



**AU SENIOR OFFICIALS VALIDATION WORKSHOP OF THE PLAN OF
ACTION ON THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR MIGRATION (GCM) IN
AFRICA (2025-2028): 28-29 AUGUST 2024,**

OPENING REMARKS DELIVERED BY MRS. FATOU DIALLO NDIAYE,
IOM CHIEF OF MISSION TO GHANA, BENIN AND TOGO ON BEHALF
OF THE DIRECTOR, IOM SPECIAL LIAISON OFFICE TO AU AND ECA,
ADDIS ABABA, EHTIOPIA

28 AUGUST 2024

ACCRA, GHANA

Opening remarks

Esteemed delegates and distinguished guests from AU Member States, Regional Economic Communities, the African Union Commission, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning and Akwaaba to Accra, Ghana,

It is my honor to provide these opening remarks on behalf of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). It is equally a privilege to be among such a distinguished group of representatives from across Africa.

For several decades, IOM has been a committed partner of the African Union Commission and its Member States on migration governance issues in the



continent and has an existing Cooperation Agreement with a Joint Implementation Plan which demonstrates our joint commitment to this partnership. With a presence in over 50 countries across Africa, IOM is also actively engaged at regional and national level, working collaboratively with AU Member States and the respective Regional Economic Communities to address migration challenges and opportunities in Africa.

Distinguished delegates,

As we embark on the validation of the continental Plan of Action (PoA) for the implementation of the GCM in Africa, you will agree that this workshop is an important step forward in our collective efforts to manage migration in a safe, orderly and humane manner. It reflects our commitment to aligning national and regional priorities with the global principles outlined in the GCM, while equally considering the unique circumstances that contextualize migration in Africa.

In this regard, I would say Accra is the best city to host this meeting, as Ghana is currently one of the countries in the region that are at the forefront of GCM implementation. Just last week, Ghana validated its draft National Implementation Plan for the GCM, and hopefully, it will be formally launched in early October. This came after Ghana successfully established its National Coordination Mechanism in November of last year.

The progress we make here today, not only provides a blueprint for AU member states in their desire to fulfil their commitments and obligations through practical and, inclusive activities that reflect the realities of that face



the AU Member States and their respective Regional Economic Communities. It is my hope that our discussions during the next two days lays the groundwork for cohesive approaches to migration governance in Africa for the next four years.

This holds even more relevance as we approach the upcoming 2nd Africa Regional Reviews of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) in October in Addis Ababa where I hope to see most of you. Today, we are granted the opportunity to ensure that the Plan of Action for 2025 – 2028 is robust and reflective of the priorities and commitments of our Member States. Moreover, the outcomes of our discussions will be critical in shaping our collective contributions to the continental review, while projecting our united African approach to the GCM implementation across Africa, and commitment to unlocking the development dividends of migration.

The Plan of Action we are about to review and validate is not just a document; it is a testament to our collective resolve to implement the Global Compact on Migration in a manner that resonates with the aspirations of African Union's Agenda 2063 and other important frameworks on migration on the continent. The Plan of Action is a framework that prioritizes the needs and aspirations of the continent, ensuring that migration governance is aligned with our shared vision for a prosperous, integrated, and peaceful Africa.

As we proceed with the validation, I urge us to keep in mind the importance of a whole-of-government and society approach, the lessons learned and



good practices that could be replicated elsewhere including beyond our continent.

I look forward to the discussions and assure you of the steadfast support of IOM and the United Nations Network on Migration, in our collective efforts to implement the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

Thank you for your dedication and participation in the improvement of migration governance in Africa, and I wish you all a pleasant stay in Accra.