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**XX VICE-MINISTERIAL MEETING**

**REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION (RCM)**

**Mexico City**

**November 11-12, 2015**

**DECLARATION**

# “Integration, Return and Social and Productive Reintegration of Migrants”

The Vice-Ministers and Heads of Delegations of the Member States of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM), at the XX Vice-Ministerial Meeting held on November 11-12, 2015 in Mexico City with *Integration, Return and Social and Productive Reintegration of Migrants* as the central theme of their discussions:

**Reiterating** the principles of RCM, established in 1996 as a forum to promote regional dialogue, exchange of ideas and experiences for joint reflection and cooperation in migration matters of common interest of Member States;

**Highlighting** the spirit of cooperation and dialogue between Member States as well as the comprehensive, objective and long-term approach to migration, addressing its causes and manifestations in an effective manner;

**Emphasizing** that RCM has proven its usefulness as a forum for reaching understandings and implementing cooperation initiatives that have enabled better addressing the causes, dimensions and consequences of migration without losing sight of human dignity;

**Considering** the active participation of Civil Society Organizations in the CRM dialogue and their contributions to supporting migrants particularly, within the context of integration, return and social and productive reinsertion of migrants;

**Considering** the importance of the central theme of *Integration, Return and Social and Productive Reintegration of Migrants,* with the objective of advancing toward closing the gaps between the situations of undocumented migrants and those that are living in societies of destination in a regular manner, and promoting mechanisms to effectively meet the needs of the returned migrants and their families in order to support their social and productive reintegration in countries of origin,

**DECLARE THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Their willingness to undertake, as appropriate, actions resulting from the dialogue and exchange of experiences, best practices and lessons learned concerning the central theme, as described below:
2. **Integration**

* To promote migration management mechanisms and public policies that allow the socioeconomic integration of migrants as partners in development;
* To provide and disseminate appropriate information about the rights of migrants as well as programmes and integration services for migrants;
* To secure support from the private sector with volunteer programmes;
* To promote capacity-building programmes in countries of origin in order to strengthen the links with the respective diasporas;
* To disseminate information on issues relating to migration and relevant local support programmes with the aim of enabling the integration of migrant communities;
* To consider migrants as agents of development and to recognize their capacities and contributions to the region;
* To work in the communities of origin of migrants to increase opportunities for education, health, employment and security from the perspective of shared responsibility.
* To promote, according to national laws, migration regularization programmes;
* To with civil society, academia and the private sector in order to contribute to the comprehensive analysis of migration and promote actions and programmes aimed at fostering the social, economic and cultural integration of migrants.

1. **Return**

* To incorporate the return of migrants as a priority in public policies of countries as appropriate.
* To implement comprehensive return policies and procedures, with a humane focus that considers the health and safety of migrants;
* To incorporate psychological care and other aspects of culture and identity to the mechanisms of reception of returning migrants, as appropriate.
* To develop contingency plans for responding to emergency situations affecting standard return processes.
* To identify improvements to return procedures to make them more efficient.
* To cooperate, as appropriate, in addressing repatriation cases where it is difficult to identify people.
* To promote improved access to justice and protection of the rights of returning migrants;
* To facilitate the issuance of essential personal identity documents, particularly for returning migrants in vulnerable situations such as migrant boys, girls, adolescents and victims of trafficking;
* To consider developing effective public policies adjusted to the realities of each country in terms of the security and safety of the returned migrants;
* To improve processes to accompany returning migrants to their countries of origin;
* To strengthen regional coordination mechanisms with the aim of improving the programmes for the orderly and safe return of migrants;
* To promote mechanisms that enable, in the context of return, preventing vulnerabilities and risks.

1. **Social and Productive Reintegration**

* To improve coordination between different levels of government in regard to assistance to returning migrants and promote their comprehensive insertion and reinsertion;
* To develop programs for the special attention of young people, including educational, cultural and employment opportunities.
* To strengthen and expand infrastructure and training in the labour markets in the countries of return, with the objective of meeting the demand for employment generated by the returned migrants;
* To strengthen the networks of returned migrants with the aim of identifying social and financial incentives to promote their reintegration;
* To promote the establishment of credit plans for small and medium enterprises and housing for returned migrants;
* To promote efforts to foster programmes on assistance for returned migrants, with support from the private sector and civil society;
* To consider involving international and civil society organizations in the development of institutional cooperation programmes aimed at supporting the reintegration of returned migrants;
* To strengthen investment programmes in order to promote development and harness the potential of the returned migrants;
* To facilitate academic recognition or validation of education received abroad;
* To monitor the reintegration processes of the returned migrants;
* To promote the recognition of skills and qualifications of the returned migrants;
* To explore the possibility of establishing employment bureaus in the repatriation centres, in coordination with private enterprises, with the aim of promoting appropriate job offers.

1. To recognize RNCOM as an important ally of the RCM and seek their support in strengthening the dialogue and cooperation.
2. To grant UNICEF the status of international observer organization in the RCM in recognition of the contributions and collaboration, especially in programs for the care of children and young migrants.
3. To thank all the international organizations for their continued support to the Conference and their willingness to continue collaborating and cooperating.
4. To support the Government of Honduras for taking the Presidency Pro-Témpore of the Regional Conference on Migration for 2016.