

## **INFORMAL CONSULTATION ON SCPF MATTERS**

20 February 2020

**PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR THE TWENTY-SIXTH AND TWENTY-SEVENTH  
SESSIONS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMMES AND FINANCE**



## **PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR THE TWENTY-SIXTH AND TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSIONS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMMES AND FINANCE**

### **Introduction**

1. The purpose of this paper is to propose the topics on which Member States can exchange views at the Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh Sessions of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance, scheduled to take place on 17 and 18 June and 27 and 28 October 2020, respectively. The Administration has proposed cross-cutting topics that thread through the work of the Organization, in line with its goal of breaking down internal silos as outlined in the IOM Strategic Vision.

2. To give a balanced overview of IOM activities, the Administration suggests that two topics be chosen from the proposed migration management topics ((a) to (e)) and two from the operations and emergencies topics ((f) to (h)). At each session of the Standing Committee, the Administration will present two papers, one on a migration management topic and one on an operations and emergencies topic. A brief introduction of the proposed topics has been given below.

### **Migration management topics**

#### **(a) Development of an IOM health, border and mobility management framework and toolkit**

3. Given the political salience of cross-border mobility and health, and IOM's leading role in the monitoring and surveillance of travellers with respect to infectious diseases such as the Ebola virus, IOM is developing a public health surveillance tool to detect health threats along mobility corridors and allow for future joint analyses with partners to forecast disease transmission trends.

#### **(b) Role of IOM in the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda**

4. Legal identity refers to the basic characteristics of a person's identity (e.g. name, sex, date of birth). For migrants, legal identity offers a pathway to rights and opportunities, granting access to essential services and fulfilling the basic right to be recognized as a person before the law. Without legal identity, it is difficult to access basic socioeconomic rights and necessities, such as employment, education, health care and ID documents. IOM is well positioned to provide technical assistance in the field of legal identity. While legal identity is central to IOM's technical assistance in the area of immigration and border management, it is also a cross-cutting theme that runs through the Organization's mandate and programmes. Moreover, IOM is a foundational member of the United Nations Legal Identity Expert Group, which promotes a "whole-of-UN" approach to supporting Member States in building holistic and sustainable civil registration, vital statistics and identity management systems.

#### **(c) Migration Information and Data Analysis System: future scope and priorities**

5. Developed by IOM in 2009, the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) has been serving more than 20 countries globally as an effective border management information system. Over the years, MIDAS has evolved significantly through continued technical advancements to respond to the specific needs of national authorities. For example, the MIDAS Foreigner Registration Module was developed to assist numerous governments with regularization measures for migrants in irregular situations – particularly in the context of the large movements of Venezuelans in Latin America and the Caribbean. IOM is reflecting on the future scope and priorities of MIDAS, in an environment of increasingly complex migration dynamics, evolving international standards, obligations relating to traveller identification management and the critical issue of data security.

**(d) IOM Joint Global Initiative on Diversity, Inclusion and Social Cohesion and its relevance for Latin America and the Caribbean**

6. As major host countries in Latin America and the Caribbean begin to move beyond crisis response with respect to the hundreds of thousands of people who arrived from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in recent years, IOM has also been working with governments and local authorities in the region – including in Argentina, Brazil and Peru – to facilitate access to social services and integration for migrants and refugees. IOM is developing a global platform for IOM offices and other stakeholders to share, learn, develop and implement innovative practices to promote a whole-of-society approach to migrant inclusion. This will include piloting assessment tools for measuring integration outcomes and social inclusion in Brazil, the Dominican Republic and Peru, as part of overall support to policy planning in the region.

**(e) IOM's work with the private sector on labour supply chain integrity and migrant worker protection**

7. In recent years, the Corporate Responsibility in Eliminating Slavery and Trafficking (CREST) and International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) programmes and related work have made great advances in helping companies identify and avoid exploitation and abuse, including human trafficking, in their operations and supply chains. The IOM Policy Hub has been facilitating discussions across the Organization to identify policy and operational gaps in this area of work, analyse the risks and opportunities of increased engagement with the private sector and make recommendations for future policy work.

**Operations and emergencies topics**

**(f) Adopting a comprehensive approach to internal displacement**

8. Over the past decade, the Organization has introduced a number of policy frameworks and strategies to increase accountability, transparency, predictability and professionalism as it conducts its operations, whose main beneficiaries are the internally displaced. Such efforts have largely been undertaken in conjunction with system-wide efforts, including successive humanitarian reforms, the Grand Bargain process and various international initiatives on a wide spectrum of areas of work, including financial transparency, accountability to affected populations, disability, humanitarian data, the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and gender-based violence. As the international community begins its work on the High-level Panel on Internal Displacement, IOM, whose responses span the crisis continuum, aims to review its institutional approach to internal displacement so as to effectively and holistically meet the needs of affected populations and operationalize the humanitarian–development–peace nexus.

**(g) Rethinking coordination and leadership to address mixed flows in crisis contexts**

9. Current arrangements in the humanitarian coordination system do not reflect the increasing relevance of migrants as a population of humanitarian concern, which impedes advocacy, resource mobilization, and migrant protection and assistance. It has become urgent to reflect on how this reality can be better reflected in humanitarian response, alongside existing coordination frameworks.

**(h) Expanding global knowledge of internal displacement through data collection**

10. The IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix is already a key tool for the humanitarian community which assesses the scale and needs of emergency response in displacement situations, whether catalysed by disaster or conflict. Beyond this, IOM is expanding the scope of data collection on internal displacement to identify groups that may be vulnerable to human trafficking, developing frameworks to enhance analysis in the context of environmental and climate change, and documenting more specific aspects of how data are used (e.g. in decision-making and response).