**CENTRAL AMERICAN COMMISSION OF MIGRATION DIRECTORS (OCAM)**

**A Summary of the Agreements Signed by OCAM Relating to Extracontinental and Cuban Migration Flows through the Central American Region**

**2011-2016**

**2011**

**XXXIV Ordinary Meeting of OCAM, Nicaragua, May 2011**

**Agreement**:

1. *To follow up on the topic of extracontinental migration flows.*

**2012**

**XXXVI Ordinary Meeting of OCAM, Costa Rica, May 2012:**

1. *To consolidate the position of OCAM regarding the topic of extracontinental migration flows in the Ad Hoc Group established within the framework of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) in Panama in March 2012.*
2. *To develop a proposal to address extracontinental irregular migration, its problems and potential solutions of each country with the aim of harmonizing criteria to address this issue at a regional level, considering the recommendations derived from the Study on Extracontinental Migration Flows in the Region, with the objective of submitting it, as OCAM, to the Regional Consultation Group on Migration (RCGM) of the RCM.*
3. *To take note of the initial contact of IOM/UNHCR with some countries of origin, within the framework of the recommendations from the Study on Extracontinental Migration Flows in the Region.*
4. *To ask the* ***Permanent Technical Committee*** *to establish an Ad Hoc Group, with the accompaniment of the Technical Secretariat, to analyse the problems related to irregular migration flows of Cubans in the Central American region and to develop a strategy to address these migration flows at a regional level.*
5. *To explore, through the Technical Secretariat, the possibility of the inclusion of OCAM in the agenda of the Global Forum on Migration and Development with the topic “Irregular Extracontinental and Cuban Migration Flows”.*

**XXXV Ordinary Meeting of OCAM, El Salvador, December 2012:**

**Agreement**:

1. *To ratify the interest in participating in the meeting of the Ad Hoc Group established within the framework of the RCM, to be held in El Salvador in February 2012.*
2. *To reiterate the interest in celebrating the first meeting of OCAM with CONOSUR in 2012, including the topic of extracontinental migrants in the Central American region in the agenda.*

**2014**

**XXII Extraordinary Meeting of OCAM, Chile, November 2014**

**Agreements**:

1. *To develop a joint proposal to establish the necessary coordination between migration offices to promptly address this common situation and to submit the proposal to relevant South American authorities. Costa Rica will provide support in the development of the proposal.*
2. *To welcome the interest of the Migration and Immigration Office of Cuba to attend the next ordinary meeting of OCAM, with the following agenda items to be developed:*
3. *Status of irregular migration of Cubans through the countries in the region on their journey toward the United States;*
4. *Structure of the networks supporting migrant smuggling, actions to combat them and assistance to victims of this crime;*
5. *The updating of Cuban migration policies and the impact on Cuban migration flows;*
6. *The Cuban Adjustment Act as a driver of irregular migration of Cubans;*
7. *Entry and stay requirements for foreign nationals in Cuba.*

*In addition, the Board of OCAM, requests that the Migration and Immigration Office include an agenda item on migration security policies implemented in Cuba.*

**XXXIX Ordinary Meeting of OCAM, Nicaragua, December 2014**

**Agreements**:

1. *To thank Mr Mario Méndez Mayedo, First Second Head of the Identification, Migration and Immigration Office of Cuba (DIE), for his special participation, presenting the success achieved through the new migration policy; the implementation of a unified migration identification system; the integration of travel document issuance processes and the implementation of security mechanisms of the multi-biometric platform. To thank IOM for the support to facilitate the participation of Cuba in this meeting.*

**2015**

**XXIII Extraordinary Meeting of OCAM, Costa Rica, May 2015**

**Agreements:**

1. *In regard to the response to Cuban and extracontinental migration flows, the following is agreed:*
2. *To address Cuban and extracontinental migration flows separately.*
3. *To inform the Regional Office of IOM that OCAM considers that it is important to follow up on the agreement reached at the meeting of the RCM held in Washington, to address these migration flows and maintain contact with Mexico and Washington.*

**XL Ordinary Meeting of OCAM, Costa Rica, March 2015**

**Agreements**:

1. *To take up again the issue of Cuban and extracontinental migration flows with the aim of developing an integrated strategy, through an Extraordinary Meeting to review the approach to address these migration flows. The meeting will be held in the first half of 2015.*

**XLI Ordinary Meeting of OCAM, Costa Rica, October 2015**

**Agreements**:

1. *To recognize that the current situation of irregular Cuban and extracontinental migration flows has an impact on the countries in the region as a transit corridor toward the countries of destination and constitutes a challenge in terms of actions to address irregular migration. In this regard, the following is agreed:*
   1. *To officially inform the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Council of Ministers of the Interior, Justice and/or Public Security about the proposed approach to address these migration flows, through the General Secretariat of SICA. The Technical Secretariat will send a note to SICA to this end.*
   2. *To position politically, within each country, the proposal to address these migration flows. In addition, to jointly submit the proposal to the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) and the South American Conference on Migration (CSM), as well as other regional forums considered to be relevant. Furthermore, to ask the Technical Secretariat to share the proposal with these forums.*
2. *To request that Mexico inform OCAM about the number of Cuban nationals who have entered and left the country this year, as well as the number of Cuban nationals that are staying in Mexico, with the aim of checking the information against the statistical data provided by the other countries in the region.*

**2016**

**XLII Ordinary Meeting of OCAM, Panama, June 2016**

**Agreements:**

1. *In regard to the topic of Cuban and extracontinental flows, the following is agreed:*

* *To thank the Migration Office of Colombia, the National Institute of Migration (INM) of Mexico, and ICE for the presentation on the status of Cuban and extracontinental migration flows.*
* *To request that IOM develop a critical mapping on response mechanisms being implemented in each country with the aim of identifying how persons enter, what documents they obtain, what procedures are applied for rejection, detention, deportation, etc.*
* *To schedule a meeting of the President Pro Tempore with the Government of Cuba, with the objective of fostering renewed contact between the Government of Cuba and OCAM to propose cooperation mechanisms.*
* *To request that IOM analyse the matrix for the exchange of information about migrant smuggling networks proposed by Mexico to enable the Member Countries of OCAM to use the matrix.*