



UN Women's Contribution to the Secretary-General's Report "Human Rights of Migrants"

II.

(a) Requests all States, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to take into account in their policies and initiatives on migration issues the global character of the migratory phenomenon and to give due consideration to international, regional and bilateral cooperation in this field, including by undertaking dialogues on migration that include countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as civil society, including migrants, with a view to addressing, in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, its causes and consequences and the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration, granting priority to the protection of the human rights of migrants;

UN Women has been implementing phase one of the Germany-funded Making Migration Safe program since January 2020, with the overall goal to ensure that migration is safe and regular for all women migrating from, into and through Niger and that international norms and standards for protecting and promoting migrant women's rights are strengthened. To this end, the programme has been working towards the achievement of three outcomes:

- 1) National governments develop and strengthen migration policies, laws and services that are gender-responsive.
- 2) Migrant women and their organizations advocate for the promotion and protection of migrant women's rights.
- 3) Governments and relevant international human rights bodies ensure the promotion and protection of migrant women's rights through strengthened global norms and standards.

As part of the Making Migration Safe programme, UN Women in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, hosted a multi-stakeholder consultation in November 2021 to explore the complex challenges facing women human rights defenders who work on migration or are migrants themselves. As part of this consultation, a poll was conducted to determine whether UN Women should develop a set of Expert Recommendations to guide UN Member States and other stakeholders on how to effectively protect and promote the rights of migrant women human rights defenders. The results of the poll showed unanimous support for this proposal.

In response to this poll in July 2022, UN Women organized an Expert Meeting in partnership with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to finalize the [*Recommendations on the Protection of Women Human Rights Defenders at Risk in Migration Contexts*](#). This Expert Meeting brought to the table a diverse group of stakeholders, including migrant women human rights defenders and their organizations, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families and other UN entities, to share knowledge on using international human rights instruments to strengthen the protection of migrant women human rights

defenders. The meeting also worked to identify opportunities for greater collaboration among various stakeholders to step up efforts to protect and promote the rights of migrant women human rights defenders and women human rights defenders working with migrants. The final recommendations were formerly endorsed by the CEDAW Committee in January 2023.

UN Women, along with the Gender + Migration Hub, is co-lead of the UN Network on Migrations' Gender Workstream. The Gender Workstream aims to support the gender-responsive implementation of the Global Compact for Migration at regional and country levels with specific capabilities/tools to assess and address the increased susceptibility to human rights violations and discrimination faced by women, girls and gender diverse people at all stages of migration, while advancing gender equality and women's empowerment. In support of these efforts, UN Women, in partnership with the UN Network on Migration, is designing a pilot training which will be delivered in Ethiopia in June 2023. This training seeks to enhance the capacity of policymakers, practitioners and government and nongovernment stakeholders, including civil society, to ensure that national and subnational migration policies and practices are human rights-based and gender-responsive, in line with the GCM. The trainings will promote the protection of the human rights of all migrants by providing concrete guidance on how to design, implement, monitor and evaluate gender-responsive migration policies and practices.

(e) Calls upon the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their cooperation in the development of methodologies for the collection and processing of statistical data on international migration and the situation of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination and to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this regard;

As part of the Making Migration Safe programmatic work in Niger, UN Women and the Institut National de la Statistique du Niger conducted a study of the situation of women migrating from, to and through Niger, as well as those returning to the country, in order to address the lack of data in the context of migration in Niger. During this survey, 1,200 women were interviewed in three regions of Niger—Niamey, Zinder and Agadez—to collect quantitative information on their experiences migrating from, into, through and returning to Niger to help design more effective human rights-based and gender-responsive migration programmes and inform policymaking. The results were used to feed into the development of a guidance document 'How to develop a survey instrument on the situations of migrant women at country level', designed to support similar efforts in other country contexts, which will be published online in June 2023.