

**GLOBAL COALITION
ON MIGRATION**

Creating Change through Building Unity

REGIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY CONSULTATIONS ON MICIC

**MID-TERM REPORT
MARCH - DECEMBER 2015**

Background & Context

*“Reliable, multi-actor mechanisms to address the assistance and protection needs of **migrants stranded in distress**... in situations of **war, conflict or disaster**...”*

~ Point 3, Civil Society’s 5-year, 8-point Action Plan (2013)

- GCM + MADE organizing a series of 6 regional civil society consultations on MICIC, parallel to government consultations

- Objectives:
 - (i) brief civil society leaders about MICIC
 - (ii) collect and consolidate civil society recommendations
 - (iii) develop civil society engagement with MICIC

Background & Context

- Concluded Civil Society Consultations:
 - South, East & Southeast Asia – Manila (21-22 March)
 - Eastern Europe & Central Asia – Brussels (24 June)
 - Western & Central Africa – Dakar (7 December)
- Upcoming Civil Society Consultations:
 - Southern & Central America – San Jose, Costa Rica (16 February)
 - Middle East & North Africa – Beirut (March)
 - East & Southern Africa – TBD (April)
- Mid-term report *NOT* conclusive – indicates emerging trends in recommendations, starting point for other consultations

Emerging Recommendations

■ Pre-Crisis

- Extend scope of “country in crisis” – vulnerabilities of being migrant exacerbated in times of crisis
- Ratify/implement human/labour rights standards – pre-emptively decrease vulnerabilities
- Develop in line with other global agendas – SDGs, Climate, Disaster Risk Reduction, MWC+CRC General Comment, OHCHR Border Guidelines etc.
- Protect human rights defenders – capacities of civil society roles diminished if HR defenders curtailed
- Implement framework to facilitate communication between governments and civil society – to alert and collaborate

Emerging Recommendations

- **Emergency Phase**

- Involve migrants in emergency response strategies – more than passive recipients of assistance
- Recognize active role of diaspora in responding to crises
- Guarantee “firewalls” against immigration enforcement, particularly refoulement / involuntary deportations (*“Save lives first, ask questions later.”*)

- **Post Crisis**

- Undertake independent, multi-stakeholder reviews of procedures
 - Identify best, promising, worst practices
 - Measure impact of response mechanisms
 - Feed into contingency planning for future emergencies

Regional Specificities

- **South, East, Southeast Asia**
 - Protect right to organize and freely associate, especially in GCC
 - Consult with migrant communities
- **Eastern Europe & Central Asia**
 - Attention to “frozen conflict” zones
 - Adopt inclusive definition of “migrants”
 - Challenges faced by human rights defenders
- **Western & Central Africa**
 - Effects of climate change, land-grabs etc., especially in Sahel
 - Boko Haram, jihadi extremists, other terrorist abuses