Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)?

The GCM presents a non-legally binding, cooperative framework on migration that builds on the commitments agreed upon by Member States in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. It fosters international cooperation among all relevant actors on migration, acknowledging that no State can address migration alone, and upholds the sovereignty of States and their obligations under international law.

2. What is the official name of the GCM?

The official name of the GCM is the *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration*. For ease of reference, the document is often referred to as the Global Compact for Migration or GCM. The Compact is also known as the Marrakech Compact on Migration.

3. How was the GCM agreed?

The GCM was *adopted* at the "Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration," held in Marrakech, Morocco on 10 and 11 December 2018. The Conference, in which 162 Member States participated, was held under the auspices of the UN General Assembly. Subsequently, on 19 December 2018, the General Assembly (GA) *endorsed* the GCM in resolution 73/195 by a recorded vote of 152 votes in favour to 5 against, with 12 abstentions.

4. Can Member States indicate a *change in policy* vis-a-vis the GCM?

Yes. Even though Member States cannot change their vote on a resolution, they can announce a change in policy by making an oral statement in the GA general discussion on a related agenda item[1]. If the statement is delivered in the GA plenary it will be recorded verbatim. Alternatively, a Member State also has the right to request issuance of a communication as an official document of the Assembly. Such communication could be a letter sent to the UN Secretary-General indicating the change in policy with a request that the letter be circulated as an official document under the relevant agenda item.

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[1] A related agenda item includes "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields". This agenda item is usually considered jointly with the item "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit" and the item on "Strengthening of the United Nations system".

5. Can Member States that did not vote in favour of the GCM support its implementation?

Yes. All Member States can choose to implement the GCM objectives and commitments at all times, regardless of their vote or their position expressed in December 2018.

6. Can Member States that did not vote in favour of the GCM receive support from the United Nations Network on Migration?

Yes. All Member States can receive support from the United Nations Network on Migration including through the establishment of a country Network, regardless of their vote or position expressed in December 2018.

7. Can Member States that did not vote in favour of the GCM receive support from the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund?

Yes. All Member States seeking support to implement the GCM are eligible to benefit from the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund[2], regardless of their vote or position expressed in December 2018.

8. Are there any other ways in which Member States can indicate their support for the GCM?

Yes. Additional ways to indicate support for the GCM include issuing public statements, participating in relevant events, including the International Migration Review Forum, becoming a GCM champion country or contributing to the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund.

9. Where can I find more information about the GCM, including its implementation and review?

For further information, please refer to the website of the UN Network on Migration or contact the secretariat of the UN Network on Migration at unmignet@iom.int.

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[2] The Migration MPTF is the "start-up fund" part of the capacity building mechanism called for by the GCM resolution.