

Template for Notetaking for the IMRF virtual side-events

Date and time: May 19th, 2022, 12:30 pm GTM-6

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Notes of the session	Member State/UN/Stakeholder
<p>General event highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration needs to be addressed as a region and not individually. International technical and financial cooperation need to be strengthened. • The Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) has carried out activities and developed products aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Global Compact for Migration. • The RCM recognizes the Global Compact as a key instrument for managing safe, orderly, and regular migration. • Some RCM Member Countries have created internal mechanisms to follow up the implementation of the Global Compact objectives. • The Member Countries are working to improve health, economic, and labor opportunities, as well as security conditions to address the structural drivers of migration. • The Member Countries highlighted the need to create more labor migration mechanisms. • Among the challenges identified, the lack of human, material, and financial resources, lack of staff training on gender, and lack of coordination between institutions, among others, were mentioned. • As further steps, it was suggested that a follow-up mechanism be developed within the RCM to identify progress in the fulfillment of these priorities and to serve as a basis for the Regional Action Plan for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration. 	<p>Identify the MS/group of MS/UN entity/Stakeholder</p> <p>RCM Member Countries</p> <p>RCM Observer International Bodies and Organizations: IOM, UNHCR, ILO, UNICEF, UNODC.</p> <p>Regional Network of Civil Society Organizations for Migration (RNCOM)</p>



- The shared responsibility principle is critical to addressing migration in the region.

Summary (500 words max)

Introduction

Regional Context:

- In 2021, remittances accounted for up to 26% of GDP in some countries in the region.
- In 2021, more than 130,000 migrants of different nationalities crossed the Darien gap.
- The region of the RCM countries is an important transit zone, where irregular migrants face great risks, including trafficking, smuggling, and disappearing.
- In 2021 and 2022 despite the pandemic, there has been an increasing demand for regular migration pathways.

Regional Prioritization – RCM Extraordinary Declaration before the IMRF, December 2021

Within the framework of the RCM, two workshops were held to identify regional progress and priorities in implementing the Global Compact for Migration.

In the II Workshop, regional priorities were identified using the following methodology: a template for Member Countries to systematize their progress and challenges, and an online survey in which countries, civil society, and other stakeholders identified priorities related to the Global Compact.

As a result of this II Workshop, the Member Countries adopted an Extraordinary Declaration identifying regional priorities:

Thematic pillar 1 – Migrant protection such as saving lives and access to basic services, proof of legal identity, consular protection, and assistance

Thematic pillar 2 – Regular pathways, combatting trafficking and smuggling, border management

Thematic pillar 3 – Adverse drivers and sustainable development

Cross-cutting areas – Data and international cooperation

Panel discussion



Regional best practices related to the Global Compact were identified in preparation for the IMRF and published in the UN Migration Network [Repository of Practices](#):

- Dialogue on the Assistance to **Migrant Women**
- Operational Guide for **Best Interests of Children and Adolescents**
- Diploma on **Labor Migration**
- Increasing **participation of stakeholders from the labor sector** in the RCM
- Guide for Protection in the Context of **Disasters**
- **Migration Information Portal**
- Work Plan on **Migrant Smuggling** (to be published)

Interventions from the floor

Guatemala: Beyond an evaluation every 4 years, it is necessary to redouble efforts to strengthen the protection of people's human rights throughout the migration cycle. The RCM is of great value as a consolidated mechanism to support migration governance. The RCM is an articulating arm to harmonize actions linked to the Global Compact.

Mexico: Has followed up on the Global Compact objectives in an inter-institutional manner. It has created executive reports on progress in its implementation. Challenges to achieving the objectives include: lack of material, human and financial resources, need to train public servants to raise awareness on the gender perspective, and coordination with local governments.

Canada: Comments on the importance of labor migration and the creation of more mechanisms. Announced financial support for this issue in the region.

El Salvador: Emphasizes the importance of Labor Migration Policies to contribute to migration management. It also highlights the importance of addressing structural drivers, focusing on the local level and youth. It is working to create the conditions to face the challenges of migration by addressing health, education, security, agriculture, economy.

Throughout the event, Member Countries and Observer Organizations highlighted the importance of shared responsibility and the need to define steps to continue and improve the implementation of the 23 objectives of the Global Compact.