International Organization for Migration (IOM)
International Partnerships Division (IPD)
Assessment of Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration

Summary of Findings per ISCM

As part of an assessment of inter-state consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs), a survey was conducted in 2019. Carried out by IOM among ISCMs, their Member States and relevant inter-governmental organizations, the survey aimed to assess ISCMs' continued relevance and contribution to migration governance at all levels (national, regional and international) and the synergies among ISCMs and with other actors. The findings of this survey were presented at the global gathering of ISCMs in 2019 and were used to develop recommendations to enhance ISCMs' engagement in migration governance.

46 States and 22 ISCMs and 3 inter-governmental organizations provided answers to the questionnaires. The results are to be found in the 2019 assessment report: Advancing a common understanding of migration governance among regions, which provides an overview on ISCMs' organization, engagements, their continued relevance and synergies with relevant actors in the area of migration management. In addition to the report, the information below is meant to outline each individual ISCM's thematic priorities, structure, impact and relevance.

Name of the Inter-state consultation mechanism (ISCM): *EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative (Khartoum Process)*

1. **Evolution of programing and thematic focus**

As outlined in the Rome Declaration of 2014, the Khartoum Process provides a platform to advance, implement and operationalize the agreement of the participating states to undertake concrete actions to prevent and tackle the challenges of human trafficking and smuggling of migrants between the Horn of Africa and Europe. While the originating mandate of tackling trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants has remained a thematic priority of the Khartoum Process, some of its thematic meetings have addressed a wider set of complementary issues, such as international protection and asylum, root causes of irregular migration and data collection.

The Khartoum Process does not have a formalized strategy. The main document guiding the actions and priorities of the Process is the Rome Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Conference in Rome, Italy, on 28 Nov. 2014. The Khartoum Process work is implemented and monitored according to its work plan, which is developed on an annual basis, covering the timespan of the respective Chairmanships of the Process. The monitoring process is led jointly by the Secretariat, the Chair and the Steering Committee.

2. **Contribution to migration governance at national, (inter)regional and global levels (with examples)**

National level: The Khartoum Process contributed to migration policy, legislation and practices in its Member States by organizing thematic meetings, fact-finding missions and a regional training program. Moreover, it built capacity of Member States and enabled an exchange of best practices. Furthermore, in 2018, the Khartoum Process initiated an assessment on human trafficking and smuggling of migrants in the Khartoum Process countries in Africa. Recommendations from this exercise will assist Member States in enhancing their engagement in migration governance.

Interregional level: Together with the Rabat Process, the Khartoum Process is responsible for the monitoring of the Joint Valetta Action Plan (JVAP), which came out of the 2015 Valetta Summit on Migration. The JVAP aims at supporting its partners with the enhancement of migration governance between Europe and Africa and serves as a regional framework to address migration policy. The Rabat Process and the Khartoum Process jointly monitor the implementation of the action plan, reporting on projects and policies being implemented within each domain and, in this way, ensuring practical and concrete follow-up to commitments made by States at Valetta.

3. Salient ISCM structures

The Khartoum Process' structures comprise of a Chair, a steering committee and a political and technical secretariat. The secretariat is jointly managed by the African Union Commission and the European Commission with support from ICMPD. Its functions include preparing background documents, organizing meetings and liaising with national focal points. The governing documents of this ISCM consist of guidelines for Chairs of the thematic meetings, guidelines for the speakers and break-out sessions' moderators, and the Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee. Knowledge management is addressed by providing access to all meetings' background papers, presentations and outcome documents to focal points and to store such documents with ICMPD for future access. The Khartoum Process provides regular updates on its work via e-mails and at meetings. Since its establishment, the Khartoum Process constituency changed: Libya, Norway, Switzerland and Uganda joined the process and the Netherlands replaced Malta in the steering committee. The Khartoum Process is funded through annual contributions from Member States through the African Union Commission and European Commission. Consequently, the Khartoum Process funding sources are stable.

4. Partnership models by the ISCM

The Khartoum Process works closely with the Rabat Process and the AU-Horn of Africa Initiative. All three **ISCMs** stress the importance to advance their joint efforts in addressing common challenges. Moreover, the Khartoum Process cooperates with IGOs, such as IOM, UNHCR and UNODC which provide technical advice. UNHCR, for example, contributed to the development of the programme and content of the Thematic Meeting on the Protection of Women and Girls on the Move, Stockholm, Sweden, 18-19 September 2018. UNODC is one of the co-implementers of the BMM Project, implemented in the framework of the Khartoum Process. NGOs and CSOs are invited to attend meetings of the process and provide technical, specialized inputs. Apart from providing the secretariat for the Khartoum Process, the African Union Commission and European Commission are both members of the steering

committee. Therefore, the Khartoum Process is closely linked with broad EU and AU efforts in refreshing and strengthening common political will among the concerned groups of States.

5. **Added value of Membership in the given ISCM for States and Organizations (with examples)**

During Khartoum Process meetings and events, Member States repeatedly acknowledge the importance of this process as a platform for exchanging on best practices in the field of migration management, particularly for practices, policies and legislation on human trafficking. Member States further value their Membership in this ISCM for trust-building, networking, capacity-building, policy coordination, access to stakeholder, technical advice, knowledge-sharing, maintenance of a dialogue on the newly emerging issues and being updated on the global initiatives addressing migration, such as the Global Compact on Migration.

Three of the Member States (Egypt, Ethiopia, the Netherlands) surveyed referred to the Khartoum Process in their answers. Ethiopia benefited from its participation in the Khartoum Process for several reasons, particularly the ISCM's effort to harmonize border control, combat trafficking and addressing root causes of irregular migration. The Netherlands were able to benefit from the Khartoum Process' projects in countries of origin and transit, contributing to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Egypt values the process for developing partnerships.