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International Organization for Migration Background Guide 2018

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2018 National Model United Nations Conference in Washington, D.C. (NMUN•DC)! We are pleased to introduce you to our committee, the International Organization for Migration (IOM). This year's staff is composed of Director Emma Ogg and Assistant Director Allison Tu. Emma has a B.A. in International Affairs and currently works in Schwab's Charitable Contributions department. Previously, she worked as a fellow at the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security. This is Emma's fifth year on NMUN•DC staff, and she is excited to be part of the conference again. Allison is currently working on her B.A. in Political Science in California and is working towards becoming a Physician's Assistant. This will be her second year on DC staff and she is excited to be a part of NMUN•DC.

The topics under discussion for the International Organization for Migration are:

- I. Protecting Migrants from the Threat of Human Trafficking
- II. Economic Integration of Migrants

IOM is the leading international organization in migration and works with Member States, intergovernmental organizations, and civil society organizations to ensure orderly and humane migration and to find practical solutions to migration issues. IOM has four main thematic areas of work: migration and development, facilitating migration, regulating migration, and addressing forced migration. These wide-ranging objectives mean IOM works on international migration law, protecting migrants' rights, ensuring migrants' health, incorporating gender dimensions in migration, and supplying humanitarian assistance to migrants, among many others.

We hope you will find this Background Guide useful as an introduction to the topics for this committee. However, it is not intended to replace individual research. We highly encourage you to explore your Member State's policies in-depth, as well as use the Annotated Bibliography and Bibliography to further your knowledge on these topics. In preparation for the conference, each delegation will submit a [position paper](#). Please take note of the [NMUN Conduct Expectations](#) on the website and in the [Delegate Preparation Guide](#) regarding plagiarism, codes of conduct, dress code, sexual harassment, and the awards philosophy and evaluation method. Adherence to these guidelines is mandatory.

The [NMUN Rules of Procedure](#) are available to download from the NMUN website. This document includes the long and short form of the rules, as well as an explanatory narrative and example script of the flow of procedure. It is thus an essential instrument in preparing for the conference, and a reference during committee.

If you have any questions concerning your preparation for the committee or the conference itself, feel free to contact the Under Secretary-General for the committee, Courtney Indart; the Deputy Secretary-General, Chase Mitchell; or the Secretary-General for the conference, Angela Shively. You can contact them by email at: usgcourtney.dc@nmun.com, dsg.dc@nmun.org, or secgen.dc@nmun.org.

We wish you all the best in your preparations and look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Sincerely,

Emma Ogg, *Director*
Allison Tu, *Assistant Director*

Committee Overview

“The signature of this historic agreement brings the leading global migration agency – the International Organization for Migration (IOM) – into the United Nations and culminates a 65-year relationship with the UN. So, for the very first time in 71 years, the UN now has a ‘UN Migration Agency.’”¹

Introduction

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) was founded as the Provisional Intergovernmental Committee for the Movement of Migrants from Europe in 1951 and was originally mandated to assist European governments with logistical support in resettling the estimated 11 million people uprooted by the Second World War.² However, it soon became apparent that refugee crises and human migration would remain persistent phenomena; thus, the organization both enlarged its areas of operation and broadened the scope of its activities.³ Gradually, the organization engaged in the protection of migrants’ rights, encouraging social and economic development through migration, and advancing the understanding of migration issues through comprehensive research.⁴ To reflect the broadening scope of activities, the organization changed its name several times until it adopted its current one in 1989.⁵ By 2015, IOM had assisted 20 million migrants and grown into an organization with 166 Member States.⁶

The **International Organization for Migration (IOM)** is a related organization of the United Nations.

With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015, migration issues became deeply entangled with other development objectives.⁷ IOM Council resolution 1309, adopted on 24 November 2015, requested that the IOM Director General approach the United Nations (UN) in order to deepen the cooperation between IOM and the UN system.⁸ On 25 July 2016 the UN General Assembly adopted resolution 70/296, which made IOM a related organization of the UN system and later that year was able to participate in the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants on 19 September 2016 with that status.⁹ The outcome document of this summit, the *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants*, is the first commitment at the global level to protect the safety, dignity, and human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants and specifies a set of rights of migrants and obligations of states towards them.¹⁰ UN Member States acknowledged a shared responsibility to manage large movements of refugees and migrants and promised to support countries that rescue, receive, and host them.¹¹ The Declaration also assigned IOM the role of providing technical assistance and policy guidance for the negotiations leading to a global compact for safe, orderly, and regular migration at an intergovernmental conference on international migration in 2018.¹²

The IOM is a related organization of the UN, which is similar to a specialized agency, but organizational aspects remain legally independent.¹³ The UN henceforth recognizes IOM as an independent, autonomous, and non-normative international organization in a working relationship with the UN.¹⁴ In turn, IOM recognizes the responsibilities of the UN in the field of migration, and will conduct its activities in accordance with the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945).¹⁵ IOM was invited to become a full member of various inter-agency mechanisms within

¹ IOM, *Opening remarks of William Lacy Swing, Director General, International Organization for Migration, at the September Summit and signing of the IOM-UN Agreement*, 2016.

² IOM, *IOM History*, 2018; IOM, *About IOM*, 2018.

³ IOM, *About IOM*, 2018.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ IOM, *IOM Becomes a Related Organization to the UN*, 2016.

⁷ IOM, *Annual Report 2016 (C/108/4)*, 2017, p. 4.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.; UN General Assembly, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1)*, 2016, p. 23.

¹⁰ IOM, *Global Compact for Migration*, 2018.

¹¹ UN General Assembly, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1)*, 2016, p. 2.

¹² IOM, *Annual Report 2016 (C/108/4)*, 2017, p. 2.

¹³ UN, *Funds, Programmes, Specialized Agencies and Others*.

¹⁴ UN General Assembly, *Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration (A/RES/70/976)*, 2016, p. 3.

¹⁵ Ibid.

the UN system, such as the UN Development Group (UNDG), the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the UN High-level Committee on Programmes, and the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).¹⁶ This integration allows IOM to contribute to decision-making in the UN, provide a leading role in the discussion of migration issues, and ensure that migration stays at the top on the international agenda.¹⁷

Migration is a central topic on the international agenda, as one in every seven people on earth is a migrant, more than ever before in human history.¹⁸ IOM defines “migrant” as “any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State away from his/her habitual place of residence, regardless of (1) the person’s legal status; (2) whether the movement is voluntary or involuntary; (3) what the causes for the movement are; or (4) what the length of the stay is.”¹⁹ Therefore, the term migrant includes refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), students, migrant workers, and professionals moving between international postings.²⁰ The term “refugee” is defined by the *1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees* and its *1967 Protocol* as any person who has crossed an international border “owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinions.”²¹ IOM also assists IDPs, who are forced to leave their homes due to one of the above mentioned reasons without crossing a border as well as people fleeing from natural disasters and climate change.²² Although no specific SDGs specifically highlight migration issues, various aspects of migration are linked to a number of SDGs, including ensuring basic health (target 3.8) as well as education services for migrants (target 4.1), protecting migrant workers’ rights (target 8.8), reducing remittance transfer costs (target 10.c), and ending human trafficking (target 16.2).²³

Governance, Structure, and Membership

IOM has two organs: the Council and the Administration, which comprises a Director General, a Deputy Director General, and its staff.²⁴ Each Member State has one representative and one vote in the IOM Council, which generally meets once per year to determine, examine, and review the policies, programs, and activities of IOM.²⁵ The Council is also responsible for approving the budget, reviewing reports, and directing activities of all subsidiary bodies and the Director General.²⁶ IOM currently has 172 Member States, as well as eight states and numerous international and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) holding observer status.²⁷ These observers are admitted to the meetings of the IOM Council but do not have the right to vote on substantial matters.²⁸ According to Article 1(2) of its constitution, IOM “shall cooperate closely with international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, concerned with migration, refugees and human resources.”²⁹ Therefore, IOM actively encourages NGOs to participate in its Council and convenes annual consultations with and briefings for the over 60 NGOs currently holding observer status.³⁰ The International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) is another vehicle for IOM to discuss current and emerging issues on migration with Member States, as well as international and non-governmental organizations, migrants, the media, academics, and the private sector.³¹ IOM also cooperates with NGOs to combat trafficking, provide vocational training, or implement information campaigns.³²

¹⁶ IOM, *Annual Report 2016 (C/108/4)*, 2017, p. 4.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ IOM, *Key Migration Terms*, 2018.

²⁰ IOM, *Annual Report 2016 (C/108/4)*, 2017, p. 4.

²¹ IOM, *Key Migration Terms*, 2018.

²² IOM, *Annual Report 2016 (C/108/4)*, 2017, p. 4.

²³ Ibid, p. 5.

²⁴ IOM, *Constitution*, 1953.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ IOM, *Members and Observers*, 2018.

²⁸ IOM, *Constitution*, 2013, p. 11.

²⁹ Ibid, p. 6.

³⁰ IOM, *Civil Society & NGOs*, 2018.

³¹ IOM, *International Dialogue on Migration*, 2018.

³² IOM, *Annual Report 2016 (C/108/4)*, 2017, p. 17.

The Director General and the Deputy Director General are elected by a two-thirds majority vote of the Council for a five-year term and can be re-elected for one additional term.³³ The Director General discharges the administrative and executive functions of IOM in accordance with the IOM Constitution and the decisions of the IOM Council.³⁴ The Director General is assisted in this function by the Office of the Director General, which is responsible for the formulation of coherent policies and oversight of all activities of the organization.³⁵ Ninety-seven percent of IOM's over 10,000 staff are deployed in IOM's 408 field locations throughout the world.³⁶ These offices include nine regional offices, which formulate regional strategies and plans of action; two special liaison offices, located in New York and Addis Ababa, which coordinate with multilateral bodies, such as the UN; and two administrative centers, which provide administrative support.³⁷ Moreover, country offices are tasked with coordinating functions to ensure that migratory realities in certain areas are taken into account.³⁸ These offices are located in Canberra, Australia (covering the Pacific); Beijing, China (covering much of the Asia region); Georgetown, Guyana (covering the Caribbean); Rome, Italy (covering the Mediterranean); Astana, Kazakhstan (covering Central Asia); and Bangkok, Thailand (covering South Asia).³⁹

While the administrative functions of IOM are financed by fixed contributions from its Member States, the expenditures for IOM's operations are funded by voluntary contributions by Member States or other entities.⁴⁰ The Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (SCPF) meets twice per year to discuss policies, programs, and budget and financial matters.⁴¹ While financial decisions are generally made by the Council, the SCPF can make urgent decisions between Council sessions.⁴² The *Programme and Budget for 2018* reports zero nominal growth for the administrative part of the budget and a projected increase in the operational budget, dependent on funding actually received.⁴³ The 2018 budget made no changes to the core structure of the IOM aside from the formal recognition of the existing procurement and supply function as a separate division within the Department of Resource Management.⁴⁴ The current budget allocated to "Movement, Emergency and Post-Crisis Migration Management" is \$472.8 million.⁴⁵ That particular segment of the budget covers operational costs for areas such as resettlement assistance, repatriation assistance, emergency preparedness and response assistance, transition and stabilization assistance, and elections support.⁴⁶ Those specific line items have the largest amount of funds allocated to them from the overall operations budget from voluntary contributions.⁴⁷

Mandate, Function, and Powers

The mandate of IOM, according to Article 1(1) of the IOM Constitution, can be broken down into three categories: making arrangements for the organized transfer of migrants, refugees, and displaced persons; providing migration services such as recruitment, selection, processing, language training, orientation activities, and medical examination; and offering a forum for Member States to exchange views on migration issues.⁴⁸ All these activities are to be undertaken at the request of and in agreement with the Member States that are concerned.⁴⁹ The recent integration of IOM into the UN system has broadened IOM's mandate because the organization is now viewed as the leading global agency on migration and consults for UN bodies on matters of migration.⁵⁰

³³ IOM, *Constitution*, 1953.

³⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁵ IOM, *Organizational Structure*, 2018.

³⁶ IOM, *Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2016 (C/108/3)*, 2017, p. 6.

³⁷ IOM, *Organizational Structure*, 2018.

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ *Ibid.*; IOM, *Programme and Budget for 2017 (C/107/6/Rev.1)*, 2016, p. 6.

⁴⁰ IOM, *Constitution*, 1953.

⁴¹ IOM, *Programme and Budget for 2018 (C/108/6)*, 2017, p. 9.

⁴² *Ibid.*

⁴³ *Ibid.*, p. 17.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 5.

⁴⁵ IOM, *Programme and Budget for 2018*, 2017, p. 90.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 89.

⁴⁸ IOM, *Constitution*, 1953.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁰ UN General Assembly, *Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration (A/RES/70/976)*, 2016, p. 4.

The *Migration Governance Framework* (MiGOF) and its set of three principles and three objectives guide IOM's operations and reflect the functions and powers of the organization.⁵¹ The first principle is to support Member States in adhering to international standards and fulfillment of migrant's rights.⁵² IOM offices support their host governments by organizing consultations and information sessions with ministries, training officials on international standards or even contributing to the drafting or alteration of migration laws.⁵³ The second principle is to advance the understanding of migration by strengthening the gathering and analysis of migration data and research.⁵⁴ The third principle is to create partnerships with all stakeholders to develop comprehensive and efficient solutions.⁵⁵ The first objective is to advance the socio-economic well-being of migrants and society by assisting with their social, economic, and cultural inclusion as well as ending human trafficking, migrant exploitation, and abuse.⁵⁶ The second objective is to effectively address the mobility dimensions of crisis, which includes crisis prevention, emergency response, and post-crisis resettlement.⁵⁷ The third objective is to ensure that migration takes place in a safe, orderly, and dignified manner through carrying out health and identity assessments while organizing voluntary return.⁵⁸ To achieve its objectives and help migrants with its services, IOM relies on the cooperation of the affected Member States by offering valuable advice, research, technical support, and operational assistance.⁵⁹ Furthermore, IOM attempts to use its institutional knowledge and norm-setting capability to promote a whole-of-government approach to migration, which takes into account the linkage between migration and other government topics, such as development, health, environment, and climate change.⁶⁰

Recent Sessions and Current Priorities

The 107th session of the IOM Council occurred in December 2016, only three months after the adoption of the *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants*.⁶¹ Consequently, the IOM Council focused on the work towards this global compact and agreed to support the process by organizing six informal thematic consultations and providing policy papers to facilitate the negotiations among UN Member States.⁶² IOM also considered opportunities for policy developments to address climate migration and cross-border disaster displacement at its 107th session.⁶³ This topic links to one of the major challenges of humankind in the 21st century and addresses a group of forcefully displaced migrants that is not covered by the *1951 Refugee Convention*.⁶⁴ IOM aims to providing humanitarian assistance to these people as well as raising awareness for their situation and educating national officials on the links between migration and climate change.⁶⁵ As part of this work, IOM published research on the links between migration, the environment, and climate change for a number of countries that will serve as a basis for the development of national action plans and regional strategy frameworks.⁶⁶ IOM also enhanced the capacity of local communities in the Federated States of Micronesia and Papua New Guinea to adapt to climate change.⁶⁷ However, all these developments happen against a background of humanitarian emergencies and IOM's operations that move vulnerable migrants and refugees to safety have grown in complexity and scope.⁶⁸

⁵¹ IOM, *Annual Report 2016 (C/108/4)*, 2017, p. 3.

⁵² *Ibid.*, p. 6.

⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 10.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 13.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 19.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 25.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 28.

⁵⁹ IOM, *Constitution*, 1953.

⁶⁰ IOM, *Annual Report 2016 (C/108/4)*, 2017, p. 11.

⁶¹ UN General Assembly, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1)*, 2016; IOM, *107th Session Agenda*, 2016.

⁶² IOM, *Draft Report on the 107th Session of the Council (C/107/L/25)*, 2017, p. 14.

⁶³ *Ibid.*, p. 17.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 18.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶⁶ IOM, *Annual Report for 2016 (C/108/4)*, 2017, p. 12.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 27.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 28.

The 108th session of the IOM Council took place in Geneva from 28 November to 1 December 2017.⁶⁹ At the session, IOM welcomed three new members: the Cook Islands, Cuba, and Dominica.⁷⁰ In addition to the new membership, the body voted on the new budget for the 2018 year.⁷¹ While at the conference, the members were actively engaged in conversations covering topics on a wide range of migration issues globally such as integration and social cohesion, the effects of migration on climate change, and how to better assist migrants.⁷² The Council held its Second Special Session on 29 June 2018.⁷³ Palau, Grenada, and the Lao People’s Democratic Republic were admitted as members of the IOM.⁷⁴ The Council also elected António Vitorino as Director General, with his term beginning on 1 October 2018.⁷⁵ The 109th session of the IOM Council is scheduled for 27 to 30 November 2018.⁷⁶

Conclusion

With the adoption of the *New York Declaration*, IOM, as the new “UN migration agency,” has become the primary institution to provide technical assistance and policy guidance for the entire UN system on all dimensions of migration.⁷⁷ With its global presence and its wealth of experience, IOM is well positioned for the set of enormous challenges ahead, such as climate change, managing migration in countries with a lack of governmental structures, such as Libya, and including all stakeholders into the process of adopting a global compact for safe, orderly, and regular migration.⁷⁸ The work towards this global compact provide a unique opportunity to establish a framework for comprehensive international cooperation on migrants, which is necessary to fulfill the promises of the 2030 Agenda and achieve the SDGs.⁷⁹

⁶⁹ IOM, *108th Session of the Council (2017)*, 2018.

⁷⁰ Ibid.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ IOM, *2nd Special Session of the Council (2018)*, 2018.

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ IOM, *Election of the Director General (C/Sp/2/RES/1365)*, 2018.

⁷⁶ IOM, *109th Session of the Council (2018)*, 2018.

⁷⁷ UN General Assembly, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1)*, 2016, p. 23.

⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ IOM, *Global Compact for Migration*, 2018.

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International Organization for Migration. (2017). *Draft Report on the 107th Session of the Council (C/107/L/25)*. Retrieved 16 June 2018 from: <https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/council/107/C-107-L-25%20-%20Draft%20Report%20on%20the%20107th%20Session%20of%20the%20Council.pdf>

The report of the 107th session of the Council of IOM will be useful to illustrate the working procedure of the committee that is to be simulated at NMUN. This Council session was held shortly after the adoption of the New York Declaration and addressed IOM's role in international migration policies. Furthermore, it includes transcripts of panel discussions on the Global Compact for safe, orderly and regular migration as well as opportunities for policy development to address climate migration and cross-border disaster displacement. These discussions can serve as starting points for delegates to understand the current debates within IOM. Lastly, a McKinsey Global Institute report is attached, which elaborates on the impact and opportunity of global migration.

International Organization for Migration (2017). *Programme and Budget for 2018 (C/108/6)*. Retrieved 26 April 2018 from: <https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/council/108/C-108-6%20-%20Programme%20and%20Budget%20for%202018.pdf>

IOM's current programming and budget are summarized within this document, presented by the Director General to the 108th Council meeting in late 2017. It summarizes the current work of the Organization, as well as funding levels and allocations. Delegates can use this resource to understand IOM's current priorities, as well as the administrative processes used to operate the Organization at a high level.

International Organization for Migration. (2018). *About IOM*. [Website]. Retrieved 16 June 2018 from: <http://www.iom.int/about-iom>

The website of the IOM is an excellent source for delegates to learn more about the mission, organization structure, and governing bodies (especially the Council) of the organization. This will allow them to better understand the mandate and the working procedure of the committee. The website also contains detailed information on IOM's history, explanations of migration law and key migration terms, as well as examples for IOM's practical work.

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2016). *Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration (A/RES/70/296)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 20 June 2017 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/296>

This General Assembly resolution contains the agreement that established the formal relationship between the UN system and the IOM. It acknowledges the leading role IOM plays in matters of international migration and aims to increase cooperation between the two organizations. The UN therein recognizes IOM as an independent, autonomous, and non-normative international organization. This document will be a valuable source for delegates, as it outlines the way the two organizations will cooperate and the particular strengths of IOM.

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-first session. (2016). *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1)*. Retrieved 20 June 2018 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/1>

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants is the first commitment at the global level to protect the safety, dignity, and human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants and specifies a set of rights of migrants and obligations of states towards them. Annex II of the Declaration initiated a process of consultations towards the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly, and regular migration at an intergovernmental conference on international migration in 2018. The UN General Assembly tasked IOM with providing technical and policy expertise for the negotiations on the global compact. Delegates should make themselves familiar with this groundbreaking document because it will shape global migration policy and the work of IOM.

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International Organization for Migration. (2017). *Annual Report for 2016 (C/108/4)*. Retrieved 6 May 2018 from: <https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/council/108/C-108-4%20%20Annual%20Report%20for%202016.pdf>

International Organization for Migration. (2017). *Draft Report on the 107th Session of the Council (C/107/L/25)*. Retrieved 16 June 2018 from: <https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/council/107/C-107-L-25%20-%20Draft%20Report%20on%20the%20107th%20Session%20of%20the%20Council.pdf>

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International Organization for Migration. (2017). *Programme and Budget for 2018 (C/108/6)*. Retrieved 22 July 2018 from: <https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/council/108/C-108-6%20-%20Programme%20and%20Budget%20for%202018.pdf>

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I. Protecting Migrants from the Threat of Human Trafficking

“We have to do better for these people. For a world in conflict, what is needed is determination and courage, not fear.”⁸⁰

Introduction

Defined by the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons* (2000), “human trafficking is the transportation and holding of humans for exploitation through coercion, threatening their well-being, abduction, force, abuse, or deception.”⁸¹ The International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates that migrant smuggling is worth between \$3 to \$10 billion a year.⁸² Many of those trafficked face sexual slavery, abuse, prostitution, forced labor, the forced removal of organs, and continued bodily harm and exploitation.⁸³ While migrant smuggling and human trafficking both deal in the movement of humans, irregular migrants face a significant risk of being trafficked, as do women and children migrants.⁸⁴ The International Labour Organization (ILO) recognizes that women and girls are at a higher risk of being forced into labor, with women and girls constituting over 99% of trafficked individuals in the sex industry and 58% of forced domestic labor.⁸⁵ Despite international efforts to improve protections for migrants, addressing the reasons behind migration will also reduce human trafficking.⁸⁶ One option to stem the flow of migrants is advising vulnerable communities of the potential dangers.⁸⁷ However, IOM and the United Nations (UN) can also improve prevention strategies, provide justice for survivors through legal frameworks, and meet survivors’ specific needs to address human trafficking of migrants.⁸⁸

International and Regional Framework

The *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948) forms the basis of human rights protections for all people.⁸⁹ Articles 1 and 4 of the UDHR recognize the “innate freedom and equality” of all individuals and that no one can be held in slavery.⁹⁰ Additionally, the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC) (1989) prohibits trafficking of children for any means, including forced labor and sex trafficking.⁹¹ The *Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Air and Sea*, adopted by the General Assembly in 2000, addresses the illegal nature and safety of smuggled migrants and their potential to become trafficked.⁹² Article 3 of the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children* (2000) states that human trafficking is a violation of the right to live free of subjugation, cruel punishment, and torture.⁹³ The *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime*, adopted by the General Assembly as resolution 55/25 in 2000, also addresses the illicit trafficking of migrants, women, and children.⁹⁴ Both highlight the need for a comprehensive approach to address human trafficking in migrants’ countries of origin, transit, and destination.⁹⁵ The General

⁸⁰ UNHCR, *War, violence, persecution push displacement to new unprecedented high*, 2017.

⁸¹ UN General Assembly, *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto* (A/RES/55/25), 2000.

⁸² IOM, *IOM Immigration and Border Management Fact Sheet: People Smuggling*, 2011.

⁸³ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto* (A/RES/55/25), 2000.

⁸⁴ IOM, *Counter-Trafficking*, 2016; UN General Assembly, *Making migration work for all: Report of the Secretary-General*, 2017.

⁸⁵ ILO, *Forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking*, 2017.

⁸⁶ UN General Assembly, *Making migration work for all: Report of the Secretary-General* (A/72/643), 2017.

⁸⁷ UNODC, *Prevention*, 2018.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

⁸⁹ UN General Assembly, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (A/RES/217 A (III)), 1948.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

⁹¹ UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (A/RES/44/25), 1989.

⁹² UN General Assembly, *Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* (A/RES/55/25), 2000.

⁹³ *Ibid.*

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁹⁵ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto* (A/RES/55/25), 2000.

Assembly and the broader UN system continues to address trafficking of migrants, including forced labor, sexual exploitation, kidnapping, extortion, and assault.⁹⁶

The *United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons*, General Assembly resolution 64/293 of 12 August 2010, promotes a “rights-based, gender- and age-sensitive approach” for vulnerable individuals and survivors of trafficking.⁹⁷ It also calls for cooperation among Member States and other actors, strengthening of political commitments of Member States, and ensuring effective methods of recovery and rehabilitation for trafficking victims.⁹⁸ Furthering resolution 64/293, the General Assembly adopted resolution 68/192, which established July 30th as “World Day against Trafficking in Persons,” and called for the creation of the “UN Voluntary Trust Fund for victims of trafficking.”⁹⁹ In 2016, the Security Council addressed human trafficking in resolution 2331, which builds on the *United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons* and the *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* (2000).¹⁰⁰ The resolution condemns and prohibits trafficking in persons and calls upon Member States to disrupt and prevent trafficking and support survivors of trafficking, including women.¹⁰¹

The *New York Declaration of Refugees and Migrants* (2016) highlights many factors contributing to migration, such as economic inequality and conflict zones, and potential solutions, including providing safe passage to transit and destination countries.¹⁰² The Declaration places particular emphasis on protecting migrants’ human rights, such as access to education and preventing and addressing sexual and gender-based violence, and promoting and strengthening migrants’ positive contributions.¹⁰³ A Global Compact for Migration is expected to be adopted in December 2018 that will likely build off of the New York Declaration and address not only preventing and mitigating trafficking but also address underlying causes of informal migration, including conflict.¹⁰⁴

Role of the International System

As the leading international organization for migration, IOM addresses migration-related issues through coordination and field missions with UN agencies, including the Global Migration Group (GMG) and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).¹⁰⁵ The GMG is an inter-agency group that is specifically tasked with ensuring international agencies are able to effectively utilize regional and international instruments.¹⁰⁶ Although IOM addresses many issues in cooperation with the UN, it focuses on tackling the underlying causes of irregular migration that often leave migrants vulnerable to trafficking and works to help people already being trafficked.¹⁰⁷ IOM raises public awareness in vulnerable communities, those with high poverty rates and lack of opportunity pushing many to migrant for work, about the methods traffickers use to lure potential victims.¹⁰⁸ Furthermore, IOM provides technical support to Member States and civil society on how to prevent human trafficking of migrants, including research on best practices, support to Member States’ legislative policies for countering trafficking, and building capacity to better provide assistance to survivors of trafficking.¹⁰⁹

⁹⁶ UN General Assembly, *Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons (A/RES/61/180)*, 2007; UN General Assembly, *United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (A/RES/64/293)*, 2010; UN General Assembly, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1)*, 2016; IOM, *IOM - The Global Compact for Migration*, 2018.

⁹⁷ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (A/RES/64/293)*, 2010.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹⁹ UN General Assembly, *Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons (A/RES/68/192)*, 2014.

¹⁰⁰ UN Security Council, *Maintenance of international peace and security (S/RES/2331 (2016))*, 2016.

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰² *Ibid.*

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁴ IOM, *The Global Compact for Migration*, 2018; UN General Assembly, *Making migration work for all: Report of the Secretary-General*, 2017.

¹⁰⁵ IOM, *IOM - The Global Compact for Migration*, 2018.

¹⁰⁶ UN GMG, *About Global Migration Group*, 2016.

¹⁰⁷ IOM, *Counter-Trafficking*, 2016.

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁹ IOM, *Counter-Trafficking*, 2016.

The Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT), a UN policy forum that brings together UN and related agencies on human trafficking, works to increase coordination between the UN system and civil society in order to combat human trafficking.¹¹⁰ ICAT provides a platform for the exchange of information among Member States, NGOs, and regional groups such as the European Union (EU), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the Organization of American States (OAS).¹¹¹ ICAT provided recommendations to prevent and combat trafficking in persons in the context of international migration for zero draft of the proposed Global Compact for Migration.¹¹² ICAT specifically suggested 10 objectives for Member States to help combat trafficking, including enhanced data collection and utilization; fair and ethical recruitment and safeguarding conditions to ensure decent work; and strengthening the transnational response to smuggling migrants.¹¹³

National Referral Mechanisms (NRMs), which are frameworks for identifying human trafficking victims, are gaining popularity among Member States and help to provide effective aid and advocacy for victims.¹¹⁴ NRMs allow for greater coordination among governments, civil society, and other agencies to provide services for trafficked persons, including by providing aid, reintegration, job training, and access to mental health services.¹¹⁵ NRMs help in identifying and helping victims in transit and are often critical in collecting data about victims once they are identified.¹¹⁶

Strengthening the Legal Framework for Trafficking in Persons

When addressing the futures of trafficking survivors, especially those found in transit or destination countries, many policies aimed at helping them do not seek justice for violations of their human rights in legal proceedings and possible restitutions from perpetrators.¹¹⁷ Efforts to strengthen legal frameworks to protect and aid migrants who become victims of trafficking include promoting national policies; integrating the work of NGOs; and enhancing frameworks among regional groups.¹¹⁸ ICAT provides Member States with various guidance tools to strengthen responses to trafficking by providing policy expertise on improving asylum procedures and reparation mechanisms.¹¹⁹ The rights-based approach ICAT emphasizes urges Member States to provide education and mental health support, ensure greater protection for victims, and improve legal pathways to justice.¹²⁰ The GMG and Human Rights Council recently published 20 principles and guidelines in regards to protecting migrants in vulnerable situations.¹²¹ Principle 3: “Ensure that migrants have access to justice,” states that migrants should be informed of their rights, given access to due process, and can participate in the justice process if a victim or witness to a crime.¹²²

Another UN agency working to promote greater cohesion amongst legal frameworks and provide support to those representing victims is the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).¹²³ Two of the primary legal tools found on the UNODC website are the Smuggling of Migrants Knowledge Portal and the Human Trafficking Case Law Database.¹²⁴ Both tools are integral to providing legal practitioners and policy-makers with accurate information about legal histories in regards to human trafficking, which when used correctly, help organizations traverse the vast legal differences amongst Member States.¹²⁵ Additionally, the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, established by General Assembly resolution 68/192, supports organizations working to legal support

¹¹⁰ UN ICAT, *About the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons*, 2007.

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹¹² UN ICAT, *An Overview: Key Achievements and Activities of ICAT*, 2018.

¹¹³ UN ICAT, *Trafficking in Persons in the GCM Zero Draft Plus*, 2018.

¹¹⁴ TOM, *National Referral Mechanisms for Victims of Human Trafficking: Deficiencies and Future Development*, 2017.

¹¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁷ UN ICAT, *What Is The Difference Between Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants: Issue Brief*, 2016.

¹¹⁸ UN ICAT, *Trafficking in Persons and Refugee Status: Issue Brief #3*, 2017.

¹¹⁹ *Ibid.*

¹²⁰ *Ibid.*

¹²¹ UN GMG, *Principles and Guidelines, supported by practical guidance, on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations*, 2018.

¹²² *Ibid.*

¹²³ UNODC, *About-Human Trafficking Case Law Database*, 2018.

¹²⁴ UNODC, *Smuggling of Migrants Knowledge Portal*; UNODC, *About-Human Trafficking Case Law Database*, 2018.

¹²⁵ *Ibid.*

victims on their paths to find justice.¹²⁶ Since its inception, the fund has received \$4.2 million in contributions, given \$2.1 million in grants to 31 countries, and has aided approximately 3,000 individuals each year.¹²⁷

Globally, numerous international organizations, NGOs, and regional groups work to strengthen the legal frameworks against trafficking.¹²⁸ Polaris, a United States-based organization, works to aid survivors of trafficking, coordinates with law enforcement to identify trafficked persons, and provides infrastructure for the National Human Trafficking Hotline.¹²⁹ Currently, Polaris is working with counterparts in law enforcement to combat trafficking of persons across the US-Mexico border and across the Latin American region.¹³⁰ One of the key legal frameworks promoted by Polaris, ICAT, and UNODC is identification of trafficked individuals, which not only helps remove victims from trafficking situations more quickly, but is a key tool in arresting traffickers.¹³¹

Case Study: Protection of Migrants in Asia and the Pacific

Due to a greater number of natural disasters, rural-urban migration, and economic development, persons from Asia and the Pacific are migrating intra- and extra-regionally to find jobs and improve personal security.¹³² Of the 244 million international migrants, 40 million reside in the Asia and Pacific region and 30% of global migrants originate from the region.¹³³ In 2015, over 92% of trafficking victims throughout the Southeast Asian region aided by IOM were subjected to forced domestic servitude, 85% of male migrants were subject to forced labor, over 7% were victims of sexual exploitation, and 7% of the victims were children.¹³⁴ In a 2016 survey of global migrants, nearly 40% of migrants noted facing at least one experience of exploitation by traffickers.¹³⁵ According to IOM, it is imperative the international community and Member States address migrant exploitation and trafficking from point of origination to a migrant's final destination.¹³⁶

Women migrants face particular concerns in regards to being trafficked, including increased likelihood of trafficking and increased vulnerabilities.¹³⁷ With women comprising approximately half of the migrant labor population, particularly in the regions of Asia and the Pacific, women migrants are more likely to encounter hazards and are “disproportionately targeted by human traffickers.”¹³⁸ Since women are historically a vulnerable population, migration places many women at higher risk of abuse and sexual exploitation.¹³⁹ The higher risk of exploitation for women migrants is in part due to an inability to communicate in their destination country, limited or no means of outreach to get outside help while working in a household as a domestic worker, the common confiscation and withholding of passports, and lack of legal immigration documents.¹⁴⁰

To combat exploitation of women in ASEAN, ILO, UN Women and the EU held a joint meeting in 2018 to discuss the regional project “Safe and Fair: Realized Women Migrant Workers’ Right and Opportunities 2018-2022.”¹⁴¹ This multi-year project plans to build capacity within the region to address false or misleading employment advertisements, implement domestic and household labor rights protections, and coordinate regional systems to

¹²⁶ UNODC, *United Nations Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking: From victim to survivor, A second chance at life*, 2017.

¹²⁷ Ibid.

¹²⁸ IOM, *National Referral Mechanisms for Victims of Human Trafficking: Deficiencies and Future Development*, 2017.

¹²⁹ Polaris, *Global Safety Net-About*, 2018.

¹³⁰ Ibid.

¹³¹ Polaris, *Global Safety Net-About*, 2018; UNODC, *About-Human Trafficking Case Law Database*, 2018; UN ICAT, *Trafficking in Persons and Refugee Status: Issue Brief #3*, 2017.

¹³² IOM, *IOM in Asia and the Pacific 2017-2020*, 2016.

¹³³ ILO, *Safe & Fair: Ending abuse and exploitation against women migrant workers*. 2018.

¹³⁴ IOM, *Human Trafficking 2015*, 2015.

¹³⁵ Galos, *Migrant Vulnerability to Human Trafficking and Exploitation: Evidence from the Central and Eastern Mediterranean Migration Routes*, 2017.

¹³⁶ IOM, *Vision and Roles*, 2018.

¹³⁷ UN ICAT, *The Gender Dimensions Of Human Trafficking: Issue Brief #4*, 2017.

¹³⁸ IOM, *IOM in Asia and the Pacific 2017-2020*, 2016.

¹³⁹ IOM, *Issue in Brief: Women’s Labour Migration from Asian and the Pacific: Opportunities and Challenges*, 2015.

¹⁴⁰ IOM, *Issue in Brief: Women’s Labour Migration from Asian and the Pacific: Opportunities and Challenges*, 2015.

¹⁴¹ ILO, *Safe & Fair: Realizing women migrant workers’ rights and opportunities in the ASEAN region (2018-2022)*, 2018.

improve responsive systems.¹⁴² IOM's mission and strategy in the region plans to work toward achieving seven key targets, including implementation of policies and programs based on evidence, monitoring, and analysis of migration; building capacity to manage crises; and development of migrant assistance frameworks to integrate into destination, reintegrate at point-of-origin, and counter-trafficking.¹⁴³

Conclusion

Recognizing the reasons behind migration and reducing the commonality of irregular migration will, in the long-term, aid in reducing the numbers of persons trafficked and the overall impact of human trafficking.¹⁴⁴ Many migrants are forced to make difficult decisions to leave their home countries in pursuit of economically viable futures and comparable safety due to conflict.¹⁴⁵ In order to reduce and prevent human trafficking of migrants, the international community should mainstream regional efforts to strengthen legal frameworks, implement early identification, and protect those most vulnerable to exploitation.¹⁴⁶ Additionally, Member States and NGOs focusing on prevention and mitigation should maintain resources for continued treatment of emotional trauma, reintegration of survivors back into society, and continued justice for migrants.¹⁴⁷ As IOM's response to human trafficking evolves and migration increases, it is increasingly important the international community commits to addressing systemic issues and provide policy frameworks that advance the commitments of the forthcoming Global Compact.¹⁴⁸

Further Research

As the international community works towards adoption of the Global Compact on Migration, delegates should keep abreast of the ongoing negotiations and migrant crises. Additionally, delegates should research how organizations are currently measuring migration, human-trafficking, and impacts of programming. Some questions delegates could consider: how can the international community and Member States better identify human-trafficking at borders? What can the international police community do to improve coordination and information sharing? How can regional groups harness collective action to help the most vulnerable migrants and ensure labor rights are secured?

¹⁴² Ibid.

¹⁴³ IOM, *IOM in Asia and the Pacific 2017-2020*, 2016.

¹⁴⁴ UN ICAT, *A Toolkit for guidance in designing and evaluating counter-trafficking programmes: Harnessing accumulated knowledge to respond to trafficking in persons*

¹⁴⁵ UN Security Council, *Maintenance of international peace and security (S/RES/2331 (2016))*, 2016.

¹⁴⁶ UNODC, *Prevention*, 2018.

¹⁴⁷ UN ICAT, *What Is The Difference Between Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants: Issue Brief*, 2016.

¹⁴⁸ IOM, *Vision and Roles*, 2018.

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http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migrant_vulnerability_to_human_trafficking_and_exploitation.pdf

This publication provides an assessment of risks and vulnerabilities for migrants regarding human trafficking, specifically within the context of irregular migration. It includes data analysis from the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix that includes the positive and negative factors migrants may face depending what migration path they choose. The report provides an analysis of how an individual migrant's experience can result in a higher risk becoming trafficked. Delegates will find this report useful when identifying gaps in programming that can be addressed.

International Organization for Migration. (2016). *IOM in Asia and the Pacific 2017-2020* [Report]. Retrieved 24 July 2018 from: <https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/country/AP/IOM-Strategy-in-Asia-and-the-Pacific-2017-2020.pdf>

IOM's current mission and strategy in Asia and the Pacific is useful tool for delegates to understand how the international community identifies actionable objectives to aid migrants. Particularly, this report looks at the root causes of migration across the regions and identifies ways Member States can aid vulnerable migrants from origin to destination and beyond. Further, the report has an in-depth description of IOM's Migration Governance Framework. Delegates should use this document to understand regional complexities and IOM objectives.

Liu, G. (2017). *National Referral Mechanisms for Victims of Human Trafficking: Deficiencies and Future Development*. International Organization for Migration. Retrieved 6 March 2018 from:

http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/national_referral_mechanisms.pdf

Dr. Liu works at the Beijing Institute of Technology Law School researching migration law and policy. Dr. Liu is an advisory expert at Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council and has worked on over 20 projects in conjunction with the Chinese government, the IOM, UNHCR, and many other groups. This report provides a clear, concise, informative summary as part of the IOM's Migration Research Leaders Syndicate in support of the Global Compact on Migration. It focuses on "finding, identifying and assisting victims" as a fundamental aspect within anti-human trafficking efforts. The report promotes measures such as close coordination among governmental authorities, civil society, and international organizations to effectively address the recovery, settlement, and reduction of trafficked migrants.

United Nations, Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons. (2016). *A Toolkit for guidance in designing and evaluation counter-trafficking programmes: Harnessing accumulated knowledge to respond to trafficking in persons*. Retrieved 6 March 2018 from:

http://icat.network/sites/default/files/publications/documents/16-10273_ICAT_toolkit.pdf

This report was published in collaboration with the IOM, the International Labour Organization, OHCHR, UNHRC, UNICEF, and UNODC as part of ICAT's work to provide practical tools for Member States to tackle trafficking. The report provides an overview, evaluates specific actions, puts forward possible solutions, and suggests responses. These include strengthening program design and in-depth evaluations that will help delegates understand the more technical aspects of program planning. The report evaluates and provides insights in regards to programs such as awareness, improving livelihoods, strengthening legal frameworks, criminal justice capacity building, and developing national plans of actions.

United Nations, Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons. (2017). *The Gender Dimensions of Human Trafficking: Issue Brief #4*. Retrieved 15 April 2010 from:

<http://icat.network/sites/default/files/publications/documents/ICAT-IB-04-V.1.pdf>

This issue brief is comprised of work compiled from several UN and ICAT working groups. It offers a condensed overview of the multifaceted approach to helping survivors of trafficking and acknowledges the underwhelming response to recognizing and providing services for male survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. It also highlights the difficulties female survivors face as migrants at risk of human trafficking. It provides information in understanding what key measures are lacking in providing greater, inclusive care to survivors of trafficking.

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II. Economic Integration of Migrants

*“Migrants can make positive and profound contributions to economic and social development in their host societies and to global wealth creation. They can help to respond to demographic trends, labor shortages and other challenges in host societies, and add fresh skills and dynamism to the latter’s economies.”*¹⁴⁹

Introduction

International migration is a growing phenomenon that is both a cause and effect of development processes.¹⁵⁰ The United Nations (UN) defines an international migrant as someone who has changed their country of residence for three months to one year for a short term migrant and longer than one year for a long term or permanent migrant.¹⁵¹ Migration can be a positive development force by filling gaps in the labor market and allowing for the sending of remittances; the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and other actors have long supported integrative national policies to this end.¹⁵² There has been a recent increase in migration due to conflict, environmental factors, and a lack of human security and opportunity, which has led to growing public concern about irregular migration and, in some cases, made it more difficult for migrants to integrate economically or otherwise.¹⁵³ In most Member States, economic migrants are not a legally recognized category, meaning they may not have the same legal protection as refugees and asylum-seekers.¹⁵⁴ There are a wide range of people who move to improve their economic and professional prospects, but the term usually refers to lower and unskilled workers from less developed countries who often migrate illegally to make asylum claims in their eventual destination countries to find better employment opportunities, improved standards of living, and greater security.¹⁵⁵ Many Member States struggle to integrate migrants, but the international community continues to seek methods to improve economic integration of migrants and realize its positive benefits.¹⁵⁶

International and Regional Framework

The *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)* (1966) forms the basis of international economic rights.¹⁵⁷ Although the ICESCR does not specifically include migrants, it does state that a person’s rights, “will be exercised without discrimination...as to... national or social origin.”¹⁵⁸ Among the rights the ICESCR enumerates are the right to work, fair payment, and safe and healthy working conditions in order to attain an adequate standard of living.¹⁵⁹ Additionally, the International Labour Organization (ILO) adopted conventions on migrants’ economic rights.¹⁶⁰ The *Convention concerning Migration for Employment (Revised)*, (1949) lays out legal economic migrants’ rights to fair treatment and employment, and Member States’ responsibility to provide information to the ILO on migration policy, restrict misleading propaganda about migration, and “facilitate the departure, journey and reception of migrants for employment.”¹⁶¹ The *ILO Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers* (1978) calls for equal employment opportunities for legal migrants, including educating migrants about their rights.¹⁶² While both of the ILO conventions only apply to legal economic migrants, the *International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW)* (1990) protects the human rights of all migrants, acknowledging that irregular migrants “are frequently employed

¹⁴⁹ UN General Assembly, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1)*, 2016, p. 9.

¹⁵⁰ UN DESA, Population Division, *International Migration*.

¹⁵¹ IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, p. 15.

¹⁵² UN DESA, Population Division, *International Migration*; IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, p. 63; Specht, *German firms are hungry for workers, refugees are feeding the appetite*, Handelsblatt Global, 2018.

¹⁵³ IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, p. 1.

¹⁵⁴ Semmelroggen, *Explainer: the difference between asylum seekers, refugees and economic migrants*, *The Conversation*, 2015.

¹⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁶ IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017.

¹⁵⁷ UN General Assembly, *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (A/RES/2200 (XXI))*, 1966.

¹⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁰ ILO, *Conventions*, 2017.

¹⁶¹ ILO, *Convention concerning Migration for Employment (Revised 1949) (Entry into force: 22 Jan 1952)*.

¹⁶² ILO, *Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers (Entry into force: 09 Dec 1978)*.

under less favorable conditions of work than other workers.”¹⁶³ The ICRMW also enumerates migrants’ rights to equal work conditions, terms of employment, and ability to join trade unions.¹⁶⁴ Individually, however, these instruments are not widely ratified, and Member States have primarily adopted bilateral and multilateral agreements on migrant’s economic rights.¹⁶⁵ The General Assembly adopted the *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants* (A/RES/71/1) in 2016, which addresses large movements of migrants and protects the human rights of all migrants.¹⁶⁶ Among the commitments in the New York Declaration are strengthening the positive economic contributions of migrants, countering discrimination and xenophobia against migrants, ensuring women’s participation in all solutions, and applying “minimum labor standards for migrant workers regardless of their status.”¹⁶⁷ The New York Declaration also classified the IOM as a related organization to the UN.¹⁶⁸

Role of the International System

In the New York Declaration, the General Assembly began the process of negotiating the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, a proposed framework that aligns with the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and is expected to be adopted in December 2018.¹⁶⁹ The international community has several goals for the proposed compact, including addressing economic drivers of migration, strengthening the relationship between migration and development, promoting the inclusion of migrants in host societies, and protecting migrants’ labor rights, specifically women migrants.¹⁷⁰ The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration directs work on the New York Declaration, along with the Global Migration Group (GMG), a group of UN agencies including IOM.¹⁷¹ The GMG works with Member States and civil society, conducts research on migration and development, and delivers statements to the General Assembly, IOM, and the Global Forum on Migration and Development.¹⁷² Additionally, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs’ Population Division provides guidance, research, and support to UN entities on migration and its impact on development.¹⁷³ Although narrower in scope than many entities working on migration, the ILO aims to implement effective policies on migrant employment, improving migrant recruitment, and supporting the integration of migrants.¹⁷⁴ Additionally, regional organizations work on integrating migrants, including the European Union which has a set of 11 principles for migrant integration, including access to employment, education, and public services; and protection from discrimination.¹⁷⁵

IOM works on a wide variety of migration issues, including harnessing migrants’ positive economic potential and assisting Member States in integrating migrants and economically sustaining migrants who return to their country of origin.¹⁷⁶ Specifically, IOM provides technical support to governments and runs both pre- and post-arrival programs on economically integrating migrants.¹⁷⁷ IOM also has Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs), which are

¹⁶³ UN General Assembly, *International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families* (A/RES/45/158), 1990.

¹⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁵ IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, p. 132.

¹⁶⁶ UN General Assembly, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants* (A/RES/71/1), 2016; UN, *Refugees and Migrants, New York Declaration*, 2018.

¹⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁹ *Ibid.*; UN, International Organization for Migration, *Global Compact for Migration*, 2018.

¹⁷⁰ UN General Assembly, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants* (A/RES/71/1), 2016.

¹⁷¹ UN DESA, Population Division, *United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General*, 2017; UN DESA, Population Division, *Global Migration Group*.

¹⁷² UN DESA, Population Division, *Global Migration Group*; UN DESA, Population Division, *Global Forum on Migration and Development*.

¹⁷³ UN DESA, Population Division, *International Migration*.

¹⁷⁴ IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, p. 135.

¹⁷⁵ Archick, K. et al., *Muslims in Europe: Promoting Integration and Countering Extremism*, 2011, p. 40; Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration, Mobility and Integrated Border Management, *Panel Meeting on Economic Integration of Migrants*, 2017; Interreg, *Danube Region Information Platform for Economic Integration of Migrants*, 2018; UN-Women, *Women Migrant Workers in the Asean Economic Community*, 2017.

¹⁷⁶ IOM, *Mission*, 2018; IOM, *Migration & Economic/Community Development*, 2018.

¹⁷⁷ IOM, *Migrant Integration*, 2018; IOM, *IOM and Migrant Integration*, 2009, p.2.

information-sharing and policy dialogues with Member States belonging to a particular region.¹⁷⁸ RCPs can have their own experts and working groups and address a wide range of migration issues; they have led to regional policies and enabled regional migration initiatives, including on economically integrating migrants.¹⁷⁹ Similarly, IOM functions as a coordinating body for Inter-Regional Forums on Migration, connecting different regions to share information.¹⁸⁰

Economic Integration in Host Communities

IOM recognizes that successful economic integration “is a two-way process that involves mutual adaptation of migrants and the host society.”¹⁸¹ Despite common negative perceptions of migration, most research finds that labor market and fiscal effects of migration are positive, especially in developed Member States.¹⁸² Consequently, IOM conducts awareness raising, media training, and anti-xenophobia campaigns in addition to capacity building and combating workplace discrimination of migrants.¹⁸³ These actions are in line with the New York Declaration’s focus on the positive effects of economically integrating migrants, while also committing to combat xenophobia, racism, and discrimination.¹⁸⁴ All of these efforts have the goal of not only improving the lives of migrants and their host communities but also reducing “the risks of marginalization and radicalization.”¹⁸⁵

Although there is an overall lack of data on the links between migration and violent extremism, especially in lower-income Member States, there is wide acknowledgement that radicalization among migrants and their descendants is a symptom of economic exclusion, among other types.¹⁸⁶ Migrants and observers in Europe acknowledge that, although there are social tensions, they are rooted more in economic and social disparity rather than religion.¹⁸⁷ This is also the case in other regions, including Central Asia, where unequal access to resources, rights, and economic opportunities can lead to exclusion.¹⁸⁸ However, treating migrants as a potential source of domestic instability can further alienate them, and IOM recommends focusing on providing access to work and social integration to reduce the risk of radicalization.¹⁸⁹

Approaches to economic integration vary depending on Member States’ policies and migrants’ socioeconomic status, employment experience, skills, qualifications, and language proficiency.¹⁹⁰ Civil society organizations often provide research and policy recommendations on how to address these issues effectively.¹⁹¹ Integration includes cohesive policies and participation from all stakeholders, including intergovernmental organizations, civil society, the private sector, the host communities, and migrants.¹⁹² Employment develops migrants’ skills and creates social networks and capital to support long-term integration.¹⁹³ The private sector plays a particularly large role in economic integration of migrants, as not only a potential employer but also a provider of vocational and language

¹⁷⁸ IOM, *Regional Consultative Processes on Migration*, 2018.

¹⁷⁹ Ibid.

¹⁸⁰ IOM, *Inter-Regional Forums on Migration*, 2018.

¹⁸¹ IOM, *IOM and Migrant Integration*, 2009, p.2; IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017, p. 2.

¹⁸² Appave & David, *Integration that Values Diversity – Exploring a Model for Current Migration Dynamics*, 2017; IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, p. 4.

¹⁸³ IOM, *Migrant Integration*, 2018.

¹⁸⁴ UN General Assembly, *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1)*, 2016.

¹⁸⁵ Ibid.

¹⁸⁶ IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, pp. 211, 216.

¹⁸⁷ Archick, K. et al., *Muslims in Europe: Promoting Integration and Countering Extremism*, 2011, pp. 5, 7.

¹⁸⁸ IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, pp. 217-220; Tadjbakhsh, et al., *Background Papers on Violent Extremism and its Prevention*, 2016, p. 7.

¹⁸⁹ IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017, p. 1; IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, pp. 220-222.

¹⁹⁰ IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, p. 44; IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017, pp. 3, 5.

¹⁹¹ Supporting Action for Migrant Entrepreneurship, *Promoting the Economic Integration of Migrants*, 2018.

¹⁹² IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, p. 33; IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017, pp. 3-4.

¹⁹³ Supporting Action for Migrant Entrepreneurship, *Promoting the Economic Integration of Migrants*, 2018, p. 7.

training.¹⁹⁴ Businesses can be influential in shaping perspectives about migrants by valuing and integrating diversity into their workforce and culture.¹⁹⁵ As implementers of migrants' labor rights, partnerships with private sector companies may also help IOM encourage greater adherence to international labor standards.¹⁹⁶ Although most major destination countries have labor laws, often migrants are not covered and are employed informally, which allows for potential corrupt hiring practices.¹⁹⁷ Additionally, social protections, which migrants often cannot access, also promote equal employment opportunities.¹⁹⁸ IOM recommends providing information about employment opportunities, providing training services, and promoting labor market insertion and development of professional skills to effectively economically integrate migrants, as well as mainstreaming migration policy at all levels.¹⁹⁹

Economic Concerns of Women

Women comprise roughly half of the world's migrants, and there were over 66 million women who migrated for work in 2013.²⁰⁰ Because of patriarchal structures, women's decision to migrate may be based more on family needs than individual advancement, meaning women will seek employment in their destination communities to support their families.²⁰¹ At the same time, women are often migrating because of a lack of social protection, gender discrimination, and inequality, only to be, in many cases, excluded from the social protection system in their destination country.²⁰² Women migrants, especially single women, face intersecting vulnerabilities of gender-based violence, discrimination, lack of education, and social expectations, all of which effect their rights, mobility, and employment opportunities.²⁰³ IOM has recognized that gender-sensitive integration support is critical to overcome societal expectations and prejudices.²⁰⁴ For example, women migrant workers tend to be highly concentrated in domestic and low-paying positions which are especially prone to labor and social protection gaps.²⁰⁵ In Asia, over half of all migrants are women, many of whom become domestic workers.²⁰⁶ These women face human rights abuses because they are marginalized, their movements are restricted, and their work is undervalued and excluded from labor and social protections.²⁰⁷ One of IOM's goals is to protect the labor rights and ensure safe working conditions for women migrants.²⁰⁸ However, IOM also highlights the capacities of women and the proactive role female migrants play economically.²⁰⁹ On the job training and child-care options are additional steps IOM recommends to improve women migrants' access to meaningful employment.²¹⁰

Economic Integration in Countries of Origin

IOM works with migrant communities and diaspora to promote the development of migrants' countries of origin.²¹¹ This includes remittances programs to involve migrants in the economic development of their original communities.²¹² However, relying on remittances for development and as a replacement for a domestic social

¹⁹⁴ IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017, p. 5.

¹⁹⁵ IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, p. 49; IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017, p. 5.

¹⁹⁶ IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017, p. 5.

¹⁹⁷ Jureidini, *Transnational Culture of Corruption in Migrant Labour Recruitment*, 2017; Hennebry, *Securing and Insuring Livelihoods: Migrant Workers and Protection Gaps*, 2017, p. 3.

¹⁹⁸ Hennebry, *Securing and Insuring Livelihoods: Migrant Workers and Protection Gaps*, 2017, p. 1.

¹⁹⁹ IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, pp. 44-46; IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017, p. 6.

²⁰⁰ IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, pp. 28, 185.

²⁰¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 184-185.

²⁰² Hennebry, *Securing and Insuring Livelihoods: Migrant Workers and Protection Gaps*, 2017, p. 3.

²⁰³ UN Women, *Women Migrant Workers in the ASEAN Economic Community*, 2017; IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, pp. 72, 142; IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, p. 107.

²⁰⁴ IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017, p. 3.

²⁰⁵ Hennebry, *Securing and Insuring Livelihoods: Migrant Workers and Protection Gaps*, 2017, pp. 2, 4.

²⁰⁶ UN Women, *Domestic work and migration in Asia: Factsheet*, 2012, p. 1.

²⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁸ IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, pp. 28, 55-56.

²⁰⁹ IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, pp. 72, 142; IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, p. 107.

²¹⁰ IOM, *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*, 2017, p. 6.

²¹¹ IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, pp. 49-50.

²¹² *Ibid.*, p. 63.

protection programs is problematic.²¹³ Remittances are unpredictable because migrants' jobs are often vulnerable and employers are able to exploit this vulnerability.²¹⁴ This precarious nature is also reflected in host government policies that consider migrants as temporary guests.²¹⁵ Depending upon the degree of integration and length of time, some migrants choose to return to their countries of origin.²¹⁶ To this end, IOM has been implementing assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) programs since the 1970s.²¹⁷ AVRR assistance can include providing pre-departure counselling, flight tickets, administrative and travel assistance, and reintegration assistance.²¹⁸ AVRR programs have been increasing, but numbers remain low and mostly benefit male returning migrants.²¹⁹ Successful economic reintegration includes a source of income, reliable and adequate employment, food security, a low debt to spending ratio, and migrants' satisfaction with their economic situations.²²⁰ This depends on the migrants' ability to return to a country with stable economic and political institutions in which migrants will be able to economically re-integrate and find employment.²²¹ IOM is working with the European Union to create a knowledge sharing platform to track the success of programs and share best practices in reintegrating migrants.²²² IOM also works with individual Member States to, "address challenges associated with return migration and reintegration," because voluntarily returning migrants have the potential to drive economic development in their countries of origin.²²³

Conclusion

Acknowledging that economic integration is a key element of migrants' participation in public life, IOM promotes a wide range of programs to successfully integrate migrants.²²⁴ Yet, economic integration is one piece of the larger issue of migrant integration, which also includes social, political, and cultural engagement.²²⁵ Civil society organizations have raised concerns over the Global Compact's intentions and policies and practices implemented to integrate migrants.²²⁶ Development policy coherence to economically integrate migrants is crucial as, for example, unhealthy migrants cannot work or participate in society, irregular migrants cannot access decent work, and global labor needs cannot be met without safe, orderly, and regular migration, which not only protects and promotes the rights of migrants but also benefits their countries of residence.²²⁷

Further Research

In considering how to improve the economic integration of migrants, delegates should consider the following questions: How can IOM ensure migrants have the necessary resources to economically integrate? What more can IOM do to combat xenophobia towards migrants and its link with economic integration challenges? How can IOM work with UN entities, Member States, and private enterprises to harness the positive economic impacts of migration and prioritize economically integrating migrants?

²¹³ Hennebray, *Securing and Insuring Livelihoods: Migrant Workers and Protection Gaps*, 2017, p. 3.

²¹⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 3-4.

²¹⁵ Abbasi-Shavazi et al, *Migrants' Integration in Host Societies, and Return to Home Countries: The Case of the Middle East and South Asia*, 2017, p. 2.

²¹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 5.

²¹⁷ IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, p. 27.

²¹⁸ IOM, *Ideas on How to Facilitate Departure, Return and Reintegration Assistance*, 2015; IOM, *World Migration Report 2018*, 2018, p. 27.

²¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²²⁰ IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, p. 41.

²²¹ Abbasi-Shavazi et al, *Migrants' Integration in Host Societies, and Return to Home Countries: The Case of the Middle East and South Asia*, 2017, pp. 6-7.

²²² IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, p. 42.

²²³ *Ibid.*, p. 74; Abbasi-Shavazi et al, *Migrants' Integration in Host Societies, and Return to Home Countries: The Case of the Middle East and South Asia*, 2017, p. 7.

²²⁴ IOM, *Migrant Integration*, 2018.

²²⁵ *Ibid.*

²²⁶ Caritas International, *Global Compacts Must Offer Compassion, Dignity and Hope*, 2018.

²²⁷ IOM, *Migration Initiatives 2018*, 2017, p. 44; Jureidini, *Transnational Culture of Corruption in Migrant Labour Recruitment*, 2017.

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Hennebry, J. (2017). *Securing and Insuring Livelihoods: Migrant Workers and Protection Gaps*. International Organization for Migration. Retrieved 7 March 2018 from: <http://publications.iom.int/books/securing-and-insuring-livelihoods-migrant-workers-and-protection-gaps>

Dr. Hennebry is an Associate Professor at the Balsillie School of International Affairs and is the Director of the International Migration Research Centre (IMRC) at Wilfrid Laurier University. Dr. Hennebry produced this short paper as one of the 26 papers submitted as part of IOM Migration Research Leaders Syndicate's contribution toward the Global Compact for Migration. The paper connects the economic aspects of migration with social protection programs both in migrants' countries of origin and host countries. The paper also includes recommendations on economic and social protection for migrants, as part of the drafting process of the Global Compact for Migration. Delegates should find this source useful as they research the ongoing process of drafting and implementing the Global compact for Migration and its links to economically integrating migrants.

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventy-first session. (2016). *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 7 March 2018 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/1>

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants was the outcome document adopted as a resolution by the General Assembly after a high-level summit on refugees and migrants. The declaration makes commitments by Member States on both refugees and migrants, as well as some commitments specific to migrants. The declaration lays out the process framework for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration to be adopted in late 2018. The declaration includes the importance of economic opportunities and needs of migrants. Delegates should find this source useful as they begin their research and are looking into the context and broader issues of migrants, including socio-economic concerns.

United Nations, International Organization for Migration. (2017). *Integration and Social Cohesion: Key Elements for Reaping the Benefits of Migration*. Retrieved 7 March 2018 from:

https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/ODG/GCM/IOM-Thematic-Paper-Integration-and-Social-Cohesion.pdf

This brief thematic paper was written by IOM in 2017 for consultations building on the 2016 New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1) and highlights the international jurisdiction of migrant integration. The paper then goes on to explain and define the process of integration, including economic inclusion. The paper also includes an overview of challenges to integration and other issues related to integrating migrants. Finally, the paper lays out suggested actions, including access to the labor market. Delegates should find this source particularly helpful as they research the broad position and recommendations of IOM on migrant integration.

United Nations, International Organization for Migration. (2017). *Migration Initiatives 2018*. Retrieved 7 March 2018 from: <http://publications.iom.int/books/migration-initiatives-2018>

This is IOM's annual report produced in 2017 to look ahead to 2018. The report provides an overview of IOM's priorities and planned programs and efforts for the year. The report breaks these issues into thematic areas but also provides country-specific information. Delegates may find the section on Objective 1: Advancing the Socioeconomic Well-Being of Migrants and Society particularly helpful, especially at the beginning of their research. Additionally, for delegates interested in a detailed, but well-organized, look at IOM funding, the report provides several pages of information at the beginning and more information about how IOM is funded and manages funds in the final section.

United Nations, International Organization for Migration. (2018). *World Migration Report 2018*. Retrieved 7 March 2018 from: <http://publications.iom.int/books/world-migration-report-2018>

This is the latest IOM report on global migration that presents data and information on migration, including migration's relationship with economics. Although quite long, the report gives a succinct overview in its first chapter. The report also provides information on global migration and regional-specific information in its first section that delegates may find particularly helpful when researching how migration has impacted their Member State. Delegates may also find

Chapter 5 on the existing migration governance frameworks useful when crafting policy recommendations and Chapter 9 on migration, violent extremism, and social exclusion when considering the impact of their proposed recommendations.

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