# Roundtable Sessions, Marrakesh, 6 December 2018

## Reporting Template

*This template is meant to facilitate reporting from the different Roundtable discussions to the closing session on Friday, December 7 (15h30-17h00).*

*In the interest of time, we advise you to use this template to directly take notes during the respective Roundtable session. Please write in concise bullet points to facilitate the preparation of the final report.*

*When quoting: the sessions follow Chatham House rules, so please either ask for approval to name speakers/organizations or put "anonymous"*

*Thank you for your assistance!*

| Name of Rapporteur: | Sara Andegiorgis, Ministry of Justice, Sweden |
|---|---|
| Note Taker | Joanne Irvine, IOM |
| Roundtable session: | 3.1 Aligning governance with contemporary drivers of migration |

## Reporting Template

### 1. Summary/Main discussion points

- Migration governance still not clear to us, and so drivers the same and often change with context but there are some clear reasons why large-scale migration is taking place.
- The focus on drivers has tended to be single-issue-driven and looked predominantly at negative aspects, such as poverty, conflict, crises, etc. This does not allow for an understanding of the positive factors that can become drivers of migration
- Various speakers and contributors linked this point to the need to understand drivers not only from the sending country prespective and from a negative approach – this does not allow for an integral understanding of the drivers of migration and therefore will mis-inform policy making
- Though it was pointed out that there is a new and increasing understanding that migration can be driven by a consequence of deficiencies in the spheres of sustainable development but it can also be an expression of the opportunities provided through human development, when occurring in a safe and regular manner, with the establishment of the concept of sustainable human development and the launch of the Agenda 2030 being important factors behind this shift.
- Demographic transition is also an element that needs to be taken into consideration as a driver of migration given the ageing population in some countries and dramatic increase in number of youth without economic opportunities. Developed countries will soon be competing for migrants.

- Linked to this, there is a need to work with employment actors and other private and non-private actors to facilitate labour matching. This will need policy coherence between policies such as employment, migration and education and others.
- Some discussion centered around the inequalities between the global north and south as a driver and also the historic responsibility of the north towards supporting the south after colonialism. Linked to this, it was pointed out that it is too simplistic to look at migration as only south to north – and we also need to understand migrants' agency and so have many choices on whether they migrate or not, where, when, how and if whether they want to return. So we need to be more sophisticated in understanding what makes people move or stay.
- It was shared by one participant that northern countries seem to be dealing with symptoms rather than root causes. Added to this, a key example is not being ready to deal with climate change. There is therefore a need to be proactive and address the root causes and be ready for the consequences rather than react to the symptoms. Counter arguments in relation to what is being done by the EU were shared explaining that support is also tailored to enhancing development, conflict prevention, climate change etc. too.
- Issue of European citizens unwilling to see their taxes paying for support to refugees when many refugees and migrants come with more skills and financial stability than many in Europe.

## 2. Challenges

**In relation to drivers:**

- Migration governance still not clear to us, and neither are the drivers behind migration and these also change with local and national context.
- Discussing around drivers seem to be putting this onto the countries only without thinking about the global aspects of the drivers of migration. One global aspect e.g. could be climate change.
- Increasing politicization of migration, toxic discourse, the EU political crisis in relation to refugees, the Brexit etc. particularly challenging for countries bordering the EU
- Financing that has been promised on climate change is very difficult to access for preparation and resilience work
- EU restricts access of grass roots CSO to funds, EU ahead of every leaders summit between Africa and EU we arrange a CSO forum to consult with CSO on their needs and restrictions on funding is something EU is addressing.

**General**
- How to coordinate and share the experience of all countries on migration governance? Peer to peer exchange and the GFMD continuing to be a platform for exchange were mentioned.
- We have a charter, not a law with the GCM. How can we transform it into law to ensure implementation?

## 3. Opportunities / good practices / innovations for the way forward

**Recommendations/moving forward:**

- Moving forward: there is a need to continue discussions to have consensus and better understanding on the drivers of migration
- need to understand and address drivers in relation to the 2030 agenda and its universal approach that will allow for drivers to be understood across all sending and receiving countries and from both a positive and negative aspect moving beyond just forced migration.
- Linked to this there was a recommendation that in terms of capacities of governments to respond to drivers, it's important to ensure better linkages between development and humanitarian actors for and enhanced response to forced migration

- Linked to this, it was understood that inter-governmental coordination and consultation with the many other necessary actors will be needed to fully understand and address the drivers of migration and this necessitates policy coherence between policies such as employment, migration and education etc.
- Link to this, the governance of migration has to be addressed at all levels from local to international need a new whole of government approach as outlined in the GCM
- Once recommendation was to go back to the usage of push and full factors so that it allows for focusing on both sides of migration analysis
- Going forward, the role of the GFMD in creation of partnerships and ensuring open action-oriented dialogue and sharing of good practices should continue to be the focus of the GFMD. The action commitments in the GCM should provide substantive guidance for thematic discussions in GFMD. The GFMD should report to the international migration review forum as agreed in the GCM
- Focus seems to be that addressing drivers if the main responsibility of the countries only but given the global context, without an enabling international environmental, the drivers of migration cannot be addressed by countries. This was contested though by some states explaining that while international support is helpful, it is the state's responsibility to manage migration and ensure the rights of all in their constituencies.
- Best way to ensure inclusion of migrants and understand drivers is to give migrants the floor in countries of origin and before they migrant. I.e. better to support democratization processes in the country of origin. The more the person sees an opportunity to participate in and improve their own country, they may stay. We migrant not only due to poverty, we also migrate due to being excluded from civic life.
- Also important to list to actual migrants so we better understand their wishes and decisions so that policies can work much better.
- Regional approaches can be excellent entry points to jointly managing migration for development
- GCM has not mentioned too much the low skilled domestic workers and there needs to be more focus on this
- Given that the GCM is non-binding – perhaps can be mitigated by enhancing the involvement of parliaments and empowering them and their voice so they are able to do the right thing in relation to migration related policies which UN and other IOs are tending to do more and more.
- EU requested to reduce restrictions to access to funding for grass roots organisations.
- There is a need to ensure that all efforts to understand drivers and achieving agenda 2030 and the GCM apply a gender-based approach


**Good practices:**

- Guatemala worked through the Puebla Process to strengthen its consular network across the countries of the Puebla Process with focus on unaccompanied migrant children. This was based on the human rights based approach with a focus on eradicating detention of children and supporting safe and regular pathways, ensuring consular protection for youth and children, support family reunification and access to justice.
- Guatemala also worked within Migrants in Countries in Crisis framework with support from IOM to support the enhancement of the capacities of their consulates in the US including have a contingency manual to support fast response to emergency situations in partnership with other consulates of Mexico and other countries.
- Moldova highlighted that a good practice is inter-governmental coordination at both national and local levels for enhanced migration governance. E.g. Moldova has various different coordination mechanisms within government and are working to streamline these in the future. Under a government reform, they have a framework of changing from 16 to 9 ministries. They have approved an upgraded national development plan that is aligned with the 2030 Agenda and some elements of the GCM.
- They also are piloting local development initiatives through a project called MIDL (Mainstreaming Migration into Local Development) These include efforts to ensuring youth have access to housing market to avoid emigration and supporting investment back home for livelihoods opportuntieis.
- Extended migration profiles are also a good way to understand the drivers and dynamics of migration
- France explained that they had developed a national Plan on M&D aimed at maximizing the positive aspects of migration for development. Moreover, in relation to regional processes, France will soon take the rotating

presidency of the Rabat Process and shared some of its focus areas e.g. beed to better understand migration and drivers, combat exclusion, support enhanced agribusiness to combat rural-urban migration, enhanced urban planning etc.

- EU shared three ways in which they have been supporting developing in neighbourhood and southern countries: EU Trust Fund for Africa, the European external investment plan launched in 2016 – to help boost investment in partner countries in Neigh and Africa to reach SDGs and the new Africa-Europe alliance

**4. Relevance to the Global Compact for Migration and its follow-up, implementation and review**

Objectives 2 and 5 capture the main issues discussed.

**5. Contributions to the achievement of the Agenda 2030**

Jamaica and Moldova shared a good example of having mainstreamed migration into their national development plans (Jamaica including an M&E framework) which is aligned with the 2030 Agenda and the GCM.

**6. Inspiring quotes:** If you like, please give one or two **quotes** that inspired you during the session.

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