**Meeting of the Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking**

**Report from the Meeting of the Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking**

**San Salvador, El Salvador**

**21 June 2017**

The Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking of the Member Countries of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) met on 21 June 2017 in San Salvador, El Salvador with the participation of representatives from Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and the United States and submits its report to the Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM), as follows:

1. To thank the delegations of Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama for the presentations on their reports about advances and challenges in combating migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.
2. In regard to the comparative matrixes on legislation concerning migrant smuggling and trafficking and the indicators for compliance with the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, we suggest:
   1. To thank the RCM Member Countries which have submitted the necessary information to complete the matrixes on Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling. The TS will send a message to the Member Countries in order to remind them about this information.
   2. To send the TS the necessary information for the update of the matrixes on Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling by July 21st, at the latest.
   3. To thank IOM and accept its offer to provide technical accompaniment during the development, by the TS, of a draft the Counter-Smuggling Work Plan of the Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking. To this end, the IOM will support the organization of a workshop for the development of the Plan.
   4. To gracefully recognize the support from RNCOM to work together with the Member Countries, the TS and the IOM for the elaboration of the Plan.
   5. Consider the offer from IOM to draft a proposal of the indicators on the compliance with the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air as a useful tool to monitor the progress on this subject, which would contribute to nourish the Work Plan of this Network.
3. To recognize the opportunity for the RCM Member Countries to share statistical data and information on migrant smuggling and trafficking and to urge them to share this data. To this effect, recommend that the Member Countries submit information on migrant smuggling and human trafficking by July 21st at the latest. Based on the information included in the reports, the TS will draft a proposal. To take note of the support offered by IOM in the elaboration of the products.
4. Take note of the recommendations of the Regional Network for Civil Organizations on Migration (RNCOM) to ensure effective participation of civil society in national and regional spaces, particularly concerning actions to combat migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. In particular, consider the following recommendations of RNCOM:
   1. To make Human Rights and human security central themes within the works of the RCM.
   2. Mitigate myths and fears related to the use of the resources by civil society for the development of initiatives. In this regard, to highlight the importance of facilitating resources for the active participation in the Global Compact on Migration and Global Compact on Refugees consultations.
   3. To build welcoming communities for migrant people in order to have receptive communities in the region.
5. To recognize the need for capacity-building of consular officers of the RCM Member Countries to prevent and combat migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. In this regard, to suggest that the RCGM promote the following lines of action:
   1. Disseminate and strengthen the implementation of the Guide for action relating to trafficking in persons for secretariats and ministries of foreign affairs in Central America and Mexico,
   2. Training for the Consuls using the Guide
   3. Organize a workshop with diplomatic officials in the subject.
   4. Thank IOM for the offer to facilitate a virtual course for the Member Countries.
6. To thank the Regional Coalition against Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling for the presentation and to recognize the importance of the approach between the Regional Coalition and the RCM. In this regard, the Coalition will send an invitation to the RCM for future activities and vice versa.
7. To suggest the RCGM approve of the following new activities to be implemented within the framework of the RCM:
   1. Workshop for Diplomatic officers on the Guide for action relating to trafficking in persons for secretariats and ministries of foreign affairs in Central America and Mexico.
   2. Workshop for the development of the Counter-Smuggling Work Plan of the Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking, to be held in Costa Rica in August 2017.