



Workshop on the Development of a Regional Work Plan to Combat Migrant Smuggling

Presentation of the Proposal: Concept Note



PROGRAMA MESOAMÉRICA:
FORTALECIENDO LAS CAPACIDADES
DE PROTECCIÓN Y ASISTENCIA A

MIGRANTES
EN SITUACIÓN DE
VULNERABILIDAD

Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking

28 November 2017

San Salvador, El Salvador



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

...In regard to the comparative matrixes on legislation relating to migrant smuggling and trafficking and the indicators of compliance with the Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air we suggest the following: :

- To thank the Member Countries that have submitted the information required to complete the comparative matrixes on legislation relating to migrant smuggling and trafficking. The Technical Secretariat (TS) shall soon send a reminder to those Member Countries that have yet to submit the required information.
- To submit to the TS the information required for updating the matrixes on migrant smuggling and trafficking by 21 July 2017.
- To thank and receive the offer of **IOM to provide technical accompaniment in the development, by the TS, of a draft work plan to combat migrant smuggling** of the Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking. **To this effect, IOM shall support the organization of a face-to-face workshop aimed at developing this plan.**

San Salvador, El Salvador
21 June 2017

The different countries have refined intelligence processes to learn more about the criminal activity in their respective territories and have organized **joint operations** to manage specific cases.

However, it seems to be important to **improve a permanent regional platform** with **coordinated resources** to obtain updated information which is shared “in real time” throughout the region.

- The most important aspect of the action plan is that the proposed actions should be **regional and not local**;
- Coordination with other spaces and **non-duplication** shall be promoted, such as the Regional Coalition Against Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling;
- Every action implemented in addressing migrant smuggling should include all countries involved, based on two premises:
 - 1. That all countries are in the most important **migration corridor** worldwide, with continental and transcontinental migration flows;
 - 2. That migrant smuggling activities have been identified in **every RCM Member Country**.

The Workshop – Proposed Methodology

Date/Place	First quarter of 2018 (proposal to be confirmed), Costa Rica.
Participants /Country	Prosecutors; Immigration Directors; Directors of the Immigration Police; Primary Investigators; A Representative of the Regional Coalition Against Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling.
Methodology	Participatory – plenary sessions (guidance/objectives), working groups.
Facilitators	IOM staff members and external experts (UNODC); Technical support by the RCM Technical Secretariat.
Final Deliverable	A draft regional work plan to combat migrant smuggling and trafficking, to be submitted to the Regional Conference on Migration.

Three sections:

- 1. Plenary session:** Regional background, objectives and proposed methodology;
- 2. Group work:** Working groups established according to the central themes of the action plan;
- 3. Plenary session:** Presenting the input from each group in a plenary session.

Each working group will have a facilitator (IOM or a country representative) to guide the technical discussions and generate the various inputs to develop the core of the action plan. Subsequently, the facilitator of each group will present the input of the group at a plenary session before all input is consolidated by IOM and a final draft is submitted for consideration by the Regional Conference of Migration.

A high-ranking official from a country could act as rapporteur of each working group, with support from an IOM staff member, if necessary.

Working Groups: Preliminary Central Themes

1. Intelligence/Investigation: Data Collection and Exchange;
2. Field Operations: Cooperation, Police and Judicial Response;
3. Administrative Detention – Alternatives;
4. Migration Solutions;
5. Prevention and Assistance for Migrants in Vulnerable Situations: Victims (of Related Crimes).

Working Group – Intelligence/Investigation: Examples of Specific Actions

Strategic actions to generate and manage actionable intelligence, by country and between countries (bilateral, multilateral and regional);

Proposing standardized procedures that should be applied once the crime has been detected;

Strategic actions for collaboration and/or sharing (including sensitive issues such as the use of shared networks, computer systems and data bases).

Working Group – Field Operations: Cooperation, Police and Judicial Responses

Developing regional objectives and standards for the execution of interdictions, detention of persons who have violated immigration laws and criminal prosecution of migrant smuggling and related crimes;

Defining a permanent regional training plan for inter-institutional teams, ensuring the exchange of best practices;

Designating a primary focal point to combat migrant smuggling in each RCM Member Country.

Developing regional standards for the establishment and management of detention and retention centres and shelters;

Reviewing policies on alternatives to detention and the "consequences" of lack of compliance with administrative procedures.

Establishing migration solutions for persons victims of migrant smuggling who are not victims of another crime (legislation on repatriation, regularization policies, admission for humanitarian reasons, asylum, processes and coordination).

Developing guidelines for the protection of victims of crimes associated to migrant smuggling (theft, fraud, trafficking in persons, extortion, violence, sexual violence, etc.);

Defining joint prevention actions in the region and cooperation with third countries (campaigns, training, etc.).

Inviting countries from South America that are part of the migration corridor to the first (plenary) session: Incorporate relevant officers from Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia?

Ideas, considerations regarding leadership of the working groups.

.... THANK YOU