



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK  
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE  
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

**2018 Global Forum on Migration and Development Common Space**  
**5 December, Marrakesh, Morocco**  
**Opening and Davos style plenary: 14h00 – 15h30**

**Ignacio Packer – ICVA Executive Director**  
**SHARED NOTES FOR PANEL DISCUSSION**

**Davos style panel**

*From global commitments to multi-stakeholder action: visions of implementation at the regional, national and sub-national level*

**Moderator : Ms. Roula Hamati** (Civil Society Chair)

Panellist 1: **Ms. Solveigh Hieronimus** (McKinsey)

Panellist 2 : **Mr. Yaya Sangaré** (Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration)

Panellist 3 : **Ms. Seemi Choudry**, Director, Mayor's Office of New Americans, City of Chicago

Panellist 4 : **Mr. Ignacio Packer** (ICVA)

Discussant : **Mr. Jonathan Prentice**, Chief of Office for the SRSG for International Migration

**To the question – What is the GCM?**

Its adoption is an achievement, its implementation will ultimately determine its success or failure.

Despite shortcomings, it provides a blueprint for nations to create a multilateral migration system that protects the rights of persons who are compelled to leave their countries in search of a better life.

It is “groundbreaking” in the sense that it represents the first multilateral framework for international cooperation on migration governance.

As civil society organisations, we consider it contains controversial issues, but we have great appetite to propose and work on how it should be implemented. Often there are already best policies and practice. Vague language. Regularization of irregular migrants, migrants in vulnerable situations, enforcement measures, border management...

## Big picture discussions

### **GCM will fall short of current needs.**

**Sense of urgency.** No time for procrastination with first multilateral framework for international cooperation on migration governance.

1. **Rising inequality** – linking to this xenophobia and nationalism generating violence and the us and them mentality. Root causes of many people moving. The main concern is on civic rights and on how communities/populations are being split.
2. **Technology** – with opportunities and challenges for migration issues. Data protection issues.
3. **Planetary boundaries** and in particular climate change. 26 million people are displaced by disasters such as floods and storms every year. That's one person forced to flee every second. There are projections of proven speed with which the process of climate change has been taking place, might lead to such a scenario by 2050. If so, 1 in 9 human beings would be on the move by then.

## Partnerships

**The time is ripe—and solutions and partnerships are ready** to see the GCM and GCR make a concrete difference that all can appreciate: states and communities together with refugees and migrants.

Make reference to daily work of millions of front-line workers, civil servants, NGO and other CSO staff and volunteers, migrants, refugees other citizens of the world.

Make reference to compendium of NGO Committee on Migration. A compendium of good policies and practices that relate directly to Compact goals and that Member States, Civil Society and other actors have already implemented with shared interest, effort and commitment. Encouragement for more.

## Where shifts in the way we work are needed

1. Reinforce **collective political support** of which civil society leaders are key actors. Political support to scale up, initiate and implement programmes which serve both national and global interests and advance the human rights and dignity of migrants. The success or failure will depend upon global leadership, not simply from the UN but from governments around the world.
2. **Better communicate successes** to various audiences, including to the highest political authorities and to parliaments.

3. Continue being **more ambitious and visionary**, to go back to the original ‘spirit” and implementation of body treaties” (spirit of NY Declaration”). Beware of the attention and looking for a certain degree of short-term success in picking the low hanging fruits.

#### Parameters to guide our work

1. Workplans - **Multi-year and multi-stakeholder** activities on national priorities that contribute to supporting the leadership of States and reinforce the primary responsibility of States as outlined in the Treaty Bodies and the GCM;
2. Use of the GCM as a framework. Reinvigorate a dialogue and action. Remind the “non-regression” language which prevents member states from violating international law and practice (in GCM preamble).
3. **We need municipal, provincial and national authorities** lead while activities are owned by a diverse range of stakeholders at national and global level (migrants and refugees, associations and leaders, the private sector, local NGOs, National Human Rights Institutions, academia...)

#### Final comment

At the end of the day, the ultimate solution to forced migration is sustainable development in sending countries, which provide migrants with the ability to remain in their countries and raise their families in dignity and security.

Member States should continue to pursue this long-term solution through the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, now armed with a major instrument for incorporating migration in their efforts. Properly implemented, the GCM in partnership should mark another step toward a world in which migration is a choice, not a necessity.