



Participants of the National Migration Workshop

IOM hosts workshop to strengthen migration management capacity

Swakopmund, Namibia – The UN Migration Agency (IOM) is holding a National Migration Workshop between the 19 – 21 of November 2018, in partnership with the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration (MHAI). The workshop is aimed at strengthening institutional capacity of stakeholders to manage migration.

Addressing the participants during the opening session, the Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration, Hon. Frans Kapofi highlighted that, “Migration is a topic close to all our hearts.”

He added that migration will continue to happen for many years to come and therefore there is a need to have a strategy in place to guide the Government to better manage it.



Hon. Frans Kapofi, the Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration, delivering the keynote address.

As part of the workshop, the National Committee on Migration Management (NCBMM), a coordinating body responsible for overseeing the development of the Namibian Comprehensive National Migration Management Policy and a Roadmap for its implementation, was launched. It is comprised by government institutions, United Nations Agencies, civil society organisations (CSOs), and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Speaking on behalf of IOM, the Head of Office for IOM Namibia, Jeremias Mendes, referred to the Global Compact on Migration (GCM) as one of the key instruments that will guide the management of migration globally. He also specified that it will be essential in helping Namibia align its migration management policy to the global standards of migration governance.

“There is a growing need to strengthen migration management to better protect national borders but also to ensure that migrants’ rights are protected,” Mendes explained.



Head of Office for IOM Namibia, Jeremias Mendes addressing the participants.

This initiative follows under the IOM Development Fund (IDF) funded, 18 month-long project that aims to strengthen capacity of the GRN to manage migration. The workshop marks the beginning of a process that will culminate in 2019 with the submission of the draft migration policy to the GRN cabinet for the final endorsement and implementation.

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