



REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION

"Fostering and strengthening regional dialogue and cooperation"

III Quarterly Report
(June, July, August 2018)

September, 2018

Financial and Activity Report

Financial and Activity Report

Presented by the Technical Secretariat

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Introduction

Section 1 describes actions implemented by the Technical Secretariat (TS) from June 2018 to August 2018, including general support for meetings relating to the work of the RCM, participation at various meetings, and support provided to the Government of El Salvador in its capacity of Presidency Pro-Témpore (PPT), among other activities.

Section 2 includes the financial report, including TS' budget execution for the period of June 2017 to August 2018, and the status of contributions of the Member Countries to the budget of the TS and the fund to assist the return of intraregional migrants in highly vulnerable situations – managed directly by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).



Section 1: Activities

During this period, the Technical Secretariat (TS) actively participated in joint activities with governmental and non-governmental bodies; as well as in the meetings previously scheduled within the framework of the RCM.

1.1 Activities held within the RCM Framework

1. Workshop on the prevention and assistance to migrants and people displaced across borders in the context of disasters (Mexico City 6-7 June, 2018)

With the support of the Platform for Disaster Displacement (PDD) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the “Workshop on prevention, assistance and collaboration with migrants in the context of natural disasters” was held in Mexico City, on June 6-7, 2018.

The workshop’s objective was to contribute to the strengthening of capacities of the Regional Conference on Migration Member Countries regarding the protection of migrant people, and displaced people among borders, in the context of natural disasters.

Besides, challenges and best practices regarding assistance and protection of resident or migrant people in transit in situations of disasters were identified, based on particular experiences as the Mexican one regarding the assistance of migrant people during the earthquakes in September 2017 and get to know the general provisions, principles, achievements and application opportunities of the “*Guide to effective practices for RCM Member Countries. Protection for persons moving across borders in the context of disasters*” and the Agenda for the Protection of cross-border persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change (Protection Agenda).

Participants expressed condolences and solidarity with the Government and peoples of Guatemala, due to the natural disaster caused by the eruption of the Fuego Volcano on 3 June 2018.

2. Virtual meeting for the reviewing of the Document on Migrant Women (25 June)

In preparation for the RCGM meeting and in coordination with IOM, a virtual meeting was held aimed at reviewing the documents and establishing the working route of the document on migrant women.



3. Workshop on the Regional Workshop of Exchange of Experiences on Assistance Programs for the Voluntary Return of Migrants in Vulnerable Situations in the Member Countries of the RCM (Panama City, July 16-17, 2018)

Within the Mesoamerica Program, and with the objective of developing capacity for a comprehensive migration governance that includes the protection and assistance to migrants in situations of vulnerability throughout the migration process, IOM is mapping assistance programs for the voluntary return of vulnerable migrants that have been implemented by the member countries of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) in order to assist their fellow citizens abroad, and/or to provide assistance to immigrants who are in their territory.



Within the framework of this regional study, IOM proposes a workshop to exchange best practices and experiences in order to socialize and encourage discussion on the preliminary findings of the mapping of existing programs, initiatives or funds for assistance to migrants in situations of vulnerability, with an emphasis on voluntary return programs.

This workshop focused on voluntary returns. Particularly, special emphasis will be placed on cases that require State assistance for these voluntary returns, defined by the IOM as Assisted Voluntary Return.

The workshop focused on the funds and programs implemented by the States (or local governments if applicable) in the region, as well as on the study of regional funds, such as the "Reserve Fund for the return of highly vulnerable migrants" of the RCM and the "Assistance and Assisted Voluntary Return Fund" implemented by IOM in the region through the Mesoamerica Program.

4. Workshop to Evaluate the RCM and Generate Proposal for the RCM (Panama City, 17th – 18th July, 2018)



Following up on Decision #11, resulting from the XXII Vice-Ministerial Meeting, held in San Salvador, El Salvador on 29th – 30th November 2017, which reads: *"To accept the proposal of the United States to conduct an evaluation of the RCM 22 years after its inception. To this end and considering the importance of having a balance of successes and failures, the Technical Secretariat under the guidance of the PPT and with support of the IOM, is charged with the task of preparing an assessment document, with a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)*

approach. This document will be the point of departure of the assessment to be carried out." In compliance with this Vice-Ministerial Decision, the *Workshop for the evaluation process and the generation of proposals on the RCM relaunch* was held in Panama City, with the support of a consultancy hired by IOM.

5. Meeting of the Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM) (Panama City, July 19th -20nd, 2018)

The Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM) held its first annual meeting in Panama City last June. During this meeting, almost all Member Countries of the RCM participated, except for Belize, as well as observer organizations and members of civil society.



On July 19th, after midday, the Network for the Protection of Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents, gathered for the second time vis-a-vis. Subsequently, on Wednesday 20th, the Network for Consular Protection and the Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons met simultaneously.

In view of the reports submitted by the three networks, the RCGM met on 19th – 20th July to deliberate and reflect on the main steps to be taken in the framework of the RCM to fully comply with the various commitments made within this context. In that sense, a series of conclusions and recommendations emerged from this meeting to be presented later on during the Vice-Ministerial meeting.

6. Meeting on the following up of the RCM Evaluation (Panama City, 7 August 2018)



Following up on Conclusion #13 from the Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM), held in Panama City on 19-20 July 2018, which reads:

13. Regarding the evaluation process and the generation of proposals on the RCM relaunch:

- a. To update the RCM mandate and facilitate a discussion on policies among Member Countries, at all levels of this consultation process on the most relevant topics for the region.*
- b. To entrust the Presidency Pro-Témpore the drafting of a base strategic document (Chair´s Proposal) to be presented to the Vice-Ministers.*
- c. The PPT´s strategic document (Chair´s Proposal) would contain a proposal for a mandate and guiding principles of the RCM, taking into consideration the possibility of drafting a constitutional act, with support from the consultant, the TS and the IOM.*
- d. Distribute the proposal early in September.*

- e. *To submit the Technical Secretariat, by 3 August at the latest, a list of key topics to be included into the strategic document.*

A working meeting was held on 7 August in Panama City, with the PPT, the Technical Secretariat and IOM, aimed at elaborating a proposal for the RCM relaunch (Chair 's Proposal).

7. RCM Troika Meeting (Panama City, 16 August 2018)

The Government of Panama, as Presidency Pro-Tempore, sponsored a meeting of the RCM Troika, which included the participation of Mr. Luis Miguel Hincapié, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Panama and President Pro-Tempore, Mr. Pablo César García, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala and Mrs. Liduvina Magarín, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador.



The Vice-Ministers, with the support of their technical teams and the Technical Secretariat, addressed the following topics: Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, with a view to the meeting in Morocco; Agenda 2030 and SDGs; RCM Evaluation and RCM Work Plan, among others.

8. Virtual Meeting for the RCM Troika (20 August 2018)

Following up on the Troika's meeting held in Panama City last 16 August and in compliance to the Vice-Ministerial Decisions, the virtual meeting with the Troika's technical teams was held in order to analyze and discuss the PPT Proposal "*Strategy Paper: Proposal for the Relaunch of the RCM.*"

9. Virtual Meeting of the Drafting Committee on the Guidelines on Migrant Women (24, 31 August, and 7 September 2018)

In compliance with the RCGM Conclusions during the meeting in Panama, a series of virtual meetings of the Drafting Committee of the Document on Migrant Women's Guidelines have been held. The drafting committee is composed of El Salvador, Panama and Costa Rica. During the virtual meetings, Mexico and Guatemala were actively incorporated.

10. Workshop to elaborate guidelines to mainstream and regionalize the SDGs in the migration governance” (28th – 29th August 2018, Panama City)

The Presidency Pro Tempore, held by the Government of Panama for the current year, has set as its general objective the promotion of “improved migration governance through mainstreaming the SDGs into the work of the RCM and regionalizing them.”

Consequently, the Presidency Pro Tempore held by Panama, has requested IOM’s cooperation for the development of lines of actions for the RCM to mainstream migration into the 2030 Agenda.



As a starting point, a regional assessment about the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the mainstreaming of migration in its implementation was held. The assessment findings shared during the first workshop that summoned by the PPT in Panama City on 27th – 28th August of this year. The workshop was an opportunity for the identification of possible lines of actions for the mainstreaming of migration into the 2030 Agenda.

Besides, a second workshop will be held on October 2nd – 3rd in Panama City, during which a proposal about the lines of actions will be presented to be taken into consideration and subsequently validated.

Section 2: Financial Report

The following table shows the budget execution of the Technical Secretariat for the period from June to August 2018, in accordance with the Vice-Ministerial Decision #5 of the XXI RCM, for the TS to prepare quarterly reports.

Budget Execution (June – August 2017)

Personal / Staff

Coordinador(a) / Coordinator	\$20,347.65
Especialista en tecnología de información / Information technology specialist	\$19,763.36
Asistente de Proyecto / Project assistant	\$8,618.71
Otro personal de apoyo / Other support staff	\$0.00
Emolumentos terminales (8%) / Terminal emoluments (8%)	\$2,923.77
Subtotal	\$51,653.49

Gastos operativos / Operating expenses

I. Soporte para seminarios y reuniones (traducción e interpretación) / Support for seminars and meetings (translation and interpretation)	\$1,555.00
1. Traducción escrita / Written translation	\$1,555.00
2. Interpretación / Interpretation	\$0.00
3. Gastos misceláneos / Miscellaneous expenses	\$0.00
II. Gastos de oficina / Office expenses	\$6,331.55
1. Renta y servicios de seguridad / Rental and security services	\$5,461.23
2. Servicios Comunes / Common services	\$753.58
3. Suministros de oficina / Office supplies	\$116.74
III. Equipo y acceso a Internet / Equipment and Internet access	\$193.47
IV. Documentos y traducción / Documents and translation	\$261.00
V. Viajes y viáticos / Travel and per diem	\$9,913.83
VI. Gastos Misceláneos / Miscellaneous expenses	\$153.66
VII. Costos de administración de la OIM (5%) / IOM overhead costs (5%)	\$3,503.13
Subtotal	\$14,025.09
Total	\$73,565.13

The status of Member Countries' contributions up to August 2018 is detailed as follows:

Country	Total amount budgeted from 2017	Amount owed to 2016	Contribution Pending 2017	Total amount pending (including 2018)
Belize ¹	\$5,500.00	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,500.00
Canada	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00
Costa Rica	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,237.11
Dominican Republic	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00	\$11,000.00
El Salvador	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00
Guatemala ²	\$5,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,500.00	\$16,000.00
Honduras	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00
Mexico	\$37,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$20.00
Nicaragua ³	\$5,500.00	\$3000.00	\$538.61	\$3,538.61
Panama	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00
United States ⁴	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150,000.00
	\$306,500.00	\$33,000.00	\$17,038.61	\$304,755.72

¹ Belize has outstanding payments since 2012 inclusive, except the contribution for 2017.

² Guatemala is due to pay its contribution for 2013 because it was outside the agreement signed between Guatemala and IOM for the financial support of the RCM and the Reserve Fund for the assistance of intraregional migrants in situations of high vulnerability.

³ According to IOM records, an amount of \$2,000 dollars from Nicaragua as part of the contribution to the RCM for 2016 was registered.

⁴ United States contribution will be included in the Western Hemisphere Project 2018, administrated by IOM.

Status of contributions to the Reserve Fund for the assistance of intraregional migrants in situations of high vulnerability:

Country	Annual amount budgeted	Amount owed to 2016	Contribution pending 2017	Total amount pending (including 2018)
Belize	\$1,062.00	\$5,310.00	\$1,062.00	\$7,434.00
Canada ⁵	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	NA
Costa Rica	\$1,062.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dominican Republic	\$1,062.00	\$0.00	\$1,062.00	\$2,124.00
El Salvador	\$1,062.00	\$0.00	\$62.00	\$124.00
Guatemala ⁶	\$1,062.00	\$897.92	\$1,062.00	\$3,021.92
Honduras	\$1,062.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,062.00
Mexico	\$7,080.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Nicaragua ⁷	\$1,062.00	\$0.00	-\$938.00	-\$2,176.00
Panama ⁸	\$1,062.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,062.00
United States ⁵	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	NA
	\$60,576.00	\$6,207.92	\$3,248.00	\$13,765.92

⁵ Canada and the United States reported they wanted to guide their contributions to the strengthening of the RCM capacities from 2018, so no further provision is given to the Reserve Fund for the assistance of intraregional migrants in situations of high vulnerability.

⁶ Guatemala is due to pay its contribution for 2013 because it was outside the agreement signed between Guatemala and IOM for the financial support of the RCM and the Reserve Fund for the assistance of intraregional migrants in situations of high vulnerability.

⁷ According to IOM records, an amount of \$2,300 dollars from Nicaragua as part of the contribution to the Reserve Fund for the assistance of intraregional migrants in situations of high vulnerability, with a positive balance \$938 dollars. For 2018, according to IOM records, an amount of \$2,300 dollars from Nicaragua as part of the contribution to the Reserve Fund for the assistance of intraregional migrants in situations of high vulnerability, with a remaining positive balance of \$2,176 dollars.

⁸ Panama paid the 2019 fee in advance in 2018.

Credits

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