

23RD SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMMES AND FINANCE

AGENDA ITEM 11b

Assisting migrants in crisis contexts:
Implementation of the Guidelines to Protect Migrants
in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster

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ASSISTING MIGRANTS IN CRISIS CONTEXTS

A RECURRING SITUATION

- Crises of natural and man-made origin routinely affect migrants
- Migrants are often disproportionately affected
 - Specific conditions of vulnerability
- Impacts migrants suffer are felt on home and host communities and societies

FUTURE RELEVANCE

- Migration flows likely to accelerate and further diversify in the future
- Multiple driving causes of crises at work globally

THE MICIC INITIATIVE AND GUIDELINES

THE MICIC INITIATIVE

- International interest on the topic since the 11th session of the SCPF
- 2014: Migrants in Countries in Crisis Initiative
 - State-led consultative process
 - IOM Secretariat

THE GUIDELINES TO PROTECT MIGRANTS IN COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING CONFLICT OR NATURAL DISASTER

- Non-binding, voluntary recommendations
- Recognize primary role of States, but provide guidance for action for all stakeholders, at all stages of crises

THE ISSUE IN GLOBAL POLICIES

GLOBAL & REGIONAL FORA

- SDGs, SFDRR, UNFCCC, WHS
- Multilateral fora on migration

GCM

- Reduce migrants' vulnerability (objective 7)
- Minimize drivers of forced migration (objective 2)
- Cuts across many other objectives (e.g. 8, 10, 11, 13, 15)

IOM's ROLE AND SERVICES

DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO AFFECTED MIGRANTS

- Provision of essential services in an inclusive manner
- Evacuation services and voluntary humanitarian returns

AWARENESS RAISING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

- Comprehensive package of materials and products
- Regional, national and local trainings, coordination events and discussion fora

GUATEMALA



- MOFA/Consular personnel
- Development of an e-Learning course
- Face-to-face events with relevant personnel
- Revision of consular contingency plans

MEXICO



- Civil protection, immigration and migrant assistance
- Training package and workshops on the inclusion of migrants in emergency management
- Coordination activities among relevant institutions

THAILAND



- Disaster management authorities
- Awareness raising and capacity building of migrants
- Coordination with labour and immigration institutions

A GROWING PORTFOLIO

1. Global reach
2. Diverse offer of products and services
 1. Capacity building for emergency responders
 2. Capacity building for consular staff
 3. Awareness raising of migrant representatives
 4. Coordination activities
3. Internal capacity building
4. Complementing IOM's traditional role and operational efforts

Since the launch of the MICIC Guidelines, over 100 awareness, capacity building and coordination events have taken place in the following countries:

Azerbaijan; Belize; Botswana; Burkina Faso; Cambodia; Chile; China; Costa Rica; Cyprus; Djibouti; The Dominican Republic; Ecuador; El Salvador; France; The Gambia; Ghana; Guatemala; Honduras; Italy; Kazakhstan; Kuwait; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Lesotho; Libyan Arab Jamahiriya; Malaysia; Maldives; Mexico; Mozambique; Myanmar; Nicaragua; Nigeria; Panama; Peru; The Republic of Korea; Senegal; South Africa; Thailand; Tunisia; Turkmenistan; Viet Nam; Zimbabwe.

Over 1,200 professionals from institutions dealing with consular affairs and assistance to nationals abroad, civil protection, and immigration management and migrant assistance have been involved in these events.

LOOKING AHEAD

MORE SYSTEMATIC EFFORTS NEEDED

- Many countries are already carrying out relevant activities
- Migrants' specific conditions of vulnerability are not fully addressed
- Roll out and implementation of the Guidelines still in their infancy

KEEPING THE FOCUS

- Building on work so far and leveraging synergies, if possible
- IOM committed to spearheading the implementation of the Guidelines (policy, operations, capacity building)
- Continued commitment by Member States is essential

THANK YOU

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