**REPORT FROM THE MEETING OF THE LIAISON OFFICER NETWORK TO COMBAT MIGRANT SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS**

**Panama City, Panama**

# 19 July 2018

The Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons held its ordinary meeting on 19 July 2018 in Panama City, Panama prior to the meeting of the Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM), with participation of representatives from the following countries: Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States.

The Network submits its report to the Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM) for consideration, as follows:

1. To thank the delegations of Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States for the presentation of the reports on their recent efforts and practices concerning migrant smuggling and trafficking.
2. To thank the delegations of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Panama for sharing best practices regarding reintegration as per request of the RNCOM.
3. To thank Costa Rica for the update on the status of the Work Plan of the Network concerning migrant smuggling and trafficking, as a result of the workshop conducted on 13-14 March in San José, Costa Rica.
   1. To thank Mexico for the input for the Work Plan.
   2. To ask the RCM Technical Secretariat to disseminate, within three weeks, the last version of the Work Plan for final review by the RCM Member Countries before it is presented by at the upcoming meeting in November.
   3. Take note of the Member Countries’ interest to identify priority actions to be implemented within a defined timeframe in order to be able to monitor the same. The other activities identified in the Plan will be incorporated into the document as an annex.
   4. To thank IOM for the support in the development of the Plan. Member Countries requested IOM support on the eventual implementation, follow-up and evaluation of the Plan once approved. IOM reiterated its commitment, as per financial possibilities, in line with the specific priorities of the RCM countries in order to be presented to the RCGM in November.
4. To thank Panama for the information provided on the Handbook for the Management of Temporary Accommodation in Panama.
5. To thank the Regional Coalition against Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling for the presentation.
   1. The Technical Secretariat will send again the action lines worked by the Coalition with the objective of avoiding duplicity of work among the two forums.
6. To take note of the reflections of the Regional Network for Civil Society Organizations on Migration (RNCOM) regarding the risks on the criminalization of irregular migration and amplify information on combatting other forms of Trafficking in Persons.
7. Take note on the new activities proposed:
   1. IOM offered to organize a training related to the “Regional Guidelines for the Assistance and Protection of Migrant Women”. The training would offer Member Countries of the RCM a toolkit on the topic. The training is tentatively planned on a date to be determined.
   2. RNCOM and the Government of El Salvador manifest their interest to develop a specialized course on human mobility related to the RCM work, as a process of socialization and training to the Member Countries and the Civil Society representation.