

THE 6TH MAYORAL FORUM ON HUMAN MOBILITY, MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

FROM LARGE MOVEMENTS TO THE GLOBAL COMPACTS: CITIES AS FIRST RESPONDERS

QUITO, ECUADOR, 22 January 2020

DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

(as of 1 November 2019)

Background

Since 2013, the Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration and Development (“Mayoral Forum”) provides an annual global gathering for municipal and regional leaders to exchange views and practices on migration, development and displacement. In 2015, the second Mayoral Forum was held in Quito, Ecuador, coinciding with the launch of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Forum produced the “Quito Local Agenda on Migration and Development”, which highlighted cities’ potential to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and outlined associated resource and support needs.

A year later, in 2016, Quito hosted the Habitat III Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, which adopted the New Urban Agenda (NUA), a detailed blueprint for SDG implementation by and in urban areas. Developed through a broad-based consultative process involving local governments, the NUA seeks to deliver on the promise of safe, sustainable, inclusive and resilient cities for all, including migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons. It recognizes the contribution of migrants to urban life, pledges to support cities in establishing enabling frameworks and calls for non-discriminatory access for migrants and refugees to basic services, employment and livelihood opportunities and local consultative and participatory processes.

In 2018, the 5th Mayoral Forum took place in Marrakesh, in conjunction with the UN Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Over 80 cities adopted the Marrakesh Mayors Declaration, committing to contribute to the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM), as well as the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), which was also affirmed last December.

Context: The Mayoral Forum in the GFMD

The 6th Mayoral Forum will convene in Quito, Ecuador on 22 January 2020 under the title “*From Large Movements to the Global Compacts: Cities as First Responders*”. **For the first time, the Forum will be an integral part of the annual Summit of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), which will take place in Quito from 20-24 January. All participants of the Mayoral Forum are invited to participate in the programme of the GFMD** as part of the Ecuadorian Chair’s initiative to strengthen the GFMD as a venue for multi-stakeholder dialogue leading to joint action and collaboration.

This reorientation of the GFMD is part of an ongoing process of renewal. In 2018, in the context of the adoption of the GCM, the GFMD commissioned a Ten-Year Review of its achievements that resulted in a number of recommendations for ensuring the GFMD’s continued relevance in a changing environment, including recommendations geared to strengthen the multi-stakeholder and interactive nature of the GFMD. In parallel, in 2018, the GFMD established a Mayors Mechanism – co-led by UCLG, the Mayors Migration Council and IOM – to more closely associate local and regional authorities with the GFMD process, bring their voices and expertise into the deliberations, and intensify the dialogue between different levels of government and different stakeholder groups. LRAs will have an opportunity in Quito to contribute to the ongoing discussion on the future of the GFMD.

Provisional Schedule of the Quito GFMD

Time	Day 1	Day 2 , Wednesday, 22 Jan				Day 3	Day 4	
	Tuesday 21-Jan	Governments	Civil Society Day	Business Meeting	Mayoral Forum	Thursday 23-Jan	Friday 24-Jan	
08:30 - 09:00	Free time/ Side Events	Free time for Governments	Opening plenary	Free time for Business	Free time for Mayors	Free time	Free time	
09:00 - 09:30		Government-led Roundtables			Morning Breakout Sessions: • Access to services • Mixed Migration • Labor Migration	Opening Plenary	Common Space Opening / Scene Setting	GCM Dialogue Based on GCM Thematic Clusters
09:30 - 10:00			Roundtable Session			Coffee Break		
10:00 - 10:30							Side Events	
10:30 - 11:00			Lunch Break			World Café Sessions Round 1		
11:00 - 11:30							Lunch	
11:30 - 12:00			Government-led Roundtables			Afternoon Breakout Sessions: • Climate induced		
12:00 - 12:30							Registration	
12:30 - 13:00			Lunch Break			Parallel Sessions		
13:00 - 13:30		Government-led Roundtables			Continuation of GCM Dialogue / Side Events			
13:30 - 14:00	Registration		Continuation of GCM Dialogue / Side Events					
14:00 - 14:30		Government-led Roundtables		Continuation of GCM Dialogue / Side Events				
14:30 - 15:00	Registration		Continuation of GCM Dialogue / Side Events					
15:00 - 15:30		Registration		Continuation of GCM Dialogue / Side Events				

15:30 – 16:00	Opening Plenary Session of the Summit (governments, civil society, private sector, mayors, media)			displacement • Criminalisation of migrants and those assisting them • Regular pathways	Free time for Business		World Café Sessions Round 4	
16:00 – 16:30								
16:30 – 17:00		Coffee Break				Coffee Break	Coffee Break	
17:00 – 17:30	Launch of GFMD Quito Publication, Marketplace and Tech Garden	Future of the Forum Session (only open to heads of delegations)	Platform for Partnerships Session (governments and IOs)	Closing Plenary	Platform for Partnerships Session	Closing Plenary	Conclusion of Common Space	
17:30 - 18:00	Welcome Cocktails							
19:00 - 18:30						Platform for Partnerships Session	Closing Plenary of the Twelfth GFMD Summit	
18:30 – 19:00						Platform for Partnerships Session		
19:00 - 20:00	Free time	Cultural Evening					Free time	
20:00 – 21:00								
21:00 – 21:30								

LEGEND

	Open to all Stakeholders
	Open to Governments only
	Civil Society only
	Business only
	Mayors and Local authorities

The Mayoral Forum January 2020: Cities as First Responders...

The proposed theme of this year's Mayoral Forum speaks to the frontline role of local and regional authorities when it comes to matters of migration and displacement. It ties in with the themes of the GFMD, including Theme 1 on "Joint responses to mixed migration flows: Partnerships and collective action to protect rights" and Theme 3 on "Addressing human mobility as part of urban and rural development strategies". In particular, the preparatory process for the Mayoral Forum in January 2020 should serve to inform the background papers for Roundtable sessions 1.2 on "Facilitating social and economic inclusion" and 3.1. entitled "Supporting arrival cities through policy coherence and multi-stakeholder partnerships".

... in Managing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants

In 2015, large movements of refugees and migrants led to the adoption of the New York Declaration and the development of the two Global Compacts. Now and then, cities and municipalities are the main points of arrival for large movements and the first responders to migrants' and refugees' needs. Whilst the global response in 2015 was driven by the Syria crisis and a spike of arrivals in Europe, today it is the Americas that struggle with large movements of people seeking safety and a better life in neighbouring countries and across the continent. Taking place in Quito, the Mayoral Forum will provide an opportunity for LRAs from the region and those experiencing similar challenges in other regions to exchange on practical solutions and lessons learned.

... and Advancing the Implementation of the Global Compacts

The MF will also provide an opportunity for cities to follow up on their commitment made in Marrakesh to be first responders and first movers when it comes to the implementation of the Global Compacts. In Marrakesh, mayors highlighted their contributions in four areas in particular: addressing special needs and reducing vulnerabilities; providing access to basic services; empowering migrants, refugees and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion; and eliminating all forms of discrimination.

In 2019, cities have pressed to be included in the follow-up and review processes of the GCM and GCR, reiterating their willingness, ability and expertise to advance the Compacts' implementation in unison. The Forum will allow cities to share information on and take stock of their diplomacy efforts to date, and to discuss how their role can be strengthened going forward by pursuing greater involvement in policy and review processes at the national, regional and global levels.

The City Action Pledge

It is foreseen that the January 2020 Mayoral Forum will culminate in the presentation of an **Action Pledge** by Mayors and cities, following on from the Marrakesh Mayors Declaration and its commitments to implement the Global Compacts. The Action Pledge will provide cities with discrete action areas which can be endorsed individually or as a whole, depending on city context and capacities. The Pledge will be developed and validated with local authorities, their networks and partners in the course of the months preceding Quito, including through

the ongoing work of the MMC and Metropolis, and the summits of UCLG and the Global Parliament of Mayors (GPM) in November 2019 in Durban. All Mayors and cities participating in the 6th Mayoral Forum will be provided with the text of the Action Pledge prior to their arrival in Quito.

Meeting Format

The MF will be organized in a manner that combines high-level plenary sessions, addressing topics of common and strategic interest, with break-out sessions that will facilitate a more in-depth exploration of specific topics in smaller groups, including through direct interaction with the inter-governmental deliberations of the GFMD. The break-out sessions will also allow diverse partners to contribute to the development and realization of the Mayoral Forum in line with their areas of expertise.

DRAFT SCHEDULE

- 09:00** **Registration**
- 09:30** **Opening (Plenary)**
- 10:00** **Roundtable session: How Mayors see and shape the World in 2019 (Plenary)**
- Political state of play on migration and refugees: Challenges, opportunities, priorities for cities and actions taken since Marrakech
 - From SDGs to NUA, and the Global Compacts: How far cities have come in their international engagement and how far are they committed to go: Reports from the Global Parliament of Mayors and the UCLG World Congress
 - How to accelerate and galvanize cities actions and leverage it through partnerships. Opportunities for collective action: What should LRAs aim for? What can they achieve together? How to seize the opportunity offered by the GFMD and shape the GFMD going forward?
- 11:30** **Break**
- 12:00** **Presentation of the Cities Action Pledge (Plenary)**
- 12:30** **Lunch**

- 14:00** **Cities' responses to large movements: Maintaining a commitment to welcoming in the context of scarce resources and populist politics (Parallel break-out sessions)**
- Working through partnerships to bolster the local migration response in the Latin American region
 - Building city capacities for local economic inclusion (TBC)
 - Protection in the local response (TBC)
- 16:30** **Break**
- 17:00** **Closing Plenary**
- Collecting outcomes from the break-out sessions and closing remarks
- 18:00** **End of day**
- 19:30** **Reception**

All sessions will be actively facilitated by a moderator to be as interactive as possible