



Conferencia Regional sobre Migración
Regional Conference on Migration



Joint Communiqué

Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) and South American Conference on Migration (SACM)

IV Plenary Meeting Panama City - Republic of Panama August 23rd, 2023

In Panama City, Republic of Panama, on August 23, 2023, the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) and the South American Conference on Migration (SACM) held their IV Plenary Meeting, with the participation of representatives from 23 countries.

The Member States recognized the achievements of the RCM and the SACM, the longest-running consultative processes on migration in the region, through dialogue between governments, observer organizations, civil society, and special guests, and under on the principle of shared responsibility, full respect for the human rights of migrants, regardless of their migratory status, and an understanding of the different economic, socio-cultural and migratory realities that converge in the region.

During the meeting, the representatives of the participating countries exchanged views on the intraregional and extra-regional migration trends in the Americas and on the socioeconomic vulnerabilities, among other factors, that drive them, including the effects of disasters and climate change.

They also discussed some of the risks of irregular migration, warning about the actions of trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling networks and agreed on the need to generate coordinated actions for their prevention and prosecution, as well as for cooperation between law enforcement and judicial agencies.

The countries agreed on the implementation of regional communication campaigns aimed at exposing the risks associated with irregular migration and promoting legal channels in order to achieve safe, orderly and regular migration. They also agreed on the need to continue working on building a positive narrative on migration, recognizing its contribution to social, cultural, and economic development in the countries.

They recognized the need to move towards strengthening the capacities of local governments and host communities through technical and financial support to achieve effective migration governance that promotes and facilitates the integration and full socioeconomic insertion of migrants.

The participating countries considered it positive to continue the dialogue in order to explore the implementation of mechanisms for the exchange of information on migratory flows, and among them to advance in the technical design and feasibility of the "Human Mobility Observatory".

The States present shared views to continue addressing migration from a regional perspective. They identified the need to institutionalize the meeting between the most consolidated migration



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forums in the Americas, the RCM and the SACM, through Troika and Plenary meetings, on an annual basis.

The participating countries thank the people and Government of the Republic of Panama for their hospitality and for their efforts to hold the IV Plenary Meeting of the RCM in conjunction with the SACM, as well as the Government of Canada, the Technical Secretariats of the respective regional processes and the Observer Organizations that supported the development of this meeting.