



**Regional Conference on Migration**

**20  
YEARS**

II-2016

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**Fostering and strengthening regional dialogue and cooperation**

## REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION

*“Fostering and strengthening regional dialogue and cooperation”*

**Meeting of the Regional Consultation Group on Migration  
(RCGM)**

**12 November 2016**

PRESENTED BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

# Financial and Activity Report

Presented by the Technical Secretariat

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## Introduction

**Section 1** describes actions implemented by the Technical Secretariat (TS) from October, 2015 to October, 2016, including general support for meetings relating to the work of the RCM, participation at various meetings, and support provided to the Government of Honduras in its capacity of Presidency Pro-Tempore (PPT), among other activities.

**Section 2** includes the financial report, including TS budget execution for 2016 and from October to October, 2016 (with projections for the entire year), and the status of contributions by RCM Member Countries to the budget of the TS and the fund to assist the return of migrants in highly vulnerable situations – managed directly by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

The Annex includes a table with the percentages of the total TS budget covered by Member Countries, also used to establish the respective contributions to the above mentioned Fund.

## Section 1: Activities

During this period, the Technical Secretariat (TS) has been actively involved in the implementation of joint activities with governmental and non-governmental bodies and has participated in meetings held within the framework of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM).

### 1.1 Activities within the framework of the RCM

#### **XX Vice-Ministerial Meeting (Mexico City, Mexico, November 9-12, 2015)**

The event took place at the Secretariat of the Interior. This was a space for constructive and productive interaction between representatives of governments, international organizations and civil society. The meeting enabled participants to share success stories on reintegration and return of migrants.



During the XX RCM, Vice-Ministers facilitated and participated as speakers in various panels organized by the Government of Mexico. The vice-ministerial agreements were submitted to all RCM Member Countries and published on the private webpage of the RCM.

#### **Meeting of the Troika (San Salvador, El Salvador, February 18-19, 2016)**



The High-Level Meeting of the Troika was held during the second week of February, following up on the Plan of the PPT.

Vice-Ministers and their respective technical teams discussed various topics of interest to the RCM during the meeting, including the compiled documents and the review of the general objectives of the Work Plan submitted by the TS.

In addition, the next steps for sharing the documents with the RCM Member Countries were discussed, as well as the schedule for this year, the presentation of the theme selected by the PPT, strengthening of the RCM and matters of regional interest such as the flows of Cuban and extra-regional migrants.

**Workshop on Technical Validation of Documents relating to Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents (San Salvador, El Salvador, March 7-12, 2016)**

A workshop was held during the week of March 7-12, 2016 to validate the following documents: (1) *Regional Guidelines for the Comprehensive Protection of Boys, Girls and Adolescents in the Context of Migration (IOM)*; (2) *Consular Protection Standards for Unaccompanied or Separated Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents and/or Those in Need of Consular Protection (IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF)*; and (3) *Common Indicators for the Registration of Unaccompanied or Separated Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents in Consular Actions by Member Countries of the Regional Conference on Migration (IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF)*.



Representatives from RCM Member Countries, international observer organizations and civil society reviewed and discussed the contents of the documents and reached agreements during the workshop.

The final versions of the documents emanated from the workshop have been disseminated – as drafts and reports – to RCM Member Countries and civil society for input.

**Follow-up on the Work of the Ad Hoc Group on Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents (San Salvador, El Salvador, March 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> , 2016)**

In an effort to discuss the process of the work carried out by this Ad Hoc Group in the past three years, the Technical Secretariat (TS) of the RCM conducted an assessment of this initiative. Four work groups were established with workshop participants who had attended two or more meetings of the Ad Hoc Group.



In addition, representatives from international observer organizations and civil society participated as well. Furthermore, a questionnaire was administered, urging those involved in the process to participate.

## **Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM) (Tegucigalpa, Honduras. June 7<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup>, 2016)**

In order to monitor the actions undertaken by the member countries within the RCM framework this year's first RCGM meeting took place. This encounter served as a space for the exchange of good practices between countries, as well as the new efforts being made in the matter of consular protection. In compliance with the agenda the second day of this activity the parallel meetings of the Liaison Officer Networks for Consular Protection and to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking were sustained.

In the light of this enriching dialogue arise a series of recommendations that need to be implemented in order to strengthen the RCM, such as to consider granting observer status to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), to deepen the study and knowledge of the document "*Protection for persons moving across borders in the context of disasters. A guide to effective practices for RCM member countries*" and recognize that the new "*Platform on Disaster Displacement*" may offer technical support to carry out national or regional workshops and other training activities in coordination with the Technical Secretariat of the RCM.



## **Ad Hoc Working Group on Extra-Continental Migration Flows (Panama, Panama, July 13<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup>, 2016)**

For the continued strengthening of the tasks performed by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Extra-Continental Migration Flows, a meeting was held on the second week of July of the present year, in which the participant countries had the opportunity to acknowledge the current situation of the extra-continental migration flows in the context of the RCM, as well as to present some of the agreements and activities accomplished around this subject. This session also provided an enabling space for the discussion on the lines of actions and mechanisms guidelines for the Ad-Hoc Working Group, likewise for the governability of extra-continental migrants transiting through Central America.



The event was possible thanks to the support and co-financing from Panama.



## Regional Technical Training Workshop on Comprehensive protection of Boys, Girls and Adolescents in the context of Migration. (Guatemala City, Guatemala, August 17<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> 2016)



Aiming to improve the protection of the migrant children the IOM held this workshop with the objective of strengthening national capacities to promote and implement regional guidelines for the effective and comprehensive protection of boys, girls and adolescents throughout the various phases of their migration process.

During this event multiple group activities took place along with presentations to acknowledge the actions undertaken to protect the migrant boys, girls and adolescents within the framework of the RCM and to identify the risks of these vulnerable population. Furthermore, a review was made on the regional and international instruments directed to this topic.

Finally, a review on the regional and international instruments was made, and also on the standards on this matter. The event was possible thanks to the support of the government of Guatemala and the co-financing from the IOM, with resources from Mesoamerica Project.

## Virtual Meeting of the Technical Group on Extraregional Migration Flows (August 26<sup>th</sup> , 2016)

The virtual meeting was organized in accordance with the agreements of the Ad-hoc group on Extra-regional Migrants. This meeting had the participation of Mexico, Panama, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica and the Technical Secretariat of the RCM. Among other things, within the framework of this meeting the tools and mechanisms that are proposed to be used by the Member



Countries of the RCM for the exchange of information on Extra-regional Migrants were agreed. Also, it was proposed the possibility that this Technical Group could follow up on the agreements of the Ad-hoc and it was suggested that the RCM could move along in the elaboration of political document on Extra-regional Migrants.

## First Virtual Meeting of the Troika of the RCM on Migrant Children (September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016)



This meeting aimed to comply with the request of the RCGM that the Troika prepared an operating mechanism for the Liaison Officer Network for the Protection of Migrant Girls, Boys, and Adolescents, so that it could be put under consideration of the Vice-Ministers. The T.S presented a draft of the mechanism for

consideration of the Troika, which was assessed and revised within the framework of this virtual meeting.

### **Workshop on Migration Health (San José, Costa Rica, September 28-29)**

Taking into account the increasing importance of health in the migration process, the last week of September an encounter around this subject was held in San José, Costa Rica. Delegations of the member countries attended this workshop and also Observer International Organizations and Civil Society.



During the event different presentations about key concepts were held and also about the regional and global context of the matter in question. Likewise, at the end of this presentations plenary discussion were held to encourage an interactive and productive dialogue. Final documents were provided to each of the participants.

In addition, due to the interest generated by the event, the organizers agreed that their presentations were videotaped, being this the first time it's done in the RCM. The videotaped presentations will be available in the RCM's website. This event was possible thanks to Canada and Costa Rica and the co-finance of the IOM and the PAHO.

### **International Dialogue on Migration 2016: Assessing progress in the implementation process of migration related Sustainable Development Goals. (Geneva, Switzerland, October 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> 2016)**



This dialogue had deliberation on the state of migration policies today, the baselines from which progress will be assessed in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) during the next 14 years until 2030, and the best way to progress in all aspects of migration. Moreover, the States reported on progress in the implementation of SDG mostly related to migration and the challenges they face in this matter.

The PTT and the TS were invited as special guests of the event, being Honduras the only PPT of a Regional Consultative Process (RCP), worldwide, to be invited to make a presentation within the framework of this event, and, furthermore the only PPT of a RCP to undertake a presentation in the 15 years of history of the International Dialogue on Migration.

### **Sixth Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional Consultative Processes on migration . (Geneva, Switzerland, October 13<sup>th</sup> 2016)**

At this meeting the regional challenges and opportunities in the implementation of the SDGs related to the migratory issue. Also, the possibility of reviewing the strategies and work plans of the CPRs to line them up with the SDGs was raised. Strategies were discussed to connect the discussions on migration and development and include them in regional organizations.

Finally, the building of alliances with other regional actors such as the UN Economic Commissions was addressed, in order to implement and monitor the SDG. The RCM was invited as an special guest of this event, moderating an entire panel of the meeting and undertaking a presentation. The meeting and the participation of the RCM was co-sponsored by the IOM and the government of the United States.



### **Virtual meeting of focal points for regional communication campaign on migration of children and youth (October 18<sup>th</sup> 2016)**



The purpose of this meeting was to follow the interest and request of the Member Countries of the RCM to carry out a regional communication campaign on the migration of children and teenagers. To this purpose, IOM, in coordination with the TS and the liaison points to be delegated by governments and other stakeholders, formed a virtual group to carry out this initiative. In this meeting the first suggestions were made to create a viable proposal for the campaign.

### **Consular capacity building session in the identification and reference of people with protection needs (Mexico City, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016)**

This event was organized by the Government of Honduras as a PTP and was supported by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The main objective of the workshop was to promote the exchange of good practices in the consular care of people with international protection needs among the consular officers in Mexico of the countries that are part of the Regional Conference on Migration.



### **Workshop on social reintegration of migrants (Tegucigalpa, Honduras, October 26th and 27th, 2016)**



The workshop on the subject of reintegration was structured following the contents of the "Manual for the elaboration of Migratory Policies on Reintegration of Returned Migrants". At the same time, the workshop



was used to carry out the validation of this Manual, which had previously been submitted for the consideration of the Member Countries of the RCM.

In addition, the workshop was attended by the Vice-President of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Mrs. Sara Oviedo, who made a presentation on the reintegration of returned children and the best interest of the child. The event was co-financed by the government of Honduras, CAMMINA and IOM, with resources from the Mesoamerica project.

### **Meeting to strengthen dialogue and cooperation between the RCM and civil society, in particular on the issue of reintegration of migrants. (Tegucigalpa, Honduras, October 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2016)**

Following a number of commitments made under the RROCM-RCM ad hoc Group and other areas of the RCM, the Pro-Tempore Presidency set out to reactivate the work of the Ad Hoc Group in order to deepen the dialogue and cooperation between Governments and civil society from a shared responsibility approach.



The meeting followed up on the work of the Ad-Hoc RCM-RROCM Working Group and advanced the definition of a common agenda between civil society and governments and the establishment of adequate coordination and monitoring mechanisms for this, defining priority areas of work between RCM and civil society. During the event sessions were held under the format of panels and work tables to deepen the different areas and look for synergies of work with Civil Society in the framework of RCM. Within the framework of these panels, for the first time in the history of RCM, part of one of the panels of this workshop was done by teleconference.

The event was co-financed by the government of Honduras, CAMMINA and IOM, with resources from the Mesoamerica Project.

### **Virtual meeting of focal points responsible for the Regional Communication Campaign on Migration of Children and teenagers (October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016)**

The purpose of this meeting was to follow the interest and request of the Member Countries of the RCM to carry out a regional communication campaign on the migration of children and teenagers.

This meeting discussed the proposals submitted by both IOM and Mexico.

#### **Elementos de una campaña de comunicación**

- 1) Brief
- 2) Objetivo de comunicación
- 3) Público(s) meta
- 4) Concepto creativo
- 5) Estrategia
- 6) Tono y lenguaje
- 7) Línea gráfica
- 8) Plan de medios
- 9) Plan de inversión

### **Ad-Hoc Working Group on Extra-regional Migrants (San José, Costa Rica, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016)**



The third meeting of the ad-hoc working group on Extra-regional migrants was convened to follow up on the work and agreements of the previous meetings of the ad-hoc group and the two meetings held with the countries of origin; also to follow up on the meeting with the SCM and the online meeting of the Technical Group on Extra-regional Migration Flows. The main objective of this meeting was to do a critical revision of said agreements and from there

changes and improvements for these agreements were defined, as well as new agreements, which allowed moving along in the elaboration of a proposal for an action plan of the RCM, with specific recommendations to be submitted to Vice-minister's considerations.

Notably, for the first time in an event of this kind, it was seen the participation of Brazil, Ecuador, Colombia and Haiti, who participated in part of the work of this group.

The event was possible thanks to Costa Rica's support and the financing of IOM and UNHCR

*In total, during this year, the RCM participated in 18 activities. Of which 16 were organized in the framework of the RCM and were headed by Member Countries and the TS.*

*In addition, for the first time, 4 virtual work meetings were organized. Only from August 2016 to date, 13 events and meetings of the RCM were organized.*

## 1.2 Additional Tasks of the Technical Secretariat (TS)

- **Reviewing documents and compiling a document on structure and operations:** Following up on the agreements emanated from the XX Vice-Ministerial Meeting, the TS reviewed historical documents (1996-2015) on the structure and operations of the RCM. The document has been submitted to all RCM Member Countries.
- **Follow-up actions:**
  - Support of and participation in the "Workshop on exchange of experiences and best practices of consular services for unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents," which held in Mexico City on 28 and 29 January 2016. The TS provided logistical support for the workshop at the request of the Government of Mexico.

- Upon request of the PTP, the TS, during September, started a consultation on the Terms of reference, the hiring and replacement process of the Coordinator of the T.S of the RCM, which was circulated to all the Member Countries. The comments were systematized in a matrix and document for the discussion during the Meeting of the Vice ministers.

- **Tools for dissemination and interinstitutional communication**

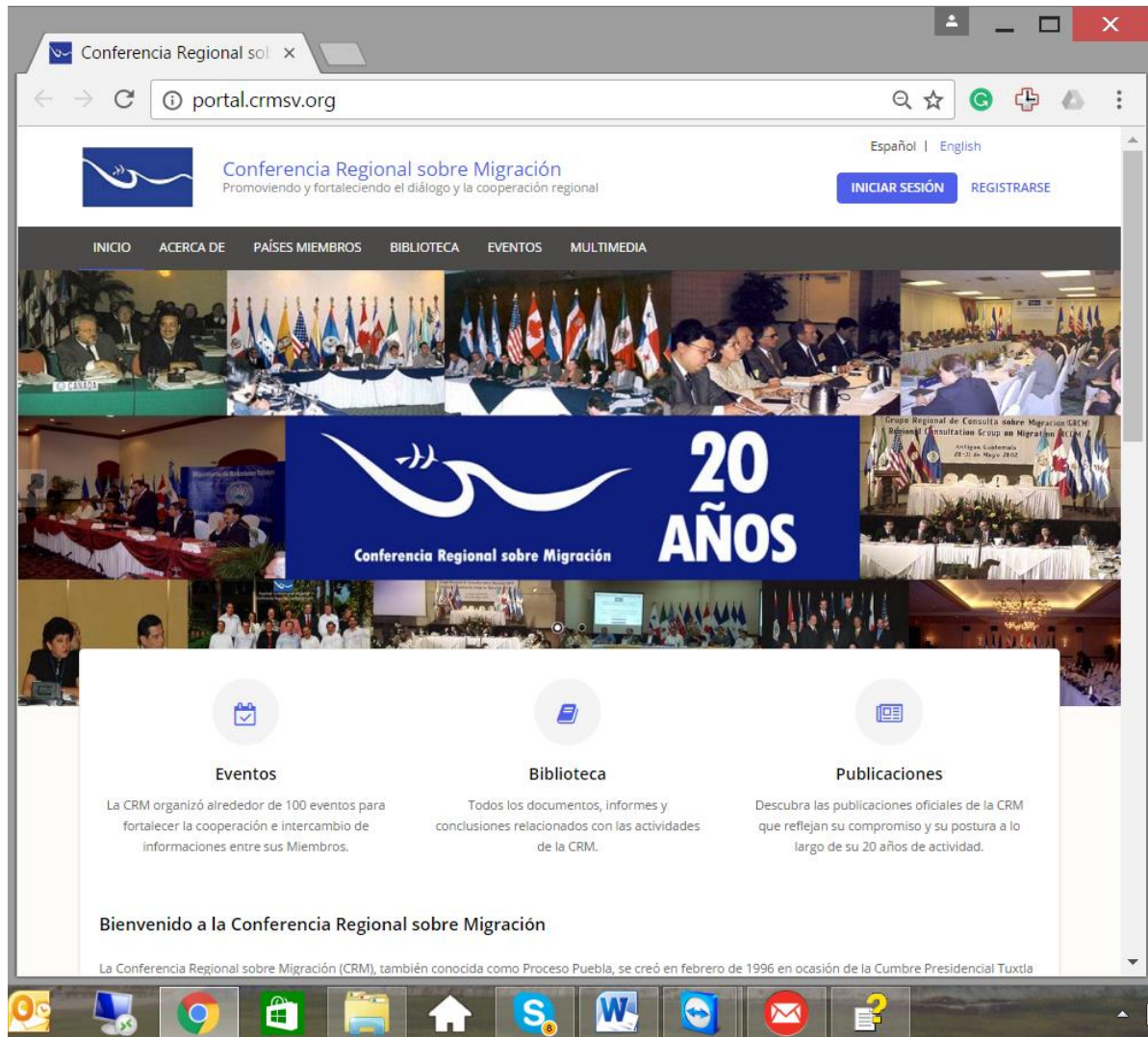
- The TS created logos commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the RCM, which were integrated into the institutional documents and other materials as since October.



- A special document was drawn up to systematize the achievements of the MCA during its twenty years of existence, which has been distributed in electronic form.



- A new public internet page was created that includes a new intranet, which is available in: <http://portal.RCMsv.org/>





**Section 2: Financial Report**

**2.1 Annual revenues have not been sufficient to cover the actual annual costs of TS**

The following table presents a summary of the income and expenses of the TS, based on the corresponding budget approved, for the period from 2009 to 2016. The year 2016 is shown with a projected expenditure to December.

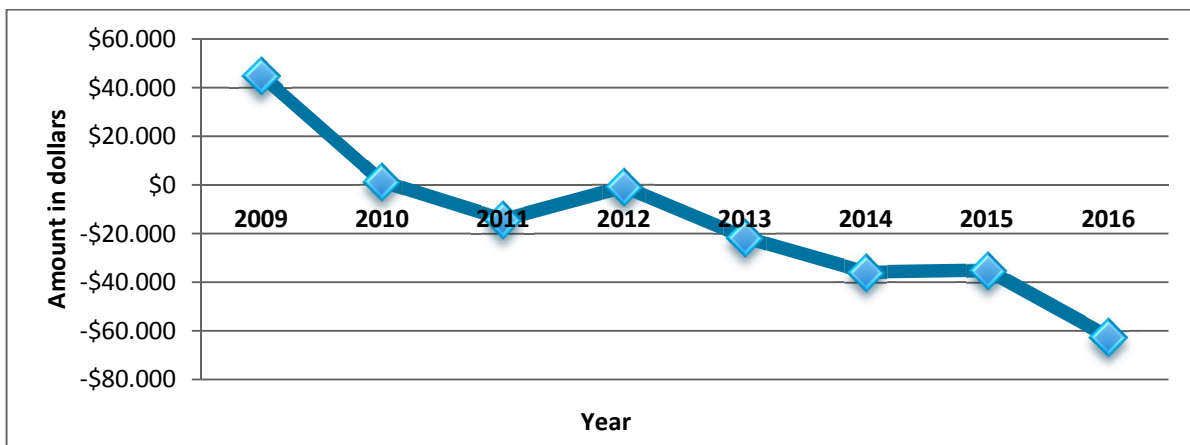
**Table 1  
Annual income versus annual TS expenses  
Period 2009-2016**

	<b>Contributions received during the year</b>	<b>Actual operating expenses in the year</b>	<b>Difference between contributions received and actual operating expenses in the year</b>
2009	\$277,639	\$232,762	\$44,877
2010	\$278,144	\$276,759	\$1,385
2011	\$277,744	\$292,106	-\$14,362
2012	\$273,042	\$273,868	-\$826
2013	\$272,688	\$294,400	-\$21,712
2014	\$272,662	\$308,394	-\$35,732
2015	\$270,771	\$305,843.33	-\$35,072.33
2016	\$260,874	\$323,205.07*	-\$62,331.07**

Source: Own elaboration based on information from IOM financial systems.  
 \*Projected expenditure for the end of 2016.  
 \*\* Projected difference for the end of 2016. This amount includes the expenses of moving round trip of the previous Coordinator of the TS.

Chart number 1 illustrates the same information contained in Table 1.

**Chart 1  
Differential between annual contributions and actual annual operating costs of TS  
Period 2009 to 2016**



Source: Own elaboration based on information from IOM financial systems

Both Table 1 and Chart 1 indicate how, as of 2011, there has been a negative differential between the annual revenues of the TS and the actual annual operating costs of the TS, which reached the amount of - \$ 35,072.33 in 2015.

Due to the above, the "reserve" of resources that had been generated as a consequence of a positive differential between the annual revenues of the TS and the actual annual costs of operation of the TS, has been consumed year after year until reaching an estimate of - \$ 63,875.09 by the end of 2016. Due to the fact that this "reserve" of resources was completely consumed by September 2016, it is expected that the TS will run out of resources to operate from 2017 and will operate in deficit for long periods of time during the year, filling those deficits with resources "borrowed" from the next or the subsequent years.

If current actual operating costs and the current amount of contributions are maintained, the TS's deficit situation will not be resolved in the long term. Under present conditions, in order to resolve the current financial situation, it is necessary to increase the budget by an estimated 20%.

### 2.2 Amounts per item approved in the TS budget are not sufficient to cover the fixed costs of TS

The TS has fixed expenses, which are not adequately reflected in the categories of the budget approved annually for the operation of the TS. The clearest example is the personnel costs, which are fixed expenses that should be adequately recognized in the category approved in the annual budget.

Table 2 shows how; from 2013 onwards, the staff costs in the approved budget for TS are insufficient to cover the actual costs of TS staff.

**Table 2**  
**Differential between the approved budget for personnel and actual expenditure executed in this category - period 2012-2016**

Year	Approved budget	Actual expenditure	Difference
2012	\$173,779	\$165,319.97	\$8,459.03
2013	\$183,379	\$196,577.78	-\$13,198.78
2014	\$183,379	\$192,261.51	-\$8,882.51
2015	\$183,379	\$197,778.19	-\$14,399.19
2016	\$183,379	\$204,040.57*	-\$20,661.57

\*Projection of expenses for the entire year 2016

Source: IOM's financial systems

A similar situation occurs in the case of the expense in the travel category and travel expenses, which consistently, since 2010, has been overdrawn. This situation is clearly seen in the following table.

**Table 3**  
**Differential between the budget approved for travel and travel expenses executed in this category - period 2012-2016**

Year	Approved budget	Actual expenditure	Difference
2010	\$13,945	\$18,017.64	-\$4,072.64
2011	\$13,945	\$14,251.92	-\$305.92
2012	\$13,945	\$12,663.70	\$1,281.3
2013	\$13,945	\$15,187.62	-\$1,242.62
2014	\$13,945	\$32,430.46	-\$18,485.46
2015	\$13,945	\$39,502.93	-\$25,557.93
2016	\$13,945	\$36,147.43*	-\$22,202.43
*Projection of expenses for the entire year 2016			

Source: IOM's financial systems

Although the travel and travel expenses categories are not a fixed cost of the TS, the TS need to attend events in the context of the RCM means that a large part of these expenses are actually permanent expenses that consume the vast majority of the budget approved for these purposes. For example, the expenses that have to do with the participation of the TS in the RCGM and in the RCM should be considered fixed expenses and should be budgeted according to real current estimated costs.

On the other hand, the gradual increase in travel and travel expenses costs that is recorded year on year due to inflationary issues; as well as the increase in the number of events and seminars organized within the framework of the RCM, events in which their organizers do not cover the mobilization of the TS, but for which they request TS support during the event, imply an increase year by year of the expenses for travel, while the estimated budget has remained fixed for years.

**Conclusion:** If the approved budget categories are not increased, for items such as personnel costs and travel and travel expenses, it is foreseeable that these items will be permanently overdrawn; making seem as if the TS is deliberately surpassing the approved budget for these categories, while the TS is simply operating on the basis of an approved budget that is not real according to the current costs and needs of travel and personnel.

## 2.3 Implementation of the budget of the TS in 2016.

The following table shows the budget execution for October 2016.

**Table 4**  
**Budget execution from January to October 2016**

Personnel <sup>1</sup>	Approved Budget 2016	Expenses 2016 January – October	Total projection of expenses from November to December 2016	Total projected expenditures for 2016
Unit Coordinator	\$78.840,00	\$72,620.74	\$15,941.36 (Salary)  \$6,052.61 (Relocation costs of the former TS Coordinator)	\$94,614.2
IT Specialist	\$45.664,00	\$47,320.70	\$14,185.66	\$61,506.36
Project assistant	\$22.995,00	\$20,680.43	\$6,550	\$27,230.43
Other expenses and staff reserves <sup>2</sup>	\$35.880,00	\$15,742.24	\$4,946.83	\$20,689.07
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$183.379,00</b>	<b>\$156,364.11</b>	<b>\$47,676.46</b>	<b>\$210,093.18.57</b>
<b>Estimated subtotal</b>		<b>\$210,093.18.57</b>		

### Operating expenses

Support for meetings and seminars (interpretation, equipment, etc.)	\$37,000.00	\$9,863.80	\$15,438.45	\$25,302.25
Equipment	\$14.000,00	\$2,578.12	\$9,738.45	\$12,316.57
Written translation	\$7.400,00	\$6,493.11	\$2,500.00	\$8,993.11
Interpretation	\$13.000,00	\$450.48	\$2,000.00	\$2,450.48
Miscellaneous expenses	\$2.600,00	\$342.09	\$1,200.00	\$1,542.09
Office expenses	\$41.000,00	\$34,118.25	\$6,843.64	\$40,961.89
Rent and security services	\$31.000,00	\$28,526.35	\$5,725.27	\$34,251.62
Common services	\$3.300,00	\$3,503.87	\$700.77	\$4,204.64
Supplies consumption	\$6.700,00	\$2.088.03	\$417.60	\$2,505.63
Equipment and internet access	\$8.000,00	\$4,816.80	\$963.36	\$5,780.16
Investigation and studies	\$1.000,00	\$787.50	\$0.00	\$787.50
Documents and translations	\$6.000,00	\$424.14	\$2,000.00	\$2,424.14
Travel and travel expenses	\$13.945,00	\$28,147.43	\$8,000.00	\$36,147.43
Eventualities	\$2.000,00	\$708.52	\$1,000.00	\$1,708.52
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$108.945,00</b>	<b>\$78,866.44</b>	<b>\$34,245.45</b>	<b>\$113,111.89</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$292.324,00</b>	<b>\$235,230.55</b>	<b>\$87,974.52</b>	<b>\$323,205.07</b>

<sup>1</sup> According to the agreement of the Vice ministers in the VI RCM in San José, Costa Rica in 2001, the TS personnel salary scale is governed by the standards and requirements established by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC). As agreed by the General Assembly of the United Nations, but only to the extent possible. This item covers the IOM charge of 5% on general expenses and benefits at the termination of contract for 3 staff members, in addition to charges for health and insurance.

<sup>2</sup> The RCGM, in its Conclusion # 1 of the meeting held in December 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in Panama, approved the use of an additional \$ 9,600 dollars in accordance with the legal provisions of Costa Rica.



## 2.4 Contributions to the budget of the TS

Chart 2 describes the status of contributions, by country, of Member Countries to the budget of the TS during the period of 2009 to September 2016.

**Chart 2**  
**Status of contributions by country to the budget of the TS**  
**Period 2009 to September 2016**

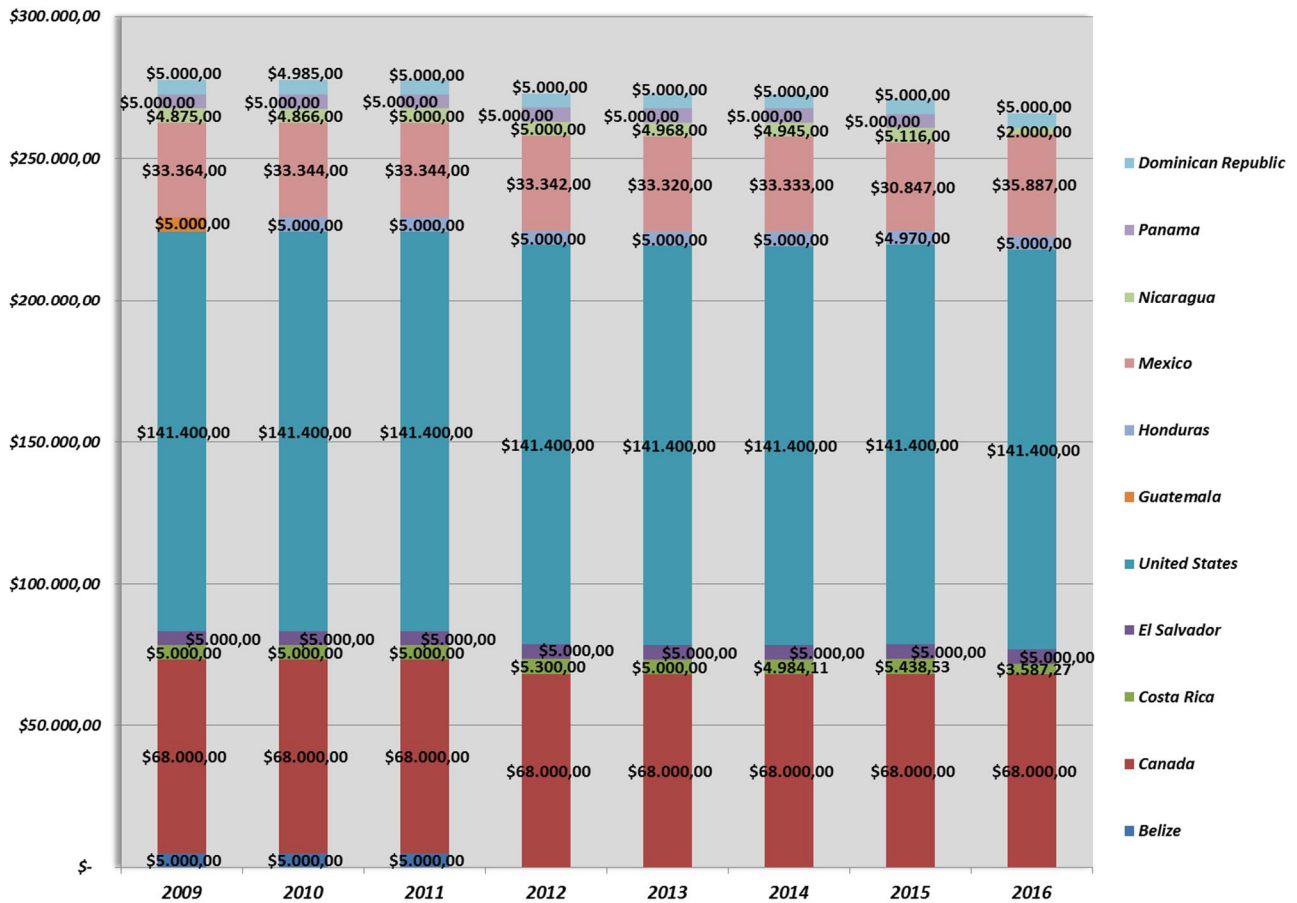


Chart 3 describes the status of the total contributions of Member Countries to the budget of the TS during the period of 2009 to September 2016.

**Chart 3**  
**Status of contributions by country to the budget of the TS-**  
**Period 2009 to September 2016**

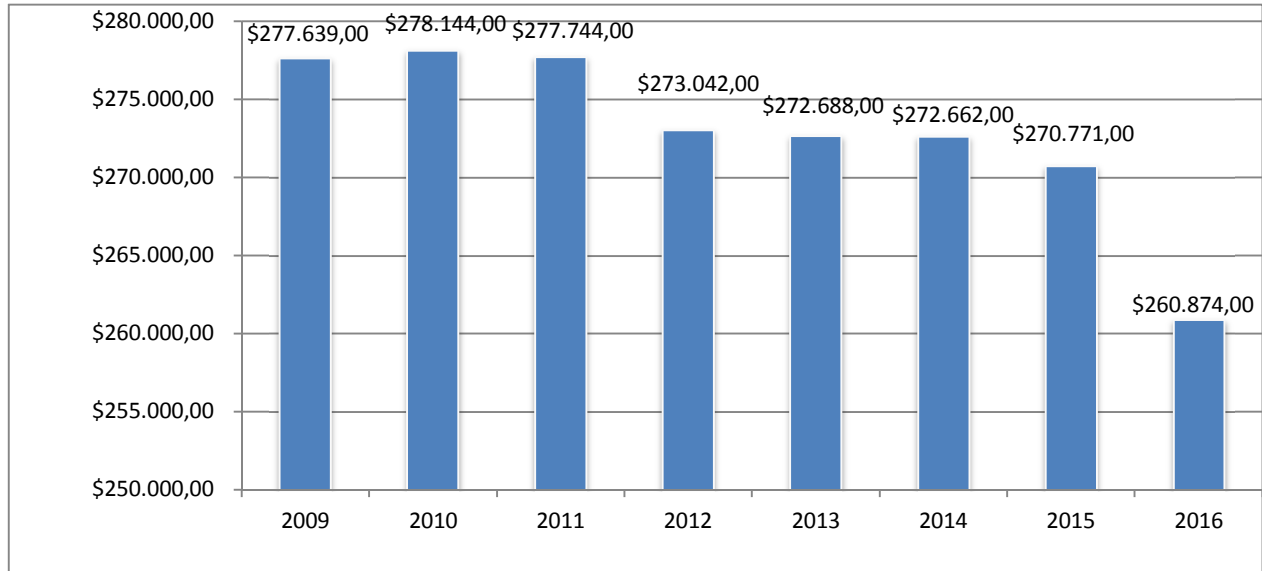
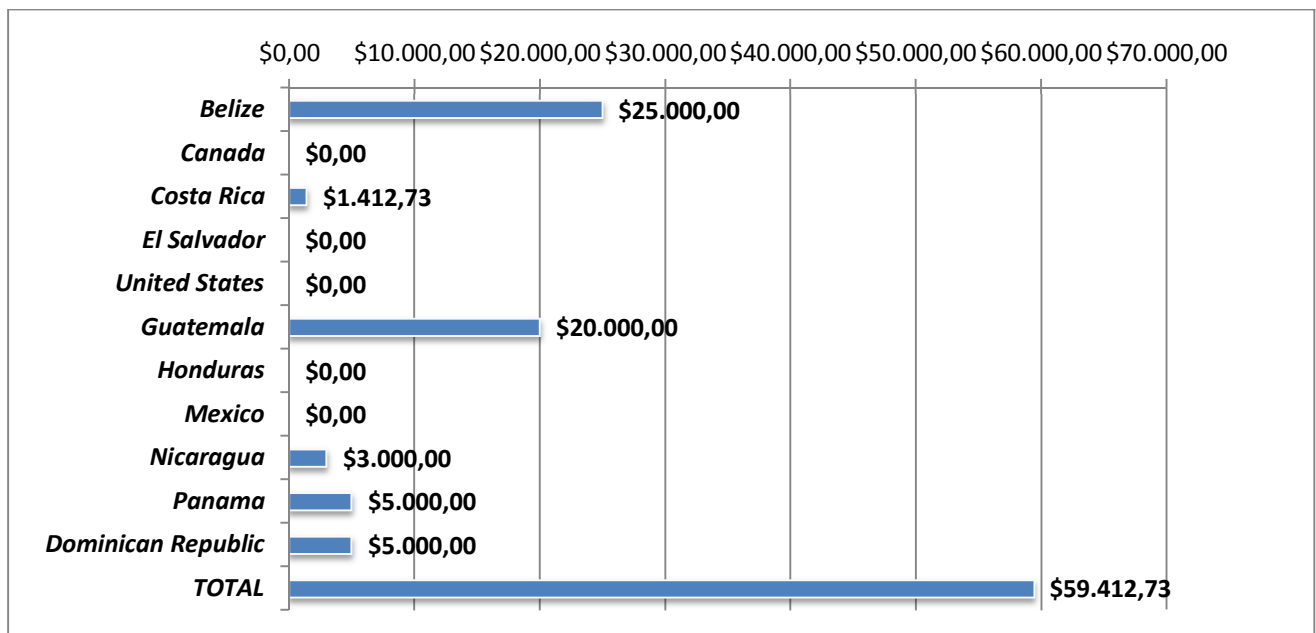


Chart 4 describes the amount owed by Member States to the budget of the TS budget during the period from September 2009 to September 2016.

**Chart 4**  
**Amount owed per country to the budget of the TS -**  
**Period 2009 to September 2016**



## 2.5 Alternative means of financing the TS of the RCM

Taking into account the need to increase the TS budget for the coming years in order to avoid the deficit and recognizing the significant economic support already made by Member Countries, which often face budgetary constraints; It is suggested the search for new means to increase the financing of the TS of the RCM in order that it may continue to provide the support that is required by Member Countries and observer agencies to attend to the growing number of events that they promote in the framework of RCM.

In addition, a larger budget would help the TS to better meet the increased demand and complexity of requests for technical and logistical support.

### a) *Voluntary annual contribution for observer organizations*

In order to comply with the above, below are some suggestions advanced by the TS. One way to adjust the RCM's budget could be to request a **voluntary contribution to observer organizations**. This contribution would, in part, cover the costs arising from participation in the RCGM, the RCM and other events and seminars of the observer organizations themselves; as well as contribute to the costs related to the participation of the TS in the events promoted by the organizations themselves within the framework of RCM.

This voluntary contribution, in the amount of around \$ 5,000 a year, would significantly help to improve the financial situation of the TS of the RCM; without necessarily representing a burdensome expense for the observer organizations. In addition, its voluntary nature, would allow agencies that cannot do it, to do so without being removed from the work of the RCM.

### b) *Annual contribution for new observer organizations.*

Another option to increase TS funds would be to set a **fixed annual contribution for the new observer organizations**, which would simply show its commitment to the RCM and would, in part, provide support to meet the costs of their participation in the work and in the meetings of the RCM. This annual contribution could be of around \$ 5,000 per year.

### c) *Registration fee for some of the participants in the RCM workshops and seminars*

A third alternative to increase TS funding could be the implementation of an enrollment fee for the RCM events, which would apply only to those participants who wish to attend the event but have not originally been invited to specific events. So that through this registration fee, food and other costs related to the participation of these persons can be covered from.

A part of this participation fee would be allocated to the strengthening of the TS. Accreditation and management of this contribution could be guided by the guidelines of IOM's self-payer programs.

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This fee could also be charged to persons who are not nationals from the RCM Member Countries or members of RCM observer organizations but who wish to participate in a particular RCM event as participants or speakers, provided that the organizers of the event agree to their participation.

*d) Contributions by some suppliers of goods or services that wish to offer said goods or services in the margins of the workshops and seminars of the RCM*

A fourth option to increase the financing of the TS, could be through the collection of quotas for the installation of stands or the opening of spaces, in the framework of conferences or workshops of the RCM. These spaces would be allocated to offer goods or services to participants of the RCM events, by suppliers of such goods or services.

Funds from these contributions would be allocated to the strengthening of the TS and their accreditation and utilization could be governed by the same guidelines as the IOM self-payer programs.

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## **Credits**

### **Coordination**

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### **Photos**

RCM Photographic Archive

IOM Photographic Archive