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Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Global
Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Bangkok, 6-8 November 2017

Annotated provisional agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (section I) and the annotations to the provisional agenda (section II).

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the Meeting:
 - (a) Opening ceremony;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Review of migration policies and programmes and their impact on facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration and on supporting all dimensions of sustainable development.
3. Thematic discussions on key issues in the Asia-Pacific region for facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration:
 - (a) Legal and orderly labour migration as a contribution towards all dimensions of sustainable development, including decent work, labour mobility, recognition of skills and qualifications and other relevant measures;
 - (b) Addressing the drivers of migration, including adverse effects of climate change, natural disasters and human-made crises, through protection and assistance, sustainable development, poverty eradication, and conflict prevention and resolution;
 - (c) Smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and contemporary forms of slavery, and issues of appropriate identification and protection and assistance to migrants and trafficking victims;
 - (d) Regional cooperation and governance with regard to migration in all its dimensions, including at borders and during transit, entry, return, readmission, integration and reintegration.
4. Consideration of the Chair's summary.
5. Adoption of the report of the Meeting, including the Chair's summary.
6. Closing of the Meeting.

II. Annotations

1. Opening of the Meeting

(a) Opening ceremony

The programme for the opening ceremony will be announced in due course and will be available online at www.unescap.org/events/asia-pacific-regional-preparatory-meeting-global-compact-safe-orderly-and-regular-migration.

(b) Election of officers

The list of participants will be available online at www.unescap.org/events/asia-pacific-regional-preparatory-meeting-global-compact-safe-orderly-and-regular-migration.

The Meeting will elect a chair, two vice-chairs and a rapporteur.

(c) Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/L.1)

Annotation

The provisional agenda will be considered and adopted by the Meeting, subject to such changes as may be necessary.

2. Review of migration policies and programmes and their impact on facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration and on supporting all dimensions of sustainable development

Documentation

Trends and drivers of international migration in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/1)

International migration, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/2)

Annotation

The Meeting will review the progress made in the Asia-Pacific region in facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration in line with the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and commitments in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As a basis for its deliberations, the Meeting will have before it the note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/1) in which the key trends of international migration, including associated challenges, are outlined, as well as the note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/2) in which key considerations with regard to international migration and the 2030 Agenda are highlighted.

Meeting participants may wish to share experiences and findings with regard to adopting policies and programmes to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration, including progress in implementing the New York Declaration and the migration-related commitments of the 2030 Agenda.

The deliberations under this agenda item are expected to result in enhanced understanding of good practices, regional priorities and challenges associated with the implementation of the New York Declaration and the migration-related commitments of the 2030 Agenda.

3. Thematic discussions on key issues in the Asia-Pacific region for facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration

The Meeting will review key issues and provide recommendations related to facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration and regional priorities for consideration for the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

(a) Legal and orderly labour migration as a contribution towards all dimensions of sustainable development, including decent work, labour mobility, recognition of skills and qualifications and other relevant measures

Documentation

Labour migration in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/3)

Annotation

Issues covered will include the following: enhancing the development contributions of labour migration; developing legal channels for labour migration through national policies and bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including seasonal and circular migration programmes, to address skill and labour force shortages; ensuring legal, transparent and low-cost recruitment procedures; realizing decent work for migrants on the basis of international labour conventions in line with Sustainable Development Goal target 8.8; promoting respect for the rights of labour migrants in line with internationally agreed human rights conventions; promoting international cooperation for recognition of skills and qualifications; reducing remittance transfer costs in line with means of implementation c of Goal 10; and strengthening dialogue with social partners for policy development and implementation on labour migration.

As a basis for its deliberation, the Meeting will have before it the note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/3) which contains an outline of key trends of labour migration and challenges to ensuring that labour migration is safe, orderly and regular, as well as measures implemented by countries to address these challenges. Recommendations for consideration by the Meeting are also highlighted in the note.

(b) Addressing the drivers of migration, including adverse effects of climate change, natural disasters and human-made crises, through protection and assistance, sustainable development, poverty eradication, and conflict prevention and resolution

Documentation

Mixed migration in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/4)

Migration and climate change in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/5)

Annotation

Issues covered will include the following: ensuring that migration is voluntary; addressing factors driving unsafe migration, including through

support for sustainable development, peace-building interventions, promoting peaceful and inclusive societies based on international human rights and the rule of law, and climate change mitigation and adaptation in line with the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030; developing potential inputs to non-binding principles and voluntary guidelines, consistent with international law, to address the situation of migrants in vulnerable circumstances who do not qualify for international protection as refugees and who may need assistance; and facilitating forms of migration that support development in countries of origin, including through sustainable reintegration of migrants.

As a basis for its deliberation, the Meeting will have before it the note by the secretariat outlining key trends and policy considerations with regard to the nexus between climate change and migration (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/5), as well as the note considering mixed forms of migration in the Asia-Pacific region (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/4). Recommendations for consideration by the Meeting are also highlighted in these notes.

(c) Smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and contemporary forms of slavery, and issues of appropriate identification and protection and assistance to migrants and trafficking victims

Documentation

Note verbale dated 18 September 2017 from the International Organization for Migration addressed to the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/INF/1)

Annotation

Issues covered will include the following: factors underlying smuggling of and trafficking in persons in the Asia-Pacific region; bilateral and subregional frameworks for the prevention of smuggling and trafficking, prosecution of perpetrators and protection of smuggled migrants and victims of trafficking; and challenges in identifying and providing appropriate forms of assistance to migrants and victims of trafficking.

As a basis for its deliberation, the Meeting will have before it the information note (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/INF/1) in which key trends in the smuggling of and trafficking in migrants, as well as the measures implemented by States to address these trends, are outlined. Recommendations for consideration by the Meeting are also highlighted therein.

(d) Regional cooperation and governance with regard to migration in all its dimensions, including at borders and during transit, entry, return, readmission, integration and reintegration

Documentation

Labour migration in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/3)

Mixed migration in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/4)

Migration and climate change in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/5)

Note verbale dated 18 September 2017 from the International Organization for Migration addressed to the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/INF/1)

Annotation

Issues covered will include the following: building on existing bilateral and subregional frameworks and processes to maximize their potential to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration; promoting cooperation between States of origin, transit and destination to promote the protection of migrants and maximize the development benefits of migration throughout the migration cycle, including during return and reintegration; exploring measures to ensure the portability of social protection; and identifying means to address migration crises in a balanced, comprehensive and coordinated fashion and in accordance with commitments under international law.

As a basis for its deliberation, the Meeting will have before it the notes by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/3, E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/4, E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/5) and the information note (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/INF/1), in which key trends in migration in the region and regional cooperation initiatives to address those trends are outlined. Recommendations for consideration by the Meeting are also highlighted in the notes.

4. Consideration of the Chair's summary**Documentation**

Draft Chair's summary (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/WP.1)

Annotation

The Meeting will review the draft Chair's summary, which will serve as the regional input for the global stocktaking meeting in Mexico in December 2017. It will reflect the diverse positions of the States of the region to ensure that Asian and Pacific views are reflected effectively at a global level.

5. Adoption of the report of the Meeting, including the Chair's summary**Documentation**

Draft report (E/ESCAP/GCM/PREP/L.2)

Annotation

The Meeting will be invited to consider and adopt the report, including the Chair's summary.

6. Closing of the Meeting

Closing statements will be delivered.
