

## MYAN attends International Migration Review Forum at UN Headquarters in New York



Shannon White, MYAN's National Policy & Advocacy Lead recently represented MYAN at the inaugural International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) at United Nations Headquarters in New York City. Hosted by the President of the United Nations General Assembly, the purpose of the IMRF is to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, including what was agreed to in 2018 as a mechanism for directing global cooperation on improvements to migration management and as it relates to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The forum consisted of four interactive multi-stakeholder round tables, a policy dialogue, and a plenary and resulted in an inter - governmentally agreed Progress Declaration on the final day of the forum. MYAN was also in attendance for an informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing. Migrant and displaced children and young people shared their views from different regions and spoke about their experiences and recommendations for improved protection, access to documentation, education, and services. The IMRF was an important opportunity to network with others to discuss strategies and identify opportunities for advancing the engagement of, and the contributions of children and young people in migration policy, including meeting with colleagues from the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APPRN) which MYAN is a member of.

While at the IMRF, MYAN was able to attend a number of side events relating to young people and children, on topics including *Making change for and with children through the GCM: Insights and inspiration for action*, *Stronger Data, Brighter Futures: Protecting Migrant Children with Data and Evidence* and an event at UNICEF House on *Working to end child immigration detention through peer learning*. MYAN was pleased to see a strong focus on the need to strengthen youth participation, and how a child and youth focused implementation of the GCM is not only possible, but achievable, however work remains to strengthen the voices of young migrants in international and national migration policy instruments, increase their leadership, and improve their representation in consultative processes and inclusion in decision making.

MYAN pledged to share good practice and provide policy and technical support to enhance adolescent and youth-focussed responses in policy and programming in host communities and the forced migration context. In delivering this pledge, MYAN will draw on its expertise as a national leader in delivering and supporting good practice with young people - in policy, programming and capacity building (across sectors and with young people), and in meaningful youth participation.



**Summary report from the Multi-stakeholder Hearing**, which took place on 16 May, preceding the IMRF. The summary can be found on the Network website [here](#). Please see [this webpage](#) to read the full statements from all panelists. The recording of the morning session can be watched [here](#) and the recording of the afternoon session can be found [here](#).

On Tuesday, 7 June, the General Assembly formally endorsed by consensus the Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum contained in resolution A/76/L.58 thus setting an excellent precedent for the next International Migration Review Forums - and Progress Declarations - to come. See [here](#) for the draft resolution as adopted. For full and detailed coverage of the plenary meeting, please see the [UN Web TV recording](#).