



Conferencia Regional sobre Migración
Regional Conference on Migration

MEETING OF THE REGIONAL CONSULTATION GROUP ON MIGRATION (RCGM) OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION (RCM)

**San Salvador, El Salvador
20-22 June 2017**

The Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM) met on 20-22 June 2017 in San Salvador, El Salvador with participation of representatives from Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and the United States and formulated the following:

CONCLUSIONS

1. To receive and accept the Strategic Plan for the Liaison Officer Network for the Protection of Migrant Girls, Boys and Adolescents of the RCM for 2017-2022.
2. In regard to the report from the RCM Technical Secretariat (TS), the following conclusions were reached:
 - a) To accept and thank the TS for its financial and activity report. In addition, to urge the RCM Member Countries to pay their outstanding contributions.
 - b) To thank the TS for the report on the selection and hiring process for the new coordinator of the TS of the RCM.
 - c) To congratulate Mr. Luis Alonso Serrano on being selected for the position of Coordinator of the TS of the RCM and to request that the International Organization for Migration (IOM) carry out the necessary procedures to enable the new Coordinator to commence his duties as soon as possible.
 - d) To thank Canada, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and the United States for their participation in the Selection Committee.
 - e) To thank IOM for the support during the transition process and for assigning one of its officials to take on the role of ad interim Coordinator.
 - f) To thank Mr. Salvador Gutiérrez González for his work as ad interim Coordinator of this Conference.
3. To accept the reports from the Liaison Officer Network for the Protection of Migrant Girls, Boys and Adolescents, the Liaison Officer Network for Consular Protection and the Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons and to ask the



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RCM Member Countries and the TS to follow up on the actions proposed in the reports, as appropriate.

4. To receive the document entitled "Operating Mechanism of the RNCOM-RCM-TS Tripartite Team" and to take note of the changes requested by the delegations of Canada and the United States. To ask the TS to make the required changes and, once they have been made, this version of the document should be considered as the final draft to be submitted to the Vice-Ministers for consideration. To take note of the request by the Regional Network for Civil Organizations on Migration (RNCOM) to approve the mechanism.
5. To thank Costa Rica for the report about the workshop on consular actions in crisis situations and the MICIC guidelines and to urge the RCM Member Countries, with support from IOM, to follow up on the recommendations emanated from the workshop as stated in the report of the Liaison Officer Network for Consular Protection.
6. To thank the Troika for the report on the various meetings between the Troika of the RCM and the Troika of the SACM to discuss the Global Compact on Migration. To take note of the request by Canada to modify the final minutes of the meeting between the RCM and the SACM in order to clarify that every biregional input generated in regard to the Global Compact on Migration should be approved by the Vice-Ministers of the RCM Member Countries.
7. In order to take advantage of the rapprochement between both regional processes, to ask the TS to send an invitation to the SACM to participate in the meeting of the Ad Hoc Group on Extraregional Migrants. To take note of the proposal by Panama to assess the exchange of biometric information among the RCM Member Countries and the SACM and to take the opportunity to discuss this proposal during the meeting of the Ad Hoc Group.
8. To express thanks for the report on the participation of the PPT and the TS in the meeting convened by the Committee on Migration Issues of the OAS on March 31st, 2017, to hold a political dialogue on migration in the Americas.
9. To thank the United States and Mexico for the presentation on the results from the Conference on Prosperity and Security in Central America, held in Miami, on 15-16 June, and to take note of the topics of interest resulting from the meeting.
10. To thank the Member Countries for the presentations on their advances in following up on the implementation of the campaigns adopted by the



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RCM, entitled “Migrant Smuggling: #DeadlyBusiness”, “InformArte en movimiento”, “Justicia para todos” and “Corazón Azul”, and to invite Member Countries that have not done so, to continue implementing these campaigns.

11. To take note of Canada's proposal to invite the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to report on progress made by RCM member countries regarding the implementation of the Regulations of the World Health Assembly (WHA). As well as ensuring that the RCM holds, in 2019, a workshop to follow up on the results of the workshop on migration and health carried out in Costa Rica in 2016.
12. To thank IOM for the presentation of the Regional Health and Migration Plan – INCOSAMI – which seeks addressing the health of migrants in a comprehensive manner. To take note of the proposal for a unified agenda including joint strategies for the region.
13. To thank UNHCR for the presentation on advances in the development of a Regional Comprehensive Framework for Protection and Solutions (MIRPS, Spanish acronym), within the context of the process to generate input for the Global Compact on Refugees, as stated in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants of September 2014.
14. To thank UNHCR and El Salvador for holding the workshop “Child´s Best Interests and SGBV case management in migration and refugee contexts” and to urge countries to follow up on the recommendations from the workshop.
15. To reaffirm that it is important that the work of the RCM complements national and regional processes for the development of the Global Compact on Refugees, in order to collaborate with the UNHCR in this process.
16. To thank IOM for the presentation of the Regional Project for Protection and Empowerment of Migrant Women, which will provide cooperation to the PPT for the implementation of its Work Plan. In this regard, we reiterate the commitment to:
 - a. Send the information about public policies on migrant women, which is necessary for the regional diagnose that is being implemented by IOM, by July 15th at the latest.
 - b. Accept IOM's cooperation to advance on the design of the regional guidelines on the protection and assistance to migrant women proposed by the PPT.



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- c. To hold a workshop for the validation of these guidelines, to be organized with support of IOM, on September 18-22, 2017 in El Salvador.
 - d. To hold A Forum on the Protection and Empowerment of Migrant women within the framework of the Vice-Ministerial meeting of the RCM in 2017, in coordination with the PPT and other stakeholders.
17. To thank the delegations of Canada, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama for their presentations on advances and best practices in addressing the topic of migrant women.
18. To receive the recommendations of RNCOM concerning the Global Compact on Migration and the topic of migrant women. In particular, to take note of the following:
- a) The possibility for the RCM to provide support in the organization of regional and local consultations of civil society relating to the Global Compact on Migration;
 - b) The possibility of developing – before the next Vice-Ministerial Meeting – a pact of confidence between the RCM and civil society for the eradication of human rights violations in the region;
 - c) To develop a joint declaration of the RCM and civil society regarding the Global Compact on Migration.
- In regard to these proposals, to ask RNCOM to prepare a draft document developing the proposed items b) and c), to be assessed in detail by the RCM Member Countries.
19. To thank RNCOM for the presentation of the documentary video on extra-regional migration and request that it be revisited at the upcoming meeting of the Ad-Hoc Group on extra-regional migrants.
20. To thank the PPT, the TS and IOM for the preparation of the draft “Memorandum of Understanding Between the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Presidency Pro-Tempore (PPT) of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) to Strengthen the Execution and Monitoring of the RCM Technical Secretariat (TS) Budget.” To take note of the request by the United States to review the arbitration clause as well as that of IOM on the need for such exclusion to be reviewed by its Legal Department. In order to have a final draft of the Memorandum, the United States and IOM will hold negotiations to develop a new clause on the resolution of any disputes regarding compliance with the Memorandum.



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21. To thank IOM, UNHCR, ICRC, UNICEF and ILO for their presentations about the efforts implemented to benefit migrant women in the region and to consider their recommendations to the RCM on this matter
22. To congratulate the Government of El Salvador on the implementation of the diploma course on Migrant Women and to thank the observer organizations for the contributions offered for the awards for the winners of the essay and photography contests promoted by the PPT.
23. To thank Mexico for the advances relating to the upcoming IV Meeting of the Ad-Hoc Group on Extra-Regional Migrants, to be held in Mexico City on 6-7 July 2017, with financial and technical support from the Organization of American States (OAS). To urge the RCM Member Countries to submit their attendance confirmations to the TS, as appropriate.
24. To thank Canada and Mexico for the advances regarding the workshop on passport integrity to be held in Mexico City on 17-18 July 2017, with financial support from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). To urge the RCM Member Countries to submit their attendance confirmations to the TS, as appropriate.
25. To reiterate the importance that Belize and Nicaragua are present in the RCM meetings. In that sense, the PPT is requested to send an official letter to those countries asking for the reasons for their absence in recent meetings and indicating the importance of their presence in future meetings.
26. To thank Costa Rica for the presentation of the concept note of the regional training workshop "Guide to effective practices for the RCM Member Countries: Protection for persons moving across borders in the context of disasters," to be held 8-9 August, 2017, in San José, Costa Rica. To urge the RCM Member Countries to submit their attendance confirmations to the TS, as appropriate.
27. To thank the United States, Canada, Mexico and El Salvador for drafting the "Special Declaration of the Regional Conference on Migration Related to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration." To take note of the changes requested by Member Countries during this meeting, as well as the request to re-draft paragraph 17 based on the proposal drafted by Panama.
28. In order to have the final version of the Declaration adopted ad referendum, the TS will re-draft the document and send the revised version to the Member Countries for final technical approval. Such version will be considered as approved by the RCGM. In order to obtain approval at the Vice-Ministerial level of the Declaration, the PPT will send the document to the Vice-Ministers of the RCM Member Countries for final approval.



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29. To thank the Government of El Salvador for the hospitality in conducting and organizing the work of the RCGM.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To approve the document "Operating Mechanism for the Tripartite Team RNCOM-RCM-TS," including the changes requested by the delegations of Canada and the United States.
2. To approve the "Memorandum of Understanding Between the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Presidency Pro-Témpore (PPT) of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) to Strengthen the Execution and Monitoring of the RCM Technical Secretariat (TS) Budget" once a final version of the document is agreed by the negotiation between the United States and IOM on the clause to be applied in cases of conflict resolution related to the Memorandum.
3. To approve the "Special Declaration of the Regional Conference on Migration on the Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Ordained Migration", once it is amended in accordance with the comments made during this meeting.