Background

The Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration and Development is the annual gathering of mayors and city leaders serving to promote globally relevant policy dialogue, foster the exchange of experiences in governing migration, and strategize on how to work collectively. It seeks to support new and innovative approaches to urban governance in contexts of greater diversity, and to showcase city leadership in the implementation of migration policies for inclusive growth. Indeed, in a global context of increasing human mobility, decentralisation and urbanisation, cities are at the forefront of responding to the needs of urban dwellers, including those of migrants and refugees.

The key role of cities and other local and regional authorities as first responders to migration and displacement is duly recognised in the New Urban Agenda adopted at the UN Habitat III Conference in Quito last October 2016. Moreover, the positive contributions of migration to development are now enshrined in the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in which cities are at the centre of securing safe, inclusive, resilient and sustainable living spaces. What is more, progressively, local and regional authorities are deemed strategic actors within inter-governmental deliberations on migration policy. This is true for the annual Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), whose 10th edition will take place in Berlin, Germany from 28 June to 1 July 2017. It is also the case for the consultative process underway to define a new agreement between States, known as the “Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”. After the adoption of the “New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants” at the UN on 19 September 2016, States have agreed to develop this Global Compact on Migration by December 2018, in consultation with relevant parties including local authorities.

It is within this context that the 4th Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration and Development will take place in Berlin from 26 to 27 June 2017, on the margins of the annual Global Forum on Migration and Development with the Government of Germany as its Chair. At the Berlin Forum, Mayors from around the world will be invited to:
> Share their experiences in straddling the humanitarian imperatives of preparation and reception of large numbers of new arrivals whether from conflict, natural disaster or other phenomena.

> Speak on the subject of the longer-term challenges and opportunities of welcoming and integrating newcomers; how to govern diversity by buttressing the development potential of migration and displacement, while also acknowledging migration’s complexities and struggles.

> Share progress in the context of inter-city partnerships, and explore the value of city networks, within their country, between regions and beyond, to learn about new and promising policies and practices.

At the conclusion of the Berlin Mayoral Forum, a declaration will be endorsed by participating Mayors that will subsequently be officially presented during the GFMD. Reflecting the subjects covered by the Berlin Mayoral Forum, and other areas of concern, the Mayors’ Declaration will offer a set of priorities for consideration during the 10th GFMD, and for inclusion in the forthcoming Global Migration Compact consultative process.
Mayors as Humanitarian and Development Actors — Preparing, Welcoming, and Integrating
4th Global Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration and Development

Berlin, 26–27 June 2017

Day 1 (26 June 2017)

18:30 Opening Reception
19:00 Welcome Remarks
   Berlin Senate and Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
19:30 Mayors’ Perspectives from Four Different Continents
21:30 Conclusion

Day 2 (27 June 2017)

08:30 Registration
09:00 Welcome Plenary
   ➢ UN Assistant Secretary-General, Mr Nikhil Seth, Executive Director, UNITAR
   ➢ UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Migration, Ms Louise Arbour (TBC)
09:30 Tour de Table for Mayors (only)
10:00 Session 1: From a policy frame of short-term humanitarian response to long-term development solutions: the role of cities
11:00 Main conclusions from OECD Workshop on migrant integration in cities
11:15 Session 2: Local-level implementation of the SDGs in partnership with national governments
12:30 Official Mayors’ Luncheon hosted by the Governing Mayor of Berlin
14:00 Keynotes
- The Governing Mayor of Berlin, Mr Michael Müller
- Senior Official, World Bank
- Senior Official, UNDP

14:45 Session 3: Working through multi-stakeholder partnerships to enhance the development impact of migration and forced displacement

16:00 Brief summaries from each session

16:30 Exchange with Civil Society

17:00 Presentation and Discussion of the Mayoral Declaration

17:30 Closing Session
- Closing remarks from the Government of Switzerland
- Closing remarks from the Director General of IOM
- Closing remarks from German Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme

*Signature ceremony for the Mayoral Declaration*

18:30 Conclusion of the 4th Mayoral Forum

---

26 June JMDI Pre-Training Session (open invitation)

On 26 June, all participants in the Mayoral Forum will be invited to take part in a training session that will run from 9:00 to 17:00. A separate registration procedure will be set up for this purpose.

29 June GFMD Civil Society Days (CSD) Session (pre-registration required)

Mayors participating in the Mayoral Forum are also invited to attend the Presentation of the Mayoral Declaration on the role of cities in the design and implementation of the Global Compacts. This presentation is scheduled for 29 June to be delivered by the Federal State of Berlin, as Host of the 4th Mayoral Forum, during the Civil Society Days (CSD) of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) also taking place in Berlin under the Co-Chairmanship of Germany and Morocco.