Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Initiative
Consultation with Civil Society Organizations
28-29 January 2016 – Geneva, Switzerland

DRAFT AGENDA AS OF 4 JANUARY 2016

Day 1

8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:05	Welcome remarks by the US or Philippines
9:05 – 9:10	Welcome remarks by Australia

Plenary Session: Setting the Scene
Chaired by US, Australia or the Philippines

9:10 – 9:25	Presentation of the MICIC Initiative *Michele Klein-Solomon, Director of the MICIC Secretariat, IOM*
9:25 – 9:40	Presentation of state of play and results from consultations with civil society *Colin Rajah, Global Coalition on Migration*
9:40 – 9:50	Review of agenda *Michele Klein-Solomon, Director of the MICIC Secretariat, IOM*
9:50 – 10:30	Plenary discussion
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break

Workshop Session 1: Pre-crisis Phase
Chaired by a representative of the US, Australia or the Philippines

Participants will be divided into three parallel working groups to identify and discuss practices by CSOs and what CSOs need from other actors to protect and assist migrants caught in crisis. Questions to be addressed in each Working Group are provided below. The moderator for each Working Group will launch the discussion with a review of the questions and issues to be addressed. The rapporteur will provide an overview of the discussion at a plenary session to follow.

11:00 – 11:10	Introduction by the Session 1 Chair
11:10 – 11:20	Break-out into Working Groups
11:20 – 12:40	Working Group discussions
12:40 – 12:50	Review Rapporteur's report to Plenary

Topics of the Working Groups:

WG 1: Establishing partnerships before a crisis hits

Multiple actors provide resources and support to protect migrants caught in countries experiencing conflict or natural disaster. States, inter-governmental and civil society organizations, migrant groups, and employers provide life-saving assistance (food, shelter, medical assistance), assist in evacuations and trace family members.

- What services or assistance can these actors provide to each other?
- How can pre-established agreements or relationships help actors access resources they need to assist and protect migrants?
- What level of formality should these agreements or relationships have and what do they need to cover? What is best left to informal, ad-hoc relationships? Are there existing agreements or relationships that are good models of partnerships between different kinds of actors?
- How can agreements and relationships foster trust among relevant stakeholders? What is required in order to do so?
- Are there recommended practices particularly for developing relationships of trust between civil society, states, inter-governmental organizations on the one hand, and migrant groups or communities on the other?

WG 2: Incorporating civil society and migrant networks and groups into State preparedness systems and mechanisms

State preparedness systems, including disaster risk reduction strategies, may not account for the specific needs and vulnerabilities of migrant populations. In many cases, the size, demographics, needs and vulnerabilities of migrant populations are not known.

- What practices should states adopt to ensure that they do?
- How do civil society organizations incorporate the needs and vulnerabilities of migrant (non-national) populations in their crisis response and contingency planning? What are the core elements from existing examples that can be replicated by other organizations?
- How do civil society organizations incorporate into their planning strategies for communicating with migrants, including irregular migrants? What communication practices can be replicated by other organizations, states of origin, transit and destination, and local governments?
- What practices could support migrant-sensitive multi-stakeholder contingency planning and coordination mechanisms?
- Given the critical role of locally-based organizations in crisis planning and preparedness, how can they and other actors create sufficient capacity to allow them to work with states and larger organizations to incorporate the needs and vulnerabilities of migrants into their planning?
- What are the different practices that are required to have a shared, common understanding of risk and migrant vulnerabilities at the local, national, regional and international levels?

WG 3: Rights protection in ordinary times

Previous consultations have emphasized repeatedly that better rights protection in ordinary times enables migrants to protect themselves and their families during crisis.

- What are the key rights that need to be protected in ordinary times for migrants to be better able to access life-saving assistance, evacuation, financial and other resources, during crisis?
- What are best practices for states to adopt to assure rights in practice?
- Do either the key rights or best practices change depending on the type of migrant in question, for example irregular migrant, domestic worker or business traveler?

12:50 – 13.50   Lunch

Plenary Session: Reporting from the Working Groups
Moderated by the Chair of Session 1

13:50 – 14:20   Presentation of the outcomes of the three Working Groups of Workshop Session 1 *(10 minutes each)*

14:20 – 15:20   Plenary discussion of guidelines and practices

15:20 – 15:50   Coffee Break

Workshop Session 2: Emergency Phase
Chaired by representative of US, Australia or Philippines

Participants will be divided into three parallel working groups to identify and discuss practices by CSOs and what CSOs need from other actors to protect and assist migrants caught in crisis. Questions to be addressed in each Working Group are provided below. The moderator for each Working Group will launch the discussion with a review of the questions and issues to be addressed. The rapporteur will provide an overview of the discussion at a plenary session to follow.

15:50 – 16:00   Introduction by the Session 1 Chair
16:00 – 16:10   Break-out into Working Groups
16:10 – 17:30   Working Group discussions
17:30 – 17:40   Review Rapporteur's report to Plenary

Topics of the Working Groups:

WG 1: Needs first approach to rights based protection

Specific protection regimes exist for refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons; a similar regime does not exist for migrants, but they often have needs or vulnerabilities that can be exacerbated during crisis. Migrants can include victims of trafficking or other forms of exploitation; the sick, injured or disabled; the elderly and children, who may be unaccompanied or separated from their families; or those in poverty or lacking other resources or skills (e.g. literacy). Migrants may have an irregular status, affecting negatively their willingness or capacity to access support offered by states or organizations.
- What practices should states, organizations and others adopt during an emergency to identify migrants with needs or vulnerabilities?
- What practices can best support effective referral mechanisms for refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons?
- What practices do states of transit and origin need to adopt to support migrants returning home or transiting to a place of safety, particularly if they exhibit specific needs or vulnerabilities?
- How can states best develop the capacity to identify those migrants? What practices should civil society organizations adopt in order to assist?

WG 2: Communicating with and about migrants

Past experience demonstrates that communicating during crisis with non-national populations can be difficult, given barriers related to language, culture, social inclusion, and the lack of understanding of emergency responders regarding the need to account for and overcome these barriers.

- What is the role that media and other communications actors can play?
- How can civil society and other organizations use traditional and social media and other communication tools to access migrants?
- Are there approaches in the past that have worked, or not worked and should be avoided?
- Civil society and local organizations may know and understand migrant populations better than others. How can these organizations and states connect with each other to relay information about migrants and their needs during a crisis, with due regard for protection of privacy? What if any alert systems could be in place?
- Who is best placed to communicate with irregular migrants, victims of trafficking or others who see themselves as barred from communication with authorities? What methods are best for communicating with these populations?

WG 3: Actors in emergency phase

As discussed during the pre-crisis phase, there are multiple actors that protect and support migrants caught in crisis: states, inter-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, employers, diaspora and migrant groups and others.
- Are there specific practices and approaches that each should adopt to make the best use of the relative strengths of each type of actor?
- What practices should each adopt to communicate effectively with the others during a crisis?
- Humanitarian civil society organizations and inter-governmental organizations cooperate through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC). What practices from this cooperation can inform how organizations cooperate with states, employers, or others?
- Are there any particular challenges in cooperation at a local level and with local actors?
- What practices should each adopt to ensure access to and tracing of migrants and their families during crisis?

| 17:40 | Cocktail Reception and End of Day 1 |

Day 2

8:30 - 9:00	Arrival for the 2nd day/registration

Plenary Session 2: Reporting from the Working Groups
Moderated by Session 2 Chair

9:00 – 9:30	Presentation of the outcomes of the three Working Groups of Workshop Session 2 *(10 minutes each)*
9:30 – 10:30	Plenary discussion of guidelines and practices
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break

Workshop Session 3: Post-crisis Recovery Phase
Chaired by a representative of the Transition and Recovery Division, Department of Operations and Emergencies, IOM

Participants will be divided into three parallel working groups to identify and discuss practices by CSOs and what CSOs need from other actors to protect and assist migrants caught in crisis. Questions to be addressed in each Working Group are provided below. The moderator for each Working Group will launch the discussion with a review of the questions and issues to be addressed. The rapporteur will provide an overview of the discussion at a plenary session to follow.

11:00 – 11:10	Introduction by the Session 3 Chair
11:10 – 11:20	Break-out into Working Groups
11:20 – 12:40	Working Group discussions
12:40 – 12:50	Review Rapporteur's report to Plenary

Topics of the Working Groups:

WG 1: Post-crisis (reintegration) assistance

Migrants who return to their country of origin during a crisis will often experience significant difficulty as they try to reintegrate into their home communities. Their families will also often experience loss of remittances and in many cases their means of support.

- What types of support have states or organizations offered in the past that has helped reintegrate returning migrants? What are effective short, medium and long term approaches?
- Who, among states, civil society, intergovernmental organizations and employers, is best placed to provide what kinds of support?
- What role is best played by local actors, including community groups and local authorities?
- What support should be provided specifically to communities hosting returned migrants, in the short, medium and long term?
- If migrants want to leave their countries of origin again, how can states and others support their going back or re-migration, including to support development in communities recovering from crisis?

WG 2: Diaspora action

Diaspora organizations and individuals are often cited as key sources of support both during and after crises for the funds and services they provide, as well as the role they can play in rebuilding communities affected by crisis.

- What are the strengths and weaknesses of past approaches used to engage diaspora in crisis and post-crisis situations?
- How can states and organizations best engage diaspora organizations, and what mechanisms work best for effective diaspora engagement?
- What are the different forms of engagement for diaspora in recovery?

WG 3: Monitoring and evaluation of actions and lessons

Many actors will engage in post-crisis evaluation of their own interventions.
- What practices can encourage multi-stakeholder evaluation and learning?
- What role do independent evaluators and researchers play, and how can various actors support that role?
- How are results from evaluations and review best communicated, and how are lessons learned best incorporated into planning and preparedness for future crises?

12:50 – 13:50	Lunch

Plenary Session: **Outcomes of Workshop Session 3** *Moderated by the Session 3 Chair*	
13:50 – 14:20	Presentation of the outcomes of the three Working Groups of Workshop Session 3 *(10 minutes each)*
14:20 – 15:20	Plenary discussion of guidelines and practices
15:20 – 15:50	Coffee Break
Final Plenary Session: **Conclusions and Closing**	
15:50 – 16:05	**Closing Remarks** Colin Rajah or John Bingham
16:05 – 16:30	**Summary of the discussions** Michele Klein-Solomon, Director of the MICIC Secretariat, IOM
16:30 – 16:40	**Closing Remarks** Representatives of the US, Australia, Philippines