**Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**

**African Regional Review Conference - 26 August 2021 (Virtual), 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM EAT**

**Concept Note**

1. Title: **Human Mobility in the Contexts of Disasters and Climate Change in Africa**
2. **Brief Background**

Disasters linked to natural hazards, and the adverse effects of climate change are amongst the most important and overlapping drivers of human mobility across Africa. Without urgent global and national climate action, the World Bank’s Groundswell study projects, that in Sub-Saharan Africa, there could be more than 86 million people moving within their countries’ borders by 2050.

The IGAD region is considered one of the most vulnerable to climate variability and climate change. The different forms of human mobility to, from, and within the IGAD region reflect the range of complex drivers and structural factors that can compel people to move. How can governments better prepare for population movements in the context of disasters and the adverse impacts of climate change? How can affected people be effectively supported and protected, how can displacement in these contexts be avoided? How can Africa strengthen solutions for migrants compelled to move in the context of disasters and the adverse effects of climate change? And how can people in situations of cross-border displacement in the context of disasters and climate change be better protected?

1. **Side-event objective**

The side event, jointly co-organized by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) will showcase how the evolving regional and country level national initiatives across Africa aim to minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin, while also facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation in the IGAD and other regions in Africa. Amongst other initiatives, the side event will present and discuss the Joint Programme on “Addressing Drivers and Facilitating Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the Contexts of Disasters and Climate Change in the IGAD Region” implemented by IGAD, IOM, the PDD (hosted by UNOPS), ILO, UNHCR and the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC), funded by the Migration Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF). The side event will highlight key national and regional initiatives on climate related human mobility, including ongoing initiatives by Member States, UNDP, and other stakeholders including PDD, the Africa Climate Migration Initiative (ACMI)a joint initiative by the African Union Commission, the United Nations and the World Bank pressing efforts to address climate forced migration in the continent through modeling, field research, and primary data collection. It will also share perspectives from local communities, as well as best practices and lessons learned, and identify key priority areas for action and policy recommendations.

1. **Contributions to which thematic area(s)**

The contribution will be cross-sectoral in addressing objectives 1, 2 and 5 of the GCM and relates to Thematic Area 1: Ensuring that migration is voluntary, orderly and regular; and Thematic Area 4: Improving value-driven and evidence-based policymaking and enhancing cooperation on migration.

1. **Topics to be addressed**

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| * Enhancing models and data on climate induced human mobility for evidence-based policymaking, including analyses on how climate change affects human mobility patterns both within countries and across borders * Effective practices in the protection of migrants who are compelled to move and/or unable to return in the context of disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, particularly women migrants and those in vulnerable situations * Facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration, including through the implementation of national and regional migration policy frameworks * Strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and disasters in all countries, including through ongoing initiatives at country and regional level that have demonstrated success in addressing human mobility challenges in disaster and climate change contexts * Setting priority areas and developing recommendation for key gender-responsive policy and programmatic responses |

1. **Target audience**

International and regional organisations, national governments and local authorities, CSOs, academia and think tanks.

1. **Tentative list of speakers**

* Ms. Fathia Aboubacar Alwan, Director for Health and Social Development, IGAD
* Prof. Walter Kaelin, Envoy of the Chair of the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD)
* Mr. Charles Owino, Director of the National Disaster Operations Center, Ministry of Interior, Government of Kenya
* Ms Florence Poppe, Senior Policy Officer, East Africa Division, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
* Ms. Cecilia Aipira, UNDP Team Leader for DRR Africa
* Ms. Ikal Angelei, Executive Director of the Friends of Lake Turkana Region
* Director Kamal Amakrane, Lead, Africa Climate Mobility Initiative (ACMI)

1. **Does the session engage new stakeholders in the implementation, follow up and review of the Global Compact?**

The session will aim to have representatives from CSOs and affected communities including from cross-border areas.

1. **Organizing partner(s)**

IGAD, UNDP, PDD, MPTF project partners

1. **Main focal point (only one)**

Lena Brenn-IGAD Disaster Displacement Advisor ([lena.brenn@igad.int](mailto:lena.brenn@igad.int)); Hyewon Jung – UNDP Regional Human Mobility Advisor ([hyewon.jung@undp.org](mailto:hyewon.jung@undp.org))

1. **Online meeting platform to be used (must allow for live interpretation)**

IGAD and UNDP will provide a zoom link and simultaneous interpretation from English as the main event language into French.