

## Guidance Note -- GFMD Thematic Workshop “Implementation of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) at the National Level”

*Co-convened by the Governments of the Philippines and Bahrain  
Palais des Nations, Geneva, 21-22 March 2019*

### Knowledge Café Session

A Knowledge Café is a structured conversational process in which participants engage in an open and interactive set of discussions. On the first day of the thematic workshop, 21 May, participants will be divided into three groups (“café sessions”) to discuss each of the three focus topics for 1.5 hours. Each café session will be moderated by a “Host” who is a thematic expert, to be assisted by a facilitator and a note-taker. Thereafter, participants move to another café session, where the host welcomes and informs them about the results of the previous discussion/s. Finally, the results of all thematic discussions will be reflected on in a common plenary session group (opening of Day II), wherein strategies for further actions and opportunities for further cooperation of participants are identified.

**Duration:** 1 hour and 30 minutes per session

**Expected no. of Participants:** around 30 per session (*may vary depending on actual turnout of participants*)

### Schedule and Venue:

	<b>Theme 1</b> Salle XVI	<b>Theme 2</b> Salle XI	<b>Theme 3</b> Salle VII
11h30 – 13h00 (1 <sup>st</sup> Round)	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
15h00 – 16h30 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Round)	Group 2	Group 3	Group 1
16h30 – 18h00 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Round)	Group 3	Group 1	Group 2

### Process

1. Participants are divided into three groups according to the following themes:
  - **Theme 1:** Human Rights-Based Approaches in Developing GCM National Implementation Plans as a transversal issue (Host: OHCHR)
  - **Theme 2:** Creating Regular Pathways for Migration for Sustainable Development – GCM Objective 5 (Host: UNDP)
  - **Theme 3:** Promoting Fair and Ethical Recruitment and Decent Work – GCM Objective 6 (Host: ILO)

*To promote balanced participation in all three sessions, the organizers **may** pre-assign participants. Please note, nonetheless, that every participant has the possibility to attend all three sessions.*

2. In an ideal “knowledge café” session, participants are seated in small tables set up in a ‘café’ style to create a relaxed and informal ambiance. However, this is not possible given the fixed seating arrangements at the UNOG meeting rooms. Participants are thus requested to keep the convivial and informal spirit during the actual discussions.
3. The host will open the session (10 minutes), welcome the participants, introduce the theme and the **ground rules** of the café session, such as:
  - Interventions from the floor should be limited to 3 minutes. They should focus on concrete experiences, policies, programs and activities at the national level, as well as the issues and problems encountered where relevant. The format is principally

designed for creative/open thinking; thus, prepared speeches / interventions are discouraged.

- There will be 2-3 guiding questions in each thematic session to focus the discussions.
  - To capture the essence of each intervention, there will be a real time digital note-taking, wherein the actual input / comment will be displayed on the screen.
  - To the extent possible, geographical balance will be observed with respect to interventions and perspectives shared.
  - The session will last for no more than an hour and participants are requested to move on to the next assigned theme and venue as illustrated in the above table.
4. Participants will exchange their ideas, pose questions and share their own initiatives, plans, recommendations, and any challenges they encounter.
  5. After which, the host will sum up the discussions at least 5 minutes before the end of the session, to synthesize the interventions made, as well as the points of convergence, practical recommendations and issues for further discussions relevant to the theme.
  6. The participants will move on to the next assigned theme and venue.

### For second/third sessions:

While the process and ground rules are the same for the second/third sessions, the main points covered in the previous session will not be duplicated. The idea of the knowledge café workshop is to build on the discussions of the previous session/s to capture a more comprehensive understanding of the theme and a wider range of practices and recommendations in operationalizing the GCM at the local level.

In order to avoid repetition of discussions, the host will first recap the highlights and outcomes of the previous session/s.

### Roles of the host:

1. The host of the individual discussion group is a thematic expert in the field of the topic concerned (i.e. representatives of OHCHR, UNDP and ILO respectively). The task of the host is to frame the discussion by introducing the topic at hand, presenting the main challenges and asking the guiding question(s).
2. Prior to the workshop, the host must prepare a set of 2-3 thought-provoking and open-ended questions for each of the three sessions. Ideally, the questions must be clear, concise and relevant for all participants, thus allowing them to contribute to the discussion based on their national perspectives and experiences.
3. At the start of each session, the host should welcome the participants, introduce the theme, guiding questions and the ground rules of the session. *(For second/third sessions, the host must also recap the outcomes of the previous session/s to avoid repetition).*
4. While discussions are ongoing, the host should:
  - Keep track of the time (interventions from the floor and the entire session);
  - Encourage participants to articulate their personal and organizational perspectives, concrete experiences and lessons learned relevant to the theme;
  - Steer the discussions to emphasize the added value of the GFMD in supporting Member States formulate and implement their national GCM action plans;
  - Ensure that everyone actively participates and there is geographical representation from the floor; and
  - Record important points from the floor for wrap up and reporting.
5. At the end of the session, the host is asked to wrap-up the main outcomes of the discussion (no more than 5 minutes). The following elements may be captured (and reported as well to the next sessions):

- Highlights of the interventions made: concrete policies and initiatives in support of GCM implementation and lessons learned
  - Points of convergence, practical recommendations and challenges/issues for further discussions on the formulation of national GCM implementation plans
  - Relevance and added value of the GFMD in the development of national GCM implementation plans
6. The host presents the results of the three rounds of thematic discussions during the first day in a common plenary session at the opening of Day II (no more than 10 min).

### **Role of the Facilitator**

The role of the facilitator is to steer the discussion and guide the group in order to ensure the best-possible outcome. In case the discussion gets stuck or strongly diverges from the envisaged framing, the facilitator may intervene by introducing additional questions or by making some neutral observations in order to ensure more focused interaction and action-oriented discussion. The facilitator works closely with the host to guarantee a coherent approach.

### **Role of the Note-taker**

The role of the note-taker is to capture interventions from the floor, highlighting the challenges and policy gaps, opportunities and good practices. These points will be flashed on the screen in real time, to avoid repetition of points already said.