

KEY MESSAGES FOR AN INTERSECTIONAL FEMINIST APPROACH TO MIGRATION

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This document summarizes WIMN's contributions to the roundtable background papers and includes our proposed key messages for the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). These messages correspond to the six thematic roundtables: 1) The impact of climate change on human mobility; 2) rights and migration; 3) Diasporas: actors of economic, social, and cultural development of regions; 4) labor migration 5) improving the perception of migration in public opinion through narratives, culture, emotional and rational discourse; and 6) multi-level governance.

Principal Recommendations:

1. Prioritize a shift towards rights-based, gender-responsive, and **permanent regular pathways** for migration and the **regularization** of undocumented migrants. Acknowledge the reality of climate-displacement, providing access to permanent regular pathways for those who are displaced and choose or are forced to migrate across borders.
2. States must protect and extend full and **equal rights to migrants**, including workers' rights, social protections, and access to services regardless of their migration status. States must address intersecting forms of discrimination in policy: gender identity or expression, race, ethnicity, nationality, class, sexual orientation, age, religion, and disability, migration status.

THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON HUMAN MOBILITY

- Populations affected by climate change, particularly women in all their diversity, must be included in mitigation, adaptation and relocation strategies and plans.
- Commit to collecting data on the impact of climate change on women and gender-diverse people's lives prior to, during and following migration. This includes data on the realities of Black and indigenous migrant women.
- Investing in climate-resilient development should not be dependent on the remittances of migrants, a framework that instrumentalizes the economic contributions of migrant women.

RIGHTS AND MIGRATION

- Ensure migrant women in all their diversity, especially those from racialized communities and gender diverse migrants, can live free from violence.
- Establish firewalls to ensure equitable access to quality healthcare and other public services, particularly for those migrants in irregular situations.
- Guarantee dignified conditions for the integration of people who have been deported or have returned to countries of origin.

DIASPORAS

- Identify the specific challenges and opportunities faced by women, particularly racialized women, and gender-diverse individuals within diasporic communities.
- Ensure that the development and implementation of policies and legislative frameworks are transparent and participatory, including the meaningful participation of diaspora and migrant women's organizations.
- In countries of destination, xenophobia, Islamophobia, and racism are often part of diaspora experience and must be actively challenged by the State.

LABOUR MIGRATION

- Address the full needs of migrant women workers, including family unification, open work permits and steps towards permanent residency, with full guarantees of human rights and labor rights.
- Recognize the value of [paid care work](#) undertaken by women in migration in the global care chain by guaranteeing living wages and benefits, health and safety on the job, and working hours. Recognize the value of unpaid care work for women in migration through the provision of public services, infrastructure, and social protection policies.
- Remove barriers that restrict the ability of women migrant workers, in particular migrant domestic workers, to unionize, associate or collectively bargain regardless of immigration status.
- Ensure easy access to appropriate and effective remedies and safe, fair, and effective reporting and dispute resolution mechanisms and procedures in case of violence and harassment in the world of work for migrant women.

IMPROVING THE PERCEPTION OF MIGRATION IN PUBLIC OPINION

- Differential reception to different groups of migrants is highly racialized and discussions of xenophobia should explicitly reference racism and intersecting discriminations.
- Specific policies are needed to address the differential needs of migrants who are excluded due to race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation and gender identity, age, and migration status. Decisive gender-oriented action by states at all levels must challenge and hold accountable abuse and hate crimes.
- Governments should promote changes to the narratives about the deported/returnee population.

MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE

- Coherence in government policies is crucial for creating a fair, inclusive, and rights-based approach to migration. Such policies contribute to the broader goal of gender equality by addressing gender disparities in the context of migration.
- States and agencies must recognize civil society organizations as relevant migration and humanitarian decision-making actors.

See full WIMN Briefing Paper for GFMD 2024 here:

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