



United Nations  
Economic Commission for Africa

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**Meeting of the High Level Panel on Migration**

Addis Ababa, 19-20 November 2018

**Aide Memoir**

## **I: BACKGROUND**

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At the Third Meeting of the High Level Panel on Migration in Geneva, Switzerland on 28-29 May 2018, it was agreed that a full panel meeting should be scheduled to review the main report and advocacy materials that have been developed by the Technical Team. In this respect, the meeting is being convened to review the main report that has been produced based on research conducted, based on the themes that were selected by the panel. According to H.E. Sirleaf, the chairperson of the HLMP, "...the main report of the Panel will not only focus on the two imperatives of economic growth and migrants' rights, but also on the perception versus the reality of African migration'. The report's recommendations will focus on specific actions needed at the national level to drive leaders to take action.

In order to fulfil its mandate to raise awareness among, and support the efforts of African Member States, the HLPM will discuss the plan for engaging member states on the benefits of the African Union Free Movement of Persons Protocol. The Chair of the HLPM, accompanied by some panel members are scheduled to visit selected countries. In 2018, six countries (Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Nigeria, Rwanda and South Africa) have been selected.

The HLPM will discuss the plans for participating at the side event in Marrakech, Morocco at the launch of the Global Compact for Migration. The HLPM will effectively mobilize the political will at the highest level and build effective partnerships for the implementation and follow-up of the Global Compact on Migration.

## **II: OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING**

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The main objectives of the meeting of the High Level Panel on Migration are to:

1. Review the main report that has been produced based on the research undertaken by the technical experts. The Main report focusing on the following themes:
  - a. The status of migration in Africa and its implications for Africa's development
  - b. Mitigants and enablers of African migration (economic growth, etc)
  - c. Human rights of African migrants and the rule of law
  - d. Perceptions of African migration vs. realities
  - e. Concrete recommendations for consideration by African countries
2. Review the expert report focusing on how migration is an important enabler and beneficiary of regional integration and economic development in Africa with specific reference to the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA) and Protocol on Free Movement of Persons.
3. Review the key messages that have been drawn from the reports. The key messages will form the basis for advocacy and sensitization engagements of the HLPM with stakeholders.

## **III: FORMAT OF THE MEETING**

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- The High Level Panel on Migration meeting will comprise interactive plenary presentations and discussions. The presentations and discussions will focus on providing inputs to enrich the main report and advocacy materials.
- The main report has been prepared and thus will guide the discussions.

## **IV: EXPECTED OUTPUTS**

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The meeting is expected to review the HLPM report, other related knowledge products and advocacy materials. It is anticipated that a summary of the meeting's proceedings and recommendations will be incorporated in the final version that will be used to provide evidence and policy responses to the current and future migration and human mobility policy and operational interventions.

The panel is expected to come up with actionable recommendations on continental and global processes on international migration that will be used in the advocacy work. The panel is expected to come up with a definitive plan of action on engagements with African Member States and other stakeholders.

## **V: EXPECTED MEETING OUTCOMES**

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It is expected that the work of the HLPM will support the ongoing migration and human mobility policy agenda in the continent. The meeting deliberations report will form a basis of forging a common understanding of important migration and human mobility agenda in the continent by all relevant actors. The meeting will also identify potential areas of collaboration among different actors and build a common advocacy message for the continent.

## **VI: PARTICIPATION**

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The High-Level Panel on Migration meeting is expected to bring together all panel members. The Technical Committee will provide a technical backstopping to the Panel during the meeting and will be supported by the Secretariat. The African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa will provide the overall technical and Secretariat backstopping as directed by the 2016 Joint Ministerial Meeting. In addition, IOM, and ILO will be represented at the meeting.

## **VII: DATES AND VENUE**

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The High Level Panel on Migration meeting will be held at United Nations Conference Centre at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 19-20 November 2018.

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