**MEETING OF THE AD HOC GROUP ON EXTRAREGIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS**

**Panama City, Panama**

**July 13-14, 2016**

The Ad Hoc Group on Extraregional Migration Flows formulated the following conclusions at the meeting held on July 13-14, 2016 in Panama City, Panama, with participation of representatives from Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and the United States:

# CONCLUSIONS

The delegations decided to carry out a range of actions focused on three central themes:

**1. Exchanging information and standardizing tools**

The following actions are proposed, with the purpose of gaining a better understanding of extraregional irregular migration flows in the region:

1. To establish a technical working group, composed of specialized focal points from each country, which will develop the tools and processes to be applied in the region to exchange information concerning extraregional migration flows.

* The names of the specialized focal points will be submitted to the RCM Technical Secretariat (TS) by July 28, 2016.
* The TS will create an online folder to record statistical information and intelligence of each country, in accordance with the legislation of each country.
* The technical team will hold its first online meeting on August 26, 2016.

1. To submit the requested information to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to enable IOM to complete the mapping of the management of extraregional migration flows, including data on national legislation relating to the punishment of carrier companies transporting migrants in an irregular manner.

* In addition, to ask IOM to update the matrix on legislation against migrant smuggling and provide detailed information about compliance with the Palermo Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants.

**2. Establishing mechanisms for dialogue with key actors**

With the aim of furthering the understanding of extraregional irregular migration flows and promoting cooperation with a human right approach:

1. The TS of the RCM will establish contact with the TS of the CSM to invite them to attend a meeting of the Troikas to discuss joint strategies to address extraregional irregular migration flows.

* The Troika will invite the involved countries – Brazil, Ecuador and Columbia – to attend a meeting of this Ad Hoc Group to be held in September of this year.
* The TS will seek financial and technical support for this meeting.

1. To take advantage of the participation of the RCM Member Countries in various forums related to the issues addressed by this Ad Hoc Group, in order to jointly present the situation regarding extraregional irregular migration flows.
2. To ask the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to provide information about infectious and viral diseases in countries of origin of extracontinental migrants.
3. To request that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provide training on the current state of the countries of origin of extraregional migrants.
4. To consider involving other international organizations and civil society in the development of cooperation mechanisms to address extraregional irregular migration flows.
5. To submit a list of consulates and embassies accredited in countries in the region to the TS with the aim of facilitating migration management actions with the diplomatic representations of the countries of origin of migrants.

**3. Actions to discourage extraregional irregular migration**

To promote the use of a narrative with a human rights approach, without criminalizing irregular migrants and with adherence to the law, to ensure orderly, dignified and safe migration.

1. To promote campaigns aimed at discouraging extraregional irregular migration;
2. To request support, through the Technical Secretariat of the RCM, from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to enable countries in the region to jointly promote the campaign “Migrant Smuggling – a Deadly Business” launched in 2015;
3. To support the continuity of joint efforts to combat gangs of migrant smugglers.

**Recommendation for the Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM):**

* To continue to promote the participation of Nicaragua and Belize in the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM).