a representative of an African State will start the discussion, which will be moderated by a stakeholder representative. The intergovernmental meeting will conclude with a closing session.

Thematic round tables	Compact objectives
1: Ensuring that migration is safe, orderly and regular	 <p>2 MINIMIZE ADVERSE DRIVERS    5 REGULAR PATHWAYS    6 RECRUITMENT AND DECENT WORK    12 SCREENING AND REFERRAL    18 SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND RECOGNITION</p>
2: Protecting migrants through rights-based border governance measures	 <p>4 LEGAL IDENTITY AND DOCUMENTATION    8 SAVE LIVES    9 COUNTER SMUGGLING    10 ERADICATE TRAFFICKING    11 MANAGE BORDERS    13 ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION    21 ORDERED RETURN AND REINTEGRATION</p>
3: Supporting the integration of migrants and their contribution to development	 <p>14 CONSULAR PROTECTION    15 ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES    16 INCLUSION AND SOCIAL COHESION    19 MIGRANT AND DIASPORA CONTRIBUTIONS    20 REMITTANCES    22 SOCIAL PROTECTION</p>
4: Improving value-driven and evidence-based policymaking and public debate, and enhancing cooperation on migration	 <p>1 DATA    3 INFORMATION PROVISION    7 REDUCE VULNERABILITIES    17 ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATION    23 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</p>

9. High-level representatives of two African States will be elected to co-chair the intergovernmental meeting. States are invited to express their interest in co-chairing. The Co-Chairs will deliver remarks during the opening and the closing sessions. Stakeholder representatives are invited to express their interest in serving as Rapporteur for the stakeholder consultations and as moderator for one of the thematic sessions during the intergovernmental meeting.

10. The selection of speakers will be made by the United Nations Network on Migration with due regard to geographical and gender balance. To guide the interactive debate during

<sup>10</sup> General Assembly resolution 73/326, para. 21.

the four thematic sessions, ECA together with the International Organization for Migration and other member organizations of the Network will prepare a background paper and a thematic paper for each thematic session, all of which will be uploaded to the website of the Network. To support States in preparing for the second review, the Network will prepare questions on the implementation of the Compact to guide discussions during the review sessions.

---