



## Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund

### Summary

#### Inaugural Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, 10 December 2019, ILO, (Conference Room 1)

9.30 – 11.30

#### Participants:

##### Member States:

- **Alejandro Dávalos** (Ecuador - Deputy PR in Geneva)
- **Omar Hilale** (Morocco - Ambassador and PR in New York)
- **Evan P. Garcia** (Philippines - Ambassador and PR in Geneva)

##### Donors:

- **Michael Freiherr von Ungern-Sternberg**, (Germany - Ambassador and PR in Geneva)
- **Sek Wannamethee** (Thailand - Ambassador and PR in Geneva)
- **Julian Braithwaite** (UK - Ambassador and PR in Geneva)
- **Paul Whittingham** (UK/DFID - Head of. Migration and Modern Slavery Department)

##### Stakeholders:

- **Vittoria Zanuso** (Mayors Migrations Council - Executive Director)
- **Felipe Gonzalez Morales**, (Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants).
- **James Suru Boyon** (African Movement of Working Children and Youth - Regional Child Protection and Advocacy Officer) (via remote connection due to visa issues)

##### United Nations:

- **Deborah Greenfield** (ILO - Deputy Director-General)
- **Dagmar Schumacher** (UN Women - Director Brussels Office)
- **Zsuzsanna Jakab** (WHO - Deputy Director General)

The Steering Committee had before them the following agenda:

#### OPENING REMARKS

- 9.30 – 9.35      Opening remarks by the Chair of the Steering Committee
- 9.35 – 10.00    Remarks by Steering Committee Members

#### RULES AND PROCEDURES OF THE FUND

- 10.00 – 10.10    Overview of key aspects of the draft Operations Manual by the Chair/Fund Management Unit



## Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund

10.10 – 10:30 Discussion on proposed rules and procedures

*For decision: endorsement (with possible revisions) of the Migration MPTF Operations Manual*

### **CAPITALIZATION STATUS AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**

10:30 – 10:35 Update by the Chair/Fund Management Unit of the current funding situation and the resource mobilization efforts to date

10:35 – 10:45 Discussion on fundraising targets and role of the Steering Committee Members

### **SELECTION OF PRIORITY COUNTRIES**

10:45 – 11:15 Discussion on the selection of priority countries

*For decision: adoption of temporary list of Migration MPTF priority countries*

### **WAY FORWARD**

11.15 - 11.25 Discussion on key next steps

*For decision: tentative schedule for 2020 Steering Committee meetings and instructions to the Fund Management Unit on key activities (submission of first concept notes, preparation of Fund Risk Management Strategy, etc)*

The following is a brief summary under each agenda item:

### **OPENING REMARKS**

The Chair recalled the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) exactly 1 year ago, which called the UN system to establish this Migration MPTF. Today's meeting establishes the Migration MPTF as fully operational, having gone through a consultative process in its establishment and ensuring a diversity of perspectives in its inaugural Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will operate on consensus.

The Migration MPTF is aligned with the broader UN reform agenda, including the UN funding compact and emphasizing a key role for Resident Coordinators. It is also aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



### **RULES AND PROCEDURES OF THE FUND**

The Steering Committee unanimously endorsed the Operations Manual of the Migration MPTF. They acknowledged that the Operations Manual will continue to be a living document, open to further improvements, with specific attention to be given to quality control of proposed programmes.

Members of the Steering Committee expressed appreciation for the development of the Operations Manual through a consultative process and noted that it strikes the right balance between oversight and compliance with allowing progress. They also acknowledged that the design of the Migration MPTF should increase collaboration and coherence amongst the UN agencies, and has a strong partnership approach, which encourages UN agencies to partner with other stakeholders (e.g. governments on all levels and civil society) for the implementation of projects.

The Operations Manual outlines the different roles of all partners to the Migration MPTF, and establishes the processes, rules and results framework. The Operations Manual is fully aligned with the Migration MPTF's Terms of Reference and its legal framework (Memorandum of Understanding and Standard Administrative Arrangements). It builds upon good practices learned from other MPTFs including the Peacebuilding Fund and the joint SDG Fund but is tailored to the specific needs of the Fund. The Operations Manual lays out robust and lean procedures, with checks and balances, enabling for swift action to avoid overcomplicating processes.

Members appreciated that the Operations Manual is based on the ten Guiding Principles of GCM, with a strong reference to a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach. Such partnerships are emphasized through joint programmes to be developed with the UN, stakeholders and Member States, in an open and inclusive manner. Steering Committee members and donors will be invited by the Fund Management Unit to participate in the development of the risk management strategy of the Migration MPTF (workshop in first half of 2020).

On the suggestion that the UN Migration Network Executive committee identify focal points or a pool of experts to assist the Fund Management Unit (FMU) on the technical review of concept notes as appropriate or as needed, Steering Committee members agreed that, when needed, such support could be provided but emphasized that such processes should be kept flexible and simple avoiding adding a level of bureaucracy. Some Members also stressed that they have their own technical experts to review joint programme documents and concept notes ahead of meetings.

Members emphasized that with the endorsement of the Operations Manual, the Migration MPTF should move quickly to kickstart GCM implementation with concrete programmes having started implementation before the end of 2020.

### **CAPITALIZATION STATUS AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**

Steering Committee members agreed on the importance of this first year of this Migration MPTF to build credibility and visibility with country-based projects to legitimize a greater ambition of fundraising in subsequent years.



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While the Migration MPTF is still far from its \$25m target for its first year, it has a capitalization rate of approximately 50% with combined contributions, pledges and other strong indications of interest. Recent weeks have indicated a positive momentum of interest in the Migration MPTF, with seven million dollars firmly secured from Germany, the United Kingdom, Thailand, France, Mexico, Spain and Cyprus, with additional forthcoming contributions from others. Steering Committee members agreed that having a pipeline of innovative projects will incentivize further contributions to the Migration MPTF. They also agreed on the need to expand the donor base to non-traditional donors, including potentially with the private sector or philanthropic foundations.

They emphasized that the Migration MPTF should show tangible progress in countries in 2020 as the year of implementing the GCM, taking note that the first regional reviews of the GCM will take place next year, and the first SG's report on GCM implementation will be published. Showing tangible results of GCM implementation in countries through support of the Migration MPTF could help counter some of the negative narrative on the GCM.

At the following meeting of the Steering Committee, they are likely to decide on allocations of up to ten million dollars, noting in particular some donor earmarking towards thematic areas 3 and 4. IOM's contribution in establishing the FMU was noted, as such direct costs are usually covered by the fund itself.

### **SELECTION OF PRIORITY COUNTRIES**

The Steering Committee agreed on the importance of having, as a temporary measure, a list of priority countries with which the FMU can begin engagement to solicit programme concept notes in preparation of the next Steering Committee meeting in April to decide on allocations. This will allow for GCM implementation to begin in earnest in 2020, with early results indicated by the end of 2020. They agreed that visibility of the Fund's quick-impact support will be important in its first year.

The Steering Committee will consider aligning with the list of pilot countries to be adopted shortly by the UN Network on Migration as the initial focus for such preparations. However, the Steering Committee will maintain its own specificities with respect to priority countries,. The Steering Committee agreed on a quick and flexible approach for moving forward on priority countries in order for the Migration MPTF to provide a robust impact towards GCM implementation in its first year. They also stressed that all countries, whether considered as a priority country or not, will remain eligible and all concept notes submitted will be equally considered,

The Network pilot country list will be based on the following criteria:

- The commitment of the host government in question;
- The existence of a UN migration coordination mechanism and support of the RC;
- Geographical balance amongst the chosen pilot countries;
- Respect for the GCM 360-degree approach, that there would be a balance of migration issues amongst the pilots rather than within each pilot;
- Compatibility with CCA and UNSDCF cycles and Synergies with other processes (such as UPR).



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The Steering Committee agreed that a focus on migration corridors and cross-border-partnerships (including regional or sub-regional initiatives) shall also be considered and underlined that the list of priority countries should include countries from all regions with a specific focus on key migration areas (such as Sahel, Maghreb, Central Asia, etc). Priority countries should include countries of origin, transit and destination.

### **WAY FORWARD**

Given the urgency of showing Migration MPTF support for GCM implementation, the Steering Committee will meet in April, September and December in 2020, and in June and December in subsequent years.

Within the first half of 2020, the FMU will organize a workshop with interested Steering Committee Members and donors to develop a risk management strategy for the Migration MPTF.

The Steering Committee fully endorsed the need for the Migration MPTF to be flexible and quick in its support in 2020. In the light of time constraints and the risk of delays, there was consensus to continue work between Steering Committee meetings and circulate relevant information by e-mail to allow for necessary coordination and decision making so that the benchmarks for 2020 can be met (early January 2020: invitation to priority countries to submit concept notes; early April 2020: Steering Committee reviews concept notes; September 2020 at the latest: Steering Committee allocates funding to selected joint programmes; programme implementation begins before the end of 2020)

### **Key decisions and recommendations:**

- Migration MPTF Manual of Operations endorsed
- Steering Committee to meet again in April, September and December 2020
- FMU to initiate preparation of Risk Management Strategy (following a participative approach by organizing a workshop) in the first half of 2020
- List of Network pilot countries to be shared as soon as available by FMU with Steering Committee Members