



GLOBAL MIGRATION GROUP

Terms of Reference

The GMG is an inter-agency group, meeting at the level of Heads of agencies, which aims to promote the wider application of all relevant international and regional instruments and norms relating to migration and to provide leadership for the improvement of the overall effectiveness and coherence of normative and operational response by the United Nations system and the international community to the opportunities and challenges presented by international migration.

The members of the GMG recognize that international migration is an important, complex and multi-dimensional issue, and that, properly managed, in full respect for the human rights and international legal principles at issue, migration benefits individuals and societies, and can make an important contribution to the early achievement of the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals. The members of the GMG share or have complementary objectives and areas of work, both at the normative and operational levels. Sharing information and ideas, improving understanding of the issues and making effective linkages between expertise and operational activities are all important to the work of GMG members.

The GMG has identified the following key priorities:

- a. Exchanging information and expertise to improve understanding, inter-agency cooperation and collaboration so as to promote synergies and avoid duplication;
- b. Exchanging results and pooling efforts in regard to research, data collection and analysis;
- c. Establishing a comprehensive and coherent approach in the overall institutional response to international migration;
- d. Working to ensure the full respect for the human rights and labour rights of international migrants so as to promote human security and development and, in particular, provide protection to vulnerable migrants, including asylum-seekers, refugees, stranded migrants and victims of exploitation and trafficking;
- e. Contributing to the General Assembly High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, the follow-up to the recommendations of the Global Commission on International Migration and other major initiatives of the international community and GMG members;
- f. Identifying critical issues, opportunities, challenges, weaknesses, gaps and best practices in relation to international migration and its interrelations with development.



In addition, GMG shall be engaged in:

- g. Providing system-wide direction and leadership so as to promote interest, dialogue and debate on issues relevant for the governance of international migration and for its contributions to development, including its interrelations with employment, trade, financial flows, education and the distribution of skills;
- h. Contributing to greater consistency in policy formulation and programme implementation;
- i. Agreeing on common positions, responses and actions in addressing specific situations or developments;
- j. Finding appropriate mechanisms to interact with States;
- k. Supporting the efforts of individual States, regional bodies, regional and global consultative processes to address specific migration issues; and
- l. Developing joint activities to improve expertise, including through training programmes, capacity building and inter-agency transfers.