



PLAN OF ACTION REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION (RCM)

Notes:
 1. Updated by the Technical Secretariat, November 26th, 2009
 2. Actions carried out more than 2 years ago are compiled in a **Historical Plan of Action**

(Note: Items in **bold** and *italics* mean: active, ongoing, or pending input)

TOPICS	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	ACTIVITIES	SCHEDULE
MIGRATION POLICY AND MANAGEMENT	1. To develop, review, and implement a national migration policy based on national interests, the dynamics of the phenomenon of migration, and commitments agreed during the First Regional Conference on Migration, held in Puebla, Mexico.	1.1 To exchange information about migration policy and legislation. 1.2 To consider and promote, when appropriate, consultations prior to adopting migration actions affecting the countries in the region, particularly those states sharing borders, with full respect of the national sovereignty of each country. 1.3 To share experiences about alternative inspection programs.	1.1.1 Information exchange within the framework of the Liaison Officer Networks 1.2.1 In preparing for each RCGM meeting, member countries will submit their input to IOM regarding changes made to policies, legislation, and regulations relating to migration. IOM will prepare a comparative matrix, updated bi-annually, for each RCGM. 1.3.1 Ongoing training for consular and migration officers.	1.1.1.1 Ongoing 1.2.1.1 Ongoing 1.2.1.1. The following workshop will be held in Guatemala, dates to be defined
	2. To identify basic norms relating to information, issuance, and security of migration documents at a regional level.	2.1 To analyze existing criteria regarding basic norms for information, issuance, and security of migration documents at a regional level. To develop joint training actions as an ongoing activity of the RCM.	2.1.1 Training workshops. 2.2.1 IOM manual on the detection of fraudulent documents.	2.1.1.1 Ongoing 2.2.1.1 In progress
	3. To strengthen the fight against migrant smuggling and trafficking, with the aim of eradicating this crime.	3.1 To establish a mechanism for the Presidency Pro-Tempore to follow up on the activities of the network.	3.1.1 The technical secretariat supports the Presidency Pro-Tempore in following up on the activities of the network. <i>Refer to the work plan for the Traffic Network</i>	3.1.1.1 Ongoing
	4. To strengthen cooperation to combat migrant smuggling and trafficking in order to ensure that our borders are safe and secure.	4.1 To request that a proposal for a regional work plan be urgently developed based on country case studies on migrant smuggling and trafficking carried out in the region.	<i>Refer to the work plan for the Traffic Network</i>	
	5. To promote a better understanding to raise public awareness about the negative impact of migrant smuggling and trafficking.	5.1. To use means to publish the results from efforts and programs to prevent migrant smuggling and trafficking.	<i>Refer to the work plan for the Traffic Network</i>	
	6. To strengthen coordination between governments and international organizations in processes relating to the return of migrants in an irregular status.	6.1 To establish coordination mechanisms for matters relating to consular protection and national legislations. 6.2 To strengthen communication channels between governments and international organizations in order to implement migration actions that adjust to the real situation of migrants, with the aim of facilitating and expediting the return of migrants. 6.3 To encourage information sharing regarding procedures for the return of migrants that have shown to be effective.	<i>Refer to the work plan for the Consular Network</i> 6.2.1 Return of Migrants in Highly Vulnerable Situations (Fund executed by the IOM) 6.3.1 Information exchange within the framework of the Liaison Officer Networks and RNCOM.	6.2.1.1 Ongoing 6.3.1.1 Ongoing



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MIGRATION POLICY AND MANAGEMENT	7. To develop a regional strategy and approach to facilitate the return of migrants with irregular status while strengthening coordination between our authorities, in order to ensure a safe, dignified, and orderly return.	7.1 Dignified, safe, and orderly return of regional migrants by land. 7.2 To continue evaluating the multilateral cooperation program for the assisted return of extra-regional migrants stranded in RCM member countries and to procure funds to finance the return of migrants, including funds from international organizations. 7.3 To take on joint efforts with airlines to reduce airfares and facilitate the return processes.	7.1.1 Monitor the implementation of the "Memorandum of Understanding Between the Governments of the United States of Mexico, the Republic of El Salvador, the Republic of Guatemala, the Republic of Honduras and the Republic of Nicaragua, for the Dignified, Prompt, and Safe Repatriation of Central American Migrants by Land". 7.1.2 Regional Guidelines for the Assistance to Unaccompanied Children in Cases of Repatriation 7.2.1 Execute the Multilateral Cooperation Program for the Assisted Return of Extra-Regional Migrants Stranded within Member Countries of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) or Puebla Process. 7.2.2. To establish initial contact with member countries and potential donors to procure funds 7.3.1. To request that IOM submit a report on actions taken together with airlines to reduce airfares and facilitate the return of migrants.	7.1.1.1 Ongoing 7.1.2.1 Ongoing 7.2.1.1 In accordance with country's agreements 7.2.2.1 Ongoing 7.3.1.1 IOM prepared a report for the RCGM, Vancouver, March 2005, on the mechanism to use reduced airfares – a joint effort with airlines.
	8. Technical cooperation to acquire equipment and to modernize information, control, and security systems.	8.1 Strengthen the capacity of special systems for migration management.	8.1.1 Equipment, software, and infrastructure provisions.	8.1.1.1 Ongoing
	9. Technical cooperation to train specialized staff from government institutions that are involved in matters relating to migration.	9.1 To train government officers on migration-related matters.	9.1.1 Seminars, workshops, conferences, and other events of the sort, in accordance with the topic at hand.	9.1.1.1 Ongoing
	10. Technical cooperation for the reintegration of returned migrants.	10.1 To develop projects for social and labor reinsertion of returned migrants.	10.1.1 To sponsor social reintegration projects.	10.1.1.1 With cooperation from the U.S., two pilot projects have been launched in El Salvador and Honduras, respectively, to assist migrants returning from the United States of America.
	11. To promote linkages with other regional consultation processes on migration and other international fora.	11.1 To address or manage linkages with other fora on migration related issues.	11.1.1 To prepare a schedule establishing, dates and other specific steps that can be taken by RCM to participate more actively in other forums and conferences that are of interest to the Conference. 11.1.2 PPT/TS participation in various fora, such as FYBEMID, CSM, CEAM, etc.	11.1.1.1 Ongoing—the schedule has been prepared and published at the RCM Virtual Secretariat since 2003. 11.2.1.1 Ongoing – the guidelines regarding this type of participation will be determined at the XIV RCM in Guatemala.



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HUMAN RIGHTS	1. To fully respect existing provisions on human rights of migrants, regardless of their migration status, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 and other relevant international instruments.	1.1 To adopt regional cooperation actions to prevent and combat violations of human rights of migrants. 1.2 To disseminate information about human rights of migrants – including refugees – with the aim of raising public awareness as a means to promote respect for the dignity of migrants and refugees, counteract anti-migrant attitudes, and eradicate illegal acts against them.	1.1.1 Seminars, workshops, campaigns - refer to the work plan for the Consular Network <i>Refer to the work plan for the Consular Network</i>	1.1.1.1 Ongoing 1.2.1.1 Ongoing
	2. To strengthen the respect for human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, with a special focus on vulnerable groups such as women, boys, and girls.	2.1 To treat migrants appropriately with a special focus on special needs of women, children, the elderly, and the disabled, including their protection. 2.2 To promote regional consultation forums on consular protection of migrants. 2.3 Monitor the network's activities and those carried out by the Presidency Pro-Témpore. 2.4 To promote regional meetings of immigration authorities, ministries of foreign affairs, and departments from other human rights state institutions with NGOs interested in protecting human rights of migrants.	2.1.1 This population is assisted through the RCM Fund for Migrants in Highly Vulnerable Situations. 2.1.2 To train involved officers (IOM and UNHCR). <i>Refer to the work plan for the Consular Network</i> 2.3.1 To present written reports on efforts relating to consular protection and to identify the training needs and opportunities for consular officers. 2.4.1. Member countries can propose seminars or workshops on this topic. 2.4.2 To hold a workshop on gender and migration within three years and every 3 years thereafter, to provide an approach to gender and migration discussions, including topics such as migrant women, refugee women, and gender-based violence on a regional base, and to stimulate national capacities. 2.4.3 To create a space for gender and migration at the virtual secretariat, on the RCM website, including a list of contacts, documents, and information to facilitate information sharing on research about topics relating to gender and migration and to encourage networking and information associations among women's groups, labor organizations, academic institutions, and other experts within the context of RCM objectives.	2.1.1.1 Ongoing 2.1.2.1 Ongoing 2.2.1.1 Ongoing 2.3.1.1 Ongoing. refer to the work plan for the Consular Network 2.4.1.1 Ongoing – Honduras and RNCOM proposed a seminar on human rights, to be held in 2010. 2.4.2.1 Ongoing, every three years 2.4.3.1 Pending
	3. To advance international protection of refugees.	3.1 To highlight the fundamental difference – in accordance with international legislation – between protection to refugees, on one hand, and to migrants, on the other hand. 3.2 With support from UNHCR, to carry out training sessions for immigration officers and border police officers on national legislation and human rights of refugees. 3.3 To promote the exchange of best practices and capacity building in the region through workshops or other initiatives.	3.1.1 Seminars, workshops, campaigns - refer to the work plan for each network. 3.2.1 Seminars, workshops, campaigns - refer to the work plan for each network 3.3.1 Seminars, workshops, campaigns - refer to the work plan for each network	3.1.1.1 Ongoing 3.2.1.1 Ongoing 3.3.1.1 Ongoing
	4. To promote activities in the area of "Migration and Health".	4.1 To identify programs and projects to be included in this Plan of Action.	<i>Refer to the work plan for the Consular Network</i>	4.1.1.1 Ongoing



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HUMAN RIGHTS	5. To disseminate information about human rights of migrants including refugees.	5.1 Raise public awareness as a means to promote respect for the dignity of migrants and refugees, through information campaigns that allow for the promotion of a denunciation culture in order to eradicate illegal actions against the rights of this population.	5.1.1 Seminars, workshops, campaigns - refer to the work plan for each network	5.1.1.1 Ongoing
LINK BETWEEN MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT	1. To promote a better understanding of the regional phenomenon of migration through a comprehensive, objective, and long-term approach regarding origin, manifestations, and impacts of migration in the region.	1.1 To share experiences and lessons learned in matters of migration and economic development. 1.2 To study the possibility of establishing links with other cooperation processes relating to matters of migration and development.	1.1.1 Seminars, workshops, campaigns - refer to the work plan for each network 1.2.1 See activities under objective 12 of the topic "Policy and Migration Management" of this Plan of Action.	1.1.1.1 Ongoing 1.2.1.1 Ongoing
	2. To encourage the exchange of relevant statistics on temporary migrant workers and other migration flows linked to migration and the positive contributions of migrants to both origin and destination countries.	2.1 To favor activities on the matter	2.1.1 Seminars, workshops, campaigns - refer to the work plan for each network	2.1.1.1 Ongoing
	3. To carry out activities in the area of "Integration and Insertion of Migrants".	3.1 To document best practices in matters relating to integration of migrants in receiving countries and reinsertion of migrants in countries of origin.	3.1.1 Seminars, workshops, campaigns - refer to the work plan for each network	3.1.1.1 Ongoing
	4. To increase "border cooperation". NOTE: THE TS PROPOSES ELIMINATING THIS OBJECTIVE FROM THE PLAN OF ACTION SINCE NO CONCRTER ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT IN THIS TOPIC.	4.1 To carry out activities to promote joint border management and control.	4.1.1 To share information about cooperation activities.	4.1.1.1 Ongoing