



## **PANEL FORUM**

### **WOMEN, MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT: A STRATEGIC CHALLENGE FOR THE REGION**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

For over two decades, the RCM has been a space to discuss different issues, problems and challenges of the region in the field of migration. Furthermore, it has allowed the exchange of experiences and best practices, fostering cooperation and generating regional positions concerning migration. In addition to the role of the 11 Member Countries; the work of the RCM is nourished by the contributions of International Observer Organizations and Organized Civil Society through the Regional Network of Civil Organizations for Migration (RNCOM).

El Salvador as a country firmly committed to the Human Rights of migrants, and convinced of the role played by the different population segments in migratory flows, assumed the Presidency Pro-Tempore of the Regional Conference on Migration during the 2017 cycle and, for this, has promoted various initiatives around "Migrant Women", a topical issue with a strong impact on regional migration dynamics, but very little addressed from the regional level and within the Member Countries of the RCM.

The role of women in migration dynamics is increasingly relevant and has taken on different facets when migrating, since they not only undertake the journey alone, but also accompanied by their sons and daughters, or they establish in a place of destination and then make every effort to achieve family reunification.

In this vein, the work plan of the current Presidency Pro-Tempore of El Salvador has sought, among other objectives, to open spaces to learn and reflect in order for citizens and officials of the Member Countries of the RCM to know in depth the link between women, migration and development. Aiming to meet this objective, El Salvador proposed to hold the Panel Forum "Women, Migration and Development: a strategic challenge for the region" to hear the voice of experts from specialized agencies, organizations of civil society and the academy.

Meanwhile, the International Organization for Migration, through the Project "Strengthening Public Policies to Protect and Empower Migrant Women in Mesoamerica," also identified as a priority holding a forum that addresses the issue of migrant women.

In addition to the above, the work plan of the current Presidency Pro-Tempore has coincided with the initiative of some Civil Society organizations in El Salvador to carry out a joint activity that would allow the Salvadoran population with an interest in the issue of migration, to be part of the development of the agenda within the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) as invitees to the panels in the forum called "Women, Migration and Development: a strategic challenge for the region", in order for the population in general to gain knowledge and analyze the current situation of the region specifically by: observing the characteristics, problems, interests and needs of migrant women, in order to make them visible and generate regional initiatives for the respect of their Human Rights and of the promotion of their development, their families', and communities in the countries of origin and destination.

This space will be part of the agenda of the XXII High Level Meeting of the Regional Conference on Migration and seeks to generate recommendations for the consideration of the Member Countries of the RCM and a publication with the most relevant contents of the forum panel. These products will be generated thanks to the support of Dr. Víctor Gutiérrez, recognized academic of Spanish origin with specialization on migration, the Presidency Pro-Tempore of El Salvador and the International Organization of Migrations.

## **METODOLOGÍA Y CONTENIDOS DE PANELES**

The forum will be a dynamic space for discussion and generation of proposals in favor of migrant women. It will have panelists considered experts in the subject, who belong to specialized organizations, organized civil society and academia.

The forum will be composed of three panels, each panel is made up of: a person who moderates and three specialists who will position the following topics:

- a. Migrant Women: Realities in their labor migration, families and remittances
- b. Health and Migrant Women
- c. Girls, adolescents and migrant women

Each panel will have a duration of one hour and thirty minutes, each panelist has 20 minutes to position their subject and then there will be a space of 30 minutes open to the participants for comments and questions.

## **VENUE AND DATES**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador, from November 27<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

- Officials from the Ministries or Secretariats of Foreign Affairs.
- Officials from the Ministries and Directorates of Migration, Women's Protection and other interested parties.
- General Salvadoran population interested in the subject.
- Civil Society Organizations working in the care of migrant women.
  - Doctors of the World
  - Independent Monitoring Group of El Salvador – GMIES
  - Human Rights Institute of the UCA – IDHUCA
  - American Friends Service Committee – AFSC
- Specialized International Organizations.

## **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- Document of conclusions and recommendations for consideration of Member Countries of the RCM.
- Publication of the most relevant contents of the presentations.
- Memory

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**Panel 1** : *Migrant Women: Realities in their labor migration, families and remittances*

**Forum Information**

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| <p><b>Date:</b><br/><b>November 27th 2017</b></p> <p><b>Time:</b><br/><b>4:00-6:00 pm</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b></p> | <p><b>Moderator:</b><br/>Dr. Mario Roger Hernández<br/>Manager of Statistical Projects of the Central Reserve Bank of El Salvador</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b><br/>Francesco Carella<br/>Specialist in Labor Migration for Central America, Panama, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Cuba<br/>ILO - International Labor Organization</p> <p>Lic. Vinicio Sandoval/ or Representative from GMIES and INILAB</p> <p>Ana Elena Badilla<br/>UN Women Representative in El Salvador</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Regional context focused on labor aspects of migrant women<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Labor sectors</li><li>○ Working conditions</li><li>○ Institutional articulation</li></ul></li><li>- Migrant families</li><li>- Women as agents of change and development</li><li>- Migrant Women and Remittances</li><li>- Challenges</li></ul> |
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#### Panel 2 : *Health and Migrant Women*

#### Forum Information

**Date:**

**November 28th, 2017**

**Time:**

**4:00-6:00 pm**

**Venue:****Moderator:**

Dr. Julio Robles Ticas  
Vice Minister of Health Services of El Salvador

**Panelists:**

Brenda Ochoa, Project Coordinator of Sexual and Reproductive Health of Sex Workers Migrant Women in Tapachula and Huixtla, Chiapas, México – Doctors of the World

Dr. Francisco Becerra, Assistant Director, Pan American Health Organization

Dr. Carlos Van der Laat, Regional Specialist for the Americas IOM

- Regional context
  - Differentiated attention
  - Health services during the migration cycle
  - Institutional actions
- Health and legal framework
- Challenges
- Psychological attention to migrant women (during the entire migratory cycle)

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**Panel 3 : *Girls, adolescents and Migrant Women***

**Forum Information**

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| <p><b>Date:</b><br/><b>November 29th, 2017</b></p> <p><b>Time:</b><br/><b>4:00-6:00 pm</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b></p> | <p><b>Moderator:</b><br/>Msc. Liduvina Magarín<br/>Vice- Minister for Salvadorans Abroad</p> <p><b>Panelistas:</b><br/>María Cristina Perceval<br/>UNICEF Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <p>Lisa Frydman<br/>Vice President, Regional Policy and Initiatives,<br/>Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)</p> <p>David Morales<br/>Project Coordinator of Information<br/>Management (NTMI), IOM</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Regional context</li><li>○ Characteristics of migrant children</li><li>○ Reasons for migration</li><li>○ Care needs</li><li>○ Protection needs</li><li>- Family reunification</li><li>- Challenges</li></ul> |
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