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

**Panama City, Panama**

**19-20 July 2018**

The Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM) held a meeting on 19-20 July 2018 in Panama City, Panama with participation of representatives from Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States and formulated the following:

# CONCLUSIONS

1. To thank Mexico for the report about the status of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.
   1. To incorporate among the strategic roles of the RCM to follow up on and monitor the Global Compact, in its role as a regional consultative process on migration.
2. To accept and thank the RCM Technical Secretariat (TS) for the financial and activity report. In addition, to urge the RCM Member Countries that have not already done this to pay their pending contributions.
   1. To thank the TS, host countries and observer organizations for the reports on the activities carried out during the first six months of the year.
3. To thank the UNHCR for the report on the status of the Global Compact on Refugees and the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (CRPSF).
4. To accept the reports from the Liaison Officer Network for the Protection of Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents; the Liaison Officer Network for Consular Protection; and the Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons, and to request that the RCM Member Countries, the observer organizations and the TS follow up on the issues raised in the reports, as appropriate.
   1. To take note on the concern expressed by El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico and the RNCOM regarding the situation about separated migrant children in the United States and to thank the US delegation for their comments on this regard and their willingness to the bilateral dialogue.
5. To thank the Mesoamerica Programme of the IOM for the report on the different actions implemented within the framework of the RCM with technical and financial support of the Mesoamerica Programme.
   1. To thank United States for funding this programme.
6. To thank El Salvador and IOM for the presentation on advances regarding the development of the document entitled “Guidelines on Assistance and Protection for Women in the Context of Migration” and to ratify the commitment to prepare a final version. In this regard:
   1. To thank Member Countries for their input and comments and to thank IOM for incorporating them into the document.
   2. To establish a drafting committee composed of representatives from El Salvador, Costa Rica and Panama to finalize revisions of the document through the following steps:
      1. To request RCM Member Countries to disseminate the final document among competent institutions, prior to an online meeting to be held in August 2018.
      2. To review the document between 1 August and 17 September 2018 through online meetings, with support from the RCM TS, IOM and UNDP.
7. To thank for their respective reports, recommendations and analysis from the observer organizations of the RCM, especially ICRC, ILO IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF and UNDP and to recognize their cooperation to the region.
8. Regarding Migration and Health:
   1. Decline the proposal for incorporating the RCM TS into the Steering Committee of the Joint Initiative on the Health of Migrants and their Families (INCOSAMI).
   2. Invite INCOSAMI to the RCGM spaces when necessary, as well as to promote the participation of the RCM Focal Points or the Troika for the meetings of this organization.
   3. To thank El Salvador for the report on the advances in matters relating to migration and health.
   4. To thank Canada and Costa Rica the progress regarding the Second Workshop on Migration and Health (to be conducted in Costa Rica on March 6-7, 2019)
9. To thank Costa Rica for the presentation on migration flows from Nicaragua and Venezuela in Costa Rica and recognize their efforts for the assistance to this population.
10. To receive the proposed Guidelines for Granting the Status of Permanent Observer Organization at the Regional Conference on Migration, prepared by the PPT and integrate it to the proposal of the RCM base strategic document.
    1. To recommend the Vice-Ministers the inclusion of UNODC as observer organization.
11. To thank the PPT and the IOM for the presentation of the project “Supporting the Mesoamerican Countries towards the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals” implemented by the IOM as per request of the PPT and other Member Countries.
12. To thank RNCOM for the reflections, recommendations and inputs on the role of civil society and the importance of establishing alliances to benefit migrant populations.
13. Regarding the evaluation process and the generation of proposals on the RCM relaunch:
    1. To update the RCM mandate and facilitate a discussion on policies among Member Countries, at all levels of this consultation process on the most relevant topics for the region.
    2. To entrust the Presidency Pro-Témpore the drafting of a base strategic document (Chair´s Proposal) to be presented to the Vice-Ministers.
    3. The PPT’s strategic document (Chair´s Proposal) would contain a proposal for a mandate and guiding principles of the RCM, taking into consideration the possibility of drafting a constitutional act, with support from the consultant, the TS and the IOM.
    4. Distribute the proposal early in September.
    5. To submit the Technical Secretariat, by 3 August at the latest, a list of key topics to be included into the strategic document.
14. To thank the IOM and receive with thanks the presentation of the project on “Strengthening Production and Analysis of Regional Migration Data: Mesoamerica and the Caribbean” and for their invitation to Member Countries to join the migration data collection and to participate in the launch event to be held in September 2018.
    1. To request the Technical Secretariat to coordinate with IOM the creation of a mapping of collection mechanism in order to avoid efforts duplicity.
15. The topics for approval regarding administrative aspects by the Vice-Ministers will be sent through a Note Verbale prepared by the Technical Secretariat and signed by the PPT, with the spirit of keeping at the political level the discussion topics of the Vice-Ministerial meeting.
16. To update the RCM calendar as follows:
    1. Workshops on Migration Governance and SDG’s: 28-29 August and 2-3 October 2018, in Panama City, with the support of IOM, ILO, UNPD, UNFPA, ECLAC.
    2. Regional Workshop on Governance of Labour Migration: Towards integrated and planned policies, to be held in Mexico 4-5 September 2018 with the support of IOM and ILO.
    3. Virtual Meeting of the Ad hoc working Group on Extra-Regional Migrants on 7 September 2018.
    4. Workshop on the Development of a Regional Mechanism for Information exchange during the search of Missing Migrants, with the support of ICRC and IOM, to be held on 25-26 September 2018 in a country to be confirmed.
    5. Meeting of the Regional Consultation Group on Migration: 12-13 November 2018 in Panama City.
    6. Vice-Ministerial Meeting: 14-15 November 2018 in Panama City.