

Steering Committee Meeting of 17 December 2020: Summary of Decisions

PARTICIPANTS

Chair:

Antonio Vitorino (Director General of IOM and Coordinator of the UN Migration Network)

Member States:

Omar Hilale (Morocco - Ambassador and PR in New York)

Evan P. Garcia (Philippines - Ambassador and PR in Geneva)

Alejandro Dávalos (Ecuador - Deputy PR in Geneva)

Donors:

Michael Freiherr von Ungern-Sternberg (Germany - Ambassador and PR in Geneva)

Sek Wannamethee (Thailand - Ambassador and PR in Geneva)

Richard Taylor (UK – Global Agenda Policy Manager, Conflict, Security and Migration Department)
– alternate member

Stakeholders:

Vittoria Zanuso (Mayors Migrations Council - Executive Director) – remote participation

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)

United Nations:

Michelle Leighton (ILO – Director, Conditions of Work and Equality Department) – alternate member, remote participation

Christine Loew (UN Women - Director Geneva Office)

Kanokporn Kaojaroen (WHO – Migration and Health Technical Officer) – alternate member

Observers (ex-officio members):

Jennifer Topping (Executive Coordinator of the UNDP MPTF Office)

Philippe Grandet (Head of the Migration MPTF Fund Management Unit)



AGENDA

The Steering Committee had before them the following agenda:

OPENING REMARKS

- 15:00 – 15:15 Opening remarks by the Chair of the Steering Committee (including reflection on feedback from the Consultative Forum)
- 15:15 – 15:20 Overview by the Executive Coordinator of the UNDP Migration MPTF Office (Administrative Agent of the Fund) of the funding status of the Migration MPTF.

THE INVESTMENT PLAN

- 15:20 – 15:30 Presentation by the Chair of the proposed investment plan for the next biennium.
- 16:30 – 15:50 Discussion on the proposed Investment Plan (funding target, criteria for resource allocation, and approach to prioritization)

PIPELINE OF JOINT PROGRAMMES

- 15:50 – 15:55 Presentation by the Chair/Fund Management Unit of the technical recommendation for the selection of additional concept notes to be included in the pipeline.
- 16:55 – 16:10 Discussion on proposed selection

AMENDMENTS TO THE OPERATIONS MANUAL

- 16:10 – 16:25 Presentation by the Chair/Fund Management Unit of key suggested changes or additions to the Migration MPTF Operations Manual, namely:
 - the proposed changes regarding the Governance of the Fund (rotation schedule and formal inclusion of the Technical Group)
 - the proposed guidance notes on the human rights and gender markers
 - the proposed risk management strategy
- 16:25 – 16:50 Discussion on the suggested revision of the Migration MPTF Operations Manual

WAY FORWARD

- 16:50 – 17:00 Discussion on key next steps



STEERING COMMITTEE DECISIONS

The following is a brief summary of decisions reached (all by consensus) under each agenda item.

Investment Plan

The Migration MPTF Investment Plan 2021-2022 is a document that defines the fundraising target (USD 30 million in 2021 and USD 45 million in 2022) and provides a framework for Steering Committee deliberations on allocations over the course of the upcoming biennium. It outlines the criteria for allocating resources, reaffirming the primacy of quality and thematic balance while introducing an approach to geographic balance and other diversity concerns. The document describes a practical approach to prioritization based on the identification at all times of two priority joint programmes under each thematic area (i.e. ten in total).

The Steering Committee reviewed and approved the Investment Plan with the following comments/stipulations:

- The four joint programmes that were positively assessed in October 2020 but remained unfunded due to lack of resources will be part of the initial list of ten priority joint programmes. However, the joint programme proposal entitled "*Provision of essential services, protection and economic empowerment to support the inclusion and integration of migrant street children, youths, and adolescents in Addis Ababa*" originally submitted under thematic area 5 will be reclassified under thematic area 3 as its primary focus is on the dignified return and reintegration of forcibly returned migrants.
- Based on recommendations to be made by the Technical Group by 22 January 2021, the Chair will propose an additional six joint programmes for constituting the initial priority list. These six will join the four already assessed, mentioned above, to constitute the total ten joint programmes. The Steering Committee members will notify their approval - or share their comments - by email.
- Should sufficient resources become available before the end of March 2021 to fund one joint programme or more, the Chair will alert the Members and inquire about the opportunity of making an allocation decision.
- While members will have a strategic discussion on the fundraising options at the next Steering Committee, resource mobilization efforts must be intensified without delay to broaden the donor base, making use, to the extent possible, of the GCM Regional Reviews that will take place in the first quarter of 2021.

Pipeline of Joint Programmes

In accordance with the programming cycle of the Migration MPTF outlined in its Operations Manual, concept notes were received for consideration by the fourth Steering Committee meeting. It is worthy to note that, despite the short time since the previous meeting (10 weeks only) and the fact that no outreach activities were undertaken, the Fund still received 16 concept notes from 15 countries/regions, reflecting once again the strong need and demand for the Fund.

The concept notes were reviewed to ensure basic eligibility and relevance to the Fund, and assessed against the key criteria and principles outlined in the Operations Manual. Upon this review, the following 6 concept notes were approved for inclusion in the pipeline of joint programmes.

Concept Notes to be included in the Pipeline of Joint Programmes					
Thematic Area	Country (ref #)	Region /Sub-Region	Joint Programme Title	PUNOs	Budget (USD)
1	Serbia (TA1.010)	Europe / East Europe	Promoting evidence-based migration governance for maximizing development potential of migration	IOM, UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR	2,000,000
3	Pakistan (TA3.008)	Asia / South Asia	Strengthening Response to trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants in Pakistan	IOM, UNODC	2,700,000
3	Gabon-Togo (TA3.010)	Africa / West Africa	Addressing irregular migration and combatting transnational crime in human trafficking along maritime and land routes from Togo to Gabon	UNODC, UNICEF	2,200,000
3	Afghanistan (TA5.011)	Asia / South Asia	Managing health risks related to migration in Afghanistan: operationalization of international health regulations.	IOM, WHO	3,900,000
5	Uruguay (TA5.013)	Americas / South America	Labour inclusion of migrants in Latin America and COVID-19 socio-economic recovery	IOM, UN Women, ILO	1,753,180
6	Sri Lanka	Asia / South Asia	Sri Lanka: Support for socio economic recovery and strengthening resilience of migrant communities	IOM, ILO, UNDP	1,600,000

The Fund Management Unit established a consultation process with Resident Coordinators and submitters of regional concept notes to assess whether concept notes in the pipeline remain relevant. All confirmed that their proposals submitted earlier this year remained relevant.



Accordingly, with the addition of the 6 concept notes listed above, the pipeline of joint programme consists of 33 projects with good thematic balance as there are no less than five and no more than eight joint programme proposals under each thematic area.

Amendments to the Operations Manual

The Steering Committee reviewed and approved the suggested amendments to the Operations Manual which included the following:

- Adjustments to the governance structure by adoption of a revised rotation calendar (first rotation scheduled for end of June 2021) and the formalization of the role of the Technical Group in support of the Steering Committee.
- Amendments to the concept note and joint programme document based on lessons learned (inclusion of GCM objectives and revision of joint programme budget templates)
- Addition of the Risk Management Strategy, which was developed in an inclusive manner with inputs from Steering Committee members and other stakeholders.
- Addition of Guidance Notes for the Gender and Human Rights Markers, aimed at supporting the integration of both principles in the programme design and increasing the reliability of the self-assessment.

WAY FORWARD

- In line with the Operations Manual, two meetings of the Steering Committee will be scheduled in 2021: the first one in June and the second one in December, immediately following the Consultative Forum.
- Further to a recommendation by the Technical Group (by 22 January at the latest), the Chair will propose the joint programme priority list. The Steering Committee members will notify their approval - or share their comments - by email. The FMU will follow-up with the relevant country or regional teams.
- By end of February 2021, in preparation for the **first membership rotation, the Chair will inform six Steering Committee members to rotate** (they will remain full members until the end of June 2021). In line with the operations manual, this first rotation will concern: two Network members, one donor, two countries of origin, transit and destination and one stakeholder. By mid-April, following consultations with the relevant groups for their respective membership categories (the GCM Champion countries, the donors, the UN Network on Migration and the stakeholders), the Chair will appoint the six incoming members who will join the June 2021 Steering Committee meeting and its preparation as observers to facilitate the transition.