

NATIONAL CONSULTATION

NATIONAL POSITION OF HONDURAS REGARDING THE GLOBAL COMPACT

FOR SAFE, ORDERLY, AND REGULAR MIGRATION (GCM)



GOBIERNO DE LA
REPÚBLICA DE HONDURAS



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INTRODUCTION

The Government of Honduras, by way of the Secretariat for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (SRECI), and being aware of the importance of formulating a national position to contribute to the Preparatory Phase leading to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM), requested cooperation from the IOM to facilitate a training activity for an inter-institutional commission, in order to prepare a national consultation process to formulate said national position.

The IOM responded to said request and immediately began organizing a training and guideline definition event, which was held on 10-11 July 2017. The SRECI convened governmental officials from ten institutions (Secretariat of Labor and Social Security; Inter-Institutional Commission to Combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons; Secretariat for Development and Social Inclusion; National Migration Institute; Secretariat for Human Rights, Justice, Governance, and Decentralization; Secretariat for General Government Coordination; Bureau of Child, Adolescent, and Family Affairs; Honduran Program for Community Education) and conducted the meeting, the objective of which was to provide the necessary information to the institutions concerning the GCM and to define general guidelines for formulating the country's position regarding the different themes that will be addressed by the GCM. The IOM was in charge of the methodology and moderation of the event.

During the second phase of the process, in keeping with the commitment assumed regarding the need for the consultation process for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration to be inclusive and representative, the SRECI held a consultation with civil society actors on 2-3 November. The activity was attended by representatives from the Scalabrinian Sisters, Save the Children, TECHO (ROOF), SRECI, Plan International, the Honduran Red Cross, and Alliance House.

The consultation activity was accompanied by the IOM. Considering the experience of these organizations that work directly with migrants, the dynamic focused on analyzing the needs of four population groups that Honduras deems as priorities for the GCM: disabled migrants; migrant children; migrant women and LGBTI and vulnerable populations; and missing migrants.

This report presents the results obtained throughout the process described above.

CONCEPTUALIZATION OF ESSENTIAL TERMS FOR THE GLOBAL COMPACT

As its name indicates, the Global Compact seeks to contribute towards achieving safe, orderly, and regular migration. Goal 10.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) coincides with this objective, including as well the topic of responsible migration. Neither the New York Declaration nor the SDGs, however, contain a definition of these terms.

In an effort to clarify the GCM's core concepts, which serve as its fundamental objectives, the consultation process carried out in Honduras interpreted the meaning of these concepts. The resulting conceptualizations are described below.

1. Orderly Migration

Orderly migration implies that persons migrate in accordance with the procedures established by the countries of origin, transit, and destination. These procedures should be designed to ensure that migration is undertaken freely.

In order for migration to take place in an orderly fashion, the participants feel it is essential for all States of the international community to actively promote and protect the human rights of migrants in the countries of origin, transit, and destination, and that the international community commit to strengthening and facilitating family reunification processes, especially those involving children.

2. Regular Migration

In order for regular migration to occur at the global level, first of all it is necessary for the international community to commit to implementing migratory policies that acknowledge the right of all persons to attain personal development and, along those lines, that acknowledge a person's right to migrate in search of personal development opportunities. This concept also invariably implies that the international community assume the commitment of guaranteeing to all migrants access to basic services, regardless of their migratory status, and to guarantee and protect the rights of all migrants in transit.

3. Safe Migration

In order for migration to occur safely at the global level, it is essential that all States acknowledge and enforce the human rights of all people equally, including migrants, without discrimination based on their migratory status, age, sex, language, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.

In this sense, achieving safe migration necessarily implies that all States guarantee the comprehensive well-being of migrants in the countries of origin, transit, and destination, fundamentally with respect to their basic human rights (housing, food, and employment, among others). This also implies increasing efforts to ensure the well-being of the most vulnerable migrant groups, especially disabled persons, the elderly, migrant children, LGBTI persons, and the victims of trafficking in persons, violence, and natural disasters.

4. Responsible Migration

Responsible migration implies that persons migrate from their country of origin to their destination country in compliance with their duties and obligations.

It also implies, however, that transit and destination countries treat migrants in a responsible manner and, as such, assume their responsibility to guarantee the right to housing, employment, education, and healthcare so that migrants may live in a dignified manner. Furthermore, it implies that States assume their responsibility to promote options for their citizens to access development opportunities, even in other countries.



RESULTS OF THE THEMATIC DISCUSSIONS

THEME 1 HUMAN RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS

Social Inclusion and Cohesion and Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination (Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance)

All States must explicitly acknowledge the universal nature of the human rights of all persons, regardless of their migratory status, and harmonize their legislation and standards to make this principle a reality.

States must assume with particular interest the protection of the human rights of returned migrants and unaccompanied children and adolescents. In this sense, the international community should take special interest in guaranteeing the following rights to all migrants: access to justice; access to information; and due process.

States should also take equal interest in assuming their commitment to ensuring respect for the rights of all migrant workers in their destination country, especially their labor rights, as well as ensuring secure channels for sending remittances to their families.

Regarding the social inclusion of migrants, the international community must recognize that, for this goal to be reached, it is essential that all States guarantee the rights of migrants and that, in turn, migrants in destination countries assume their obligations. In this sense, migrants should make the effort to learn the language of the destination country and respect its laws, cultural norms, and traditions. In turn, the host communities should guarantee respect for migrant rights and make an effort to acknowledge the value of diversity and plurality.

The international community must take urgent and unequivocal measures against the increase in racism, xenophobia, discrimination, and other displays of intolerance that have arisen around the world in recent years. In this sense, one of the GCM's primary objectives has to be a reduction in the frequency and gravity of such acts and, in the medium term, the eradication thereof. To that end, the international community must commit to combatting discrimination and intolerance by implementing specific measures, such as educational campaigns, cultural exchanges with the participation of migrants and destination country nationals, and mass awareness-raising campaigns. There also exists the need to continue seeking new and effective ways of combatting discrimination and intolerance towards migrants.

THEME 2 MIGRATIONS CAUSED BY THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE OR CRISIS SITUATIONS*Successful Strategies for Protection and Assistance, Public Policies for Sustainable Development, and Conflict Resolution*

The theme of natural disasters and migration is vitally important to Honduras and the international community. Due to the fact that climate change tends to cause extraordinary natural phenomena and events that frequently result in disastrous effects and forced migration, the international community urgently needs to develop and reinforce global and regional policies to protect the environment, as well as measures to safeguard lives, integrity, and property, especially those of the persons most exposed to such events and phenomena.

In addition, the Global Compact should serve to promote concrete mechanisms that strengthen the management of the migrations that are a consequence of the effects of climate change, and that protect those who migrate for this reason. Along those lines, it is urgent that developed countries not only take responsibility for complying with the international agreements related to the environment, but also acknowledge and assume their share of responsibility for the migrations caused by this phenomenon.

It is also essential to guarantee the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations due to natural disasters, and to formulate and promote strategies for the protection and specific assistance of these migrants. Furthermore, the Global Compact should establish specific measures to strengthen inter-institutional coordination, at both the national and international levels, aimed at developing, applying, and enforcing proper standards and protocols for governance of the migratory flows caused by natural disasters and climate change.

The GCM's objectives and commitments related to preventing the mobility due to conflicts or crises caused by humans should include measures to prevent mobility caused by common violence and organized crime. To that end, the GCM and the implementation mechanisms established to carry out the Compact must include measures and assign resources that enable the undertaking of specific initiatives to support countries characterized by significant mobility phenomena whose driving factors include the violence caused by organized crime and common violence.

THEME 3 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND MIGRATION GOVERNANCE IN ALL ITS DIMENSIONS*Borders, Transit, Entry, Return, Readmission, Integration, and Reintegration*

Even while each State retains sovereignty over its borders, migratory policies should always adopt a focus based on the human rights of migrants. In this sense, States should be the principal guarantors of migrant human rights. This is why it is important for the GCM to consider that migration governance should occur based on an international focus of shared responsibility that recognizes State sovereignty but also each State's responsibility concerning the security and well-being of migrants.

The GCM should encourage international collaboration between the countries of destination and origin in order to facilitate the reinsertion of migrants (for example, by facilitating the validation and equivalency of academic degrees and work experience acquired by migrants while abroad). At the national level, States should assume commitments and implement concrete actions to improve inter-institutional coordination related to facilitating the reinsertion of migrant returnees.

It is essential that, by way of the Global Compact, States commit to guaranteeing that the human dignity and rights of migrants are respected throughout the return process, the conditions of return are dignified, and reinsertion and reintegration programs are strengthened.

Even though the responsibility for managing return migrations falls primarily on the State, it is important to facilitate the participation of other stakeholders to ensure the effective application of the policies that focus on migrant returnees, such as the private sector and civil society.

THEME 4 CONTRIBUTIONS OF MIGRANTS AND DIASPORA COMMUNITIES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Remittances and Transferability of Earnings

The Global Compact should serve to allow the international community, and particularly countries of destination and origin, to recognize the multiple benefits they obtain from migration.

Such recognition should naturally lead to commitments by destination countries to make migrant normalization processes more flexible, thus allowing migrants to work legally and assume the benefits and obligations that this implies. Likewise, countries of origin should assume a commitment to strengthen relations with their diaspora communities.

The commitments entailed by the GCM should include clear goals and actions related to broadening the available channels and opportunities that permit safe, orderly, and regular migration, such as the validation and equivalency of academic degrees and the certification of skills in destination countries.

It is also essential that the GCM commits include improved regulation of the costs of sending remittances, as well as ensuring that sending conditions are adequate, reliable, secure, and efficient. Furthermore, countries of origin should move ahead with the definition of commitments and actions to ensure that remittances are used for the purposes intended by the migrant, especially when they are received and managed by third parties but intended, for example, to cover the healthcare and education costs of a migrant's children.

THEME 5 MIGRANT SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Contemporary Forms of Slavery and the Proper Identification and Protection of and Assistance for Migrants and Victims of Trafficking

It is essential that the GCM establish clear commitments and financing to strengthen the institutions of countries of origin, so that they may more efficiently promote the development conditions needed to prevent irregular migration.

By way of the Global Compact, the international community should focus a large part of its efforts on preventing trafficking in persons and protecting its victims, through stronger international cooperation and State capacities. In addition, countries should assume the commitment to harmonize their national legislation with international law in order to define the various modalities of trafficking in persons. Likewise, the GCM should include a commitment by States to incorporate the themes of trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling into educational curricula in order to help prevent and combat these crimes.

It is crucial that States commit to increasing their capacity to identify persons who are highly vulnerable to becoming victims of trafficking, as well as those who have already fallen victim, as a first step towards providing them with proper protection and assistance.

The GCM should also include a financial commitment by the international community to ensure effective protection for victims of migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. With respect to migrant smuggling, the GCM should establish commitments and clear and unequivocal actions at the global level to facilitate regular migration and create mechanisms to prevent, combat, and punish the crime of migrant smuggling, especially when it involves highly vulnerable persons.

THEME 6 THE EFFECTS OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND MIGRATION THROUGH REGULAR CHANNELS

Dignified Work, Labor Mobility, and Accreditation of Skills and Qualifications.

The international community must acknowledge, through the Global Compact, that irregular migration will continue as long as the options for regular migration are limited. This acknowledgement should also include the fact that the risks faced by persons who migrate irregularly increase when these migrants are refused access to public protection and assistance services in transit and destination countries. For this reason, it is fundamental that, by way of the GCM, States commit to facilitating access for all migrants to public protection and assistance.

The GCM must also establish convincing commitments and actions by States to properly prevent and combat the fraudulent recruitment of migrant workers, not only to protect them but also to discourage irregular migration.

Through the GCM, States should commit to making the right to dignified work a reality, which implies the need to guarantee protection of labor rights for all migrants. This means guaranteeing equality in the workplace between migrant workers and nationals, even in collective bargaining agreements. To that end, it will be essential to bring business organizations and chambers of commerce into the labor mobility governance process.

States should also assume the commitment to formulate standards and actions to regulate the hiring and working conditions of temporary migrant workers. This aspect includes the establishment of policies that allow the portability of social security benefits for migrants when they return to their country of origin or migrate to another country.

WHAT ARE HONDURAS' PRIORITIES FOR THE GLOBAL COMPACT?

The priorities for Honduras with respect to the GCM are as follows:

- By way of the Global Compact, a commitment is obtained from the international community to ensure compliance with the human rights of migrants.
- As a result of the GCM, international cooperation programs (such as the Alliance Plan for Northern Triangle Prosperity) are established to promote country-of-origin development, thus helping to counteract the causes of irregular migration.
- As a result of the GCM, the international community commits to ensuring the dignified and responsible repatriation of migrants subject to repatriation processes, including those who have been incarcerated abroad.
- Through the GCM, the international community commits to providing financial and technical support to programs that provide security, rehabilitation, and social reinsertion for returned migrants.
- The Global Compact includes a commitment by the international community to respect the human rights of our migrants.
- The GCM reiterates the prohibition against mass deportations of migrants.
- The GCM recognizes the right to family reunification.
- The criminalization of irregular migrants due to their migratory status is prohibited.
- The GCM acknowledges that migration governance is a responsibility shared by all States.
- By way of the Global Compact, the international community commits to analyzing, case by case, petitions for normalizing the migratory status of migrants.

CIVIL SOCIETY CONSULTATION

As indicated in the Introduction, the Government of Honduras carried out a consultation with civil society on 2-3 November 2017 to enrich the country's position regarding the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration. This activity was attended by representatives of civil society organizations such as the Scalabrinian Sisters, Save the Children, TECHO (*ROOF*), Plan International, the Honduran Red Cross, and Alliance House, along with officials in representation of the Secretariat for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The consultation process was accompanied by the IOM.

Considering the expertise of these organizations that work directly with migrants, the activity dynamic focused on analyzing the needs of four population groups that Honduras deems as priorities for the GCM: **disabled migrants; migrant children; migrant women and LGBTI and vulnerable populations; and missing migrants.**

The participants discussed the specific challenges faced by each population, along with possible recommendations for the Global Compact to address the needs of these populations.

» Disabled Migrants

The participants pointed out that it is essential that the topic of protection and assistance for disabled migrants be addressed as part of the GCM negotiations. The international community must move towards acknowledging and addressing the special needs of migrants with disabilities. This includes promoting knowledge and awareness among society and the authorities regarding this population, thus making their special needs visible and facilitating attention and/or monitoring of cases involving disabled migrants.

When discussing the topic of **justice** for this population, the participants proposed the establishment of such international cooperation commitments as may be necessary to ensure transnational justice for disabled persons who are victims of crimes in transit and destination countries.

Regarding **national legislation and policies**, it is important that there be active and direct participation by the disabled migrant population in the design and formulation of national legislation and policies to include their social inclusion at the local level. In this sense, the GCM should set forth the commitment of States to develop and implement harmonized protocols for international and inter-institutional coordination aimed at serving this population.

On the topic of **social exclusion, discrimination, and intolerance**, disabled persons are exposed to these afflictions every day due to the lack of awareness in countries of destination, transit, and return, a situation that is worsened by xenophobic messages sent out by mass media. These factors make it difficult for disabled migrants to apply for and benefit from institutional programs and projects. As such, the GCM should call on States to commit to ensuring that the needs of this population are properly considered by programs and projects aimed at migratory management and normalization. This commitment should include the establishment of policies to enhance awareness and regulate communication media to prevent and punish the use of xenophobic and discriminatory language, while creating training programs for persons who serve migrants with disabilities.

On the topic of the **return and reintegration** of disabled migrants, one of the most important challenges is the fact that there exists no prioritization nor specialized attention for this population. There is a general lack of inclusion mechanisms, and family support for disabled migrants with disabilities tends to be insufficient.

In view of this panorama, it is essential that the Global Compact commit States to facilitating both the return process and the reintegration process. Initially this should involve the recognition of qualifications, education, and skills acquired in destination countries, followed by differentiated attention in education and healthcare programs, and adaptation of border station infrastructure and migratory controls to reflect the needs of disabled persons. For purposes of reintegration, it is important to facilitate their labor market insertion in the countries of destination and return, as well as to give priority to disabled persons in training programs aimed at migrant returnees, in order to enhance the generation of income through entrepreneurial projects.

Regarding the needs of this population with respect to **psycho-social attention** during all phases of the migratory process, the GCM should establish the obligation of States to improve conditions in detention centers in transit and destination countries in order to provide proper attention to migrants with disabilities (including the need to avoid detention of severely disabled persons). In addition, it is fundamental that the GCM commit States to ensuring that the personnel assigned to such centers have the necessary awareness and knowledge to provide proper medical and psycho-social attention to this population.

On the issues of **social benefits portability** and **family reunification**, States need to prioritize the possibility of disabled migrants having access to social benefits earned in destination countries by committing to allowing the transferability of such benefits to their countries of origin. It is also important that destination countries assume the commitment to allow family reunification, especially in cases involving disabled migrants.

Finally, with respect to the **gathering of reliable data**, the absence of data regarding this population is noteworthy. For this reason, within the framework of the Global Compact, States should assume the commitment to generate specific data on this population.

» Migrant Children

The international community must acknowledge that migrant children are a population that requires priority and specialized attention during the entire migratory process, both to facilitate the process and to guarantee respect for their human rights and respect for the best interests of the child throughout the process.

Regarding access to **justice** for this population, one significant challenge is the lack of information concerning their rights and obligations as migrant children. In order to promote and guarantee the right to access to justice for migrant children and adolescents, the Global Compact should call on the international community to commit to: (i) reviewing existing systems and creating reforms or specific guidelines on specialized attention for migrant children, because they require special attention, especially when they have been victims of crimes during their migratory process; (ii) creating educational projects that facilitate access to information regarding rights and mechanisms for access to justice for migrant children; (iii) sensitizing, informing, and educating border officials in order to improve the attention, services, and assistance provided to migrant children; (iv) respecting the principle of non-refoulement and ensuring measures to prevent violation of same, including judicial measures; (v) guaranteeing access to education and healthcare for minors; (vi) proposing alternatives to avoid the detention of migrant children, including unaccompanied minors; (vii) sensitizing judicial personnel to ensure an effective and comprehensive response to protect migrant children and adolescents; and (viii) strengthening cooperation between countries to facilitate the investigation of cases involving the violation of the rights of migrant children.

With respect to **national legislation** and policies regarding migrant children, one of the main challenges is the weakness of systems for protecting migrant children and the lack of harmonization among laws and agreements concerning migrant children between countries of origin, transit, and destination. As part of the GCM, countries should commit to: (i) guaranteeing the participation, for purposes of formulating and updating policies regarding migrant children, of actors who intervene directly in the protection, attention, and assistance of this population; (ii) move towards the drafting of an international convention that specifically addresses the issue of migrant children and adolescents, as a basis for creating national and regional protocols for protecting, serving, and assisting this population; and (iii) make progress with the development of clear commitments, at the migratory level, to establish the right of children to family unity, especially with their parents, wherever they may be.

For this reason, the GCM should call on States to commit to facilitating and promoting the social **inclusion of migrant children and adolescents** by increasing program funding and stimulating the study of and attention to the underlying causes that drive the migration of children. There should also be commitments to strengthening the accountability of States regarding their compliance with standards related to social inclusion and the prevention and combatting of discrimination and intolerance.

Regarding discrimination and intolerance, one of the main challenges is the adaptation of these children to the culture of their destination country, added to the stigma they often face due to their status and origin. The undeniable increase in xenophobia around the world is negatively impacting the social inclusion of this population. The principal consequences of this situation include a high likelihood of dropping out if they fail to adapt and be accepted in their school environment, which in turn reduces their possibilities for development both in the destination country and their country of origin (in the case of return). To counteract this scenario, the GCM should commit States to implement policies, awareness-raising campaigns, and mass media regulation to prevent and punish the use of xenophobic and discriminatory language and, by even more determinant action, to prosecute xenophobic acts and combat all forms of discrimination and intolerance in school environments.

With respect to the **psycho-social attention** provided to migrant children, the GCM should include a commitment for countries to assign specialized personnel in the places of origin, transit, and destination to provide protection, attention, and assistance to migrant children and adolescents, for purposes of facilitating the identification of cases involving underage victims of abuse or crimes during any phase of the migratory cycle. In addition, the international community should consider the expansion of volunteer efforts to serve migrant children during times of crisis.

To address these and other challenges, the Global Compact should move towards implementing the following recommendations: (i) strengthen and guarantee specialized accompaniment for children and adolescents during the return and reintegration processes; (ii) provide proper and sufficient psycho-social attention to returned minors; (iii) improve the quality of consular services during the return process to include specialized attention to migrant children; and (iv) provide support to the families of these children to reduce the influence of migration drivers and make their return sustainable.

Concerning the **trafficking and smuggling of migrant children and adolescents**, the GCM should acknowledge the heightened vulnerability of underage migrants to these crimes. Based on this acknowledgement, the international community, within the framework of the Global Compact, should commit to prioritizing the prevention and combatting of trafficking in persons involving minors, as well as the protection of its victims. It is essential that the GCM establish measures to build the capacities of States to accomplish this goal. Furthermore, it is fundamental that the Compact encourage preventive measures on the part of each State, and the international community as a whole, to address the factors that make women and children more vulnerable to trafficking in persons.

Regarding the **smuggling of migrant children and adolescents**, the GCM should: (i) promote institutional capacity-building and the training of border officials in the detection, service, and protection of smuggled minors; (ii) facilitate the regular migration of children, especially for purposes of family reunification as a means of avoiding irregular migration; and (iii) encourage the filing of complaints regarding underage victims of crimes.

Finally, with respect to **border management**, the GCM should commit the international community to ensure that all ports of entry offer the presence of or access to specialized personnel from child protection agencies, so that migrant children and adolescents may receive prompt attention to commence the process of determining their best interests.

» **Migrant Women and LGBTI and Vulnerable Populations**

Regarding the topic of **access to justice for migrant women and LGBTI and vulnerable populations**, the Global Compact should include a commitment to guarantee such access and implement policies with a differentiated focus for said purpose. This commitment should include the creation of specialized and comprehensive protection models for providing assistance and protection to each of these populations throughout the migratory process.

On the subject of **national legislation and policies related to migration**, the participants indicated that one of the principal existing challenges is the incorporation of migrant women into national women's agendas, in order to prevent their exclusion and reduce the vulnerability of this population. Another challenge is the scant acknowledgement of gender identity in migratory documents and travel documents.

With respect to the **social inclusion, discrimination, intolerance, healthcare, and psycho-social attention for migrant women and LGBTI and vulnerable populations**, the Global Compact should call on the international community to commit to providing equal treatment to these populations in every country. These populations are highly vulnerable to discrimination, and thus the GCM should strengthen the role of consulates in disseminating information on the rights of women and LGBTI persons, as well as the attention and protection of same with a focus on gender and diversity. Likewise, it is fundamental for States to commit to moving ahead with: (i) the formulation and implementation of policies for raising awareness and regulating communication media to prevent and punish the use of xenophobic and discriminatory language; and (ii) the development of global campaigns against racism and racial discrimination and to promote respect for diversity when serving these populations. It is also essential for migration to be perceived more as a human right than a national security issue.

The GCM should also guarantee access to healthcare for these populations, especially reproductive health, including access to antiretroviral medication and support for hormone therapy for transgender populations.

Regarding **psycho-social attention for these populations**, heteronormativity is one of the most significant challenges that prevent LGBTI persons from accessing protection mechanisms and attaining recognition of their rights. To overcome this obstacle, there is an urgent need to raise awareness among service providers.

One of the main challenges related to the **return and reintegration** of this population is the reintegration of returned migrant women who are victims of sexual violence, especially those who have suffered sexual aggression during their migration or in the destination country.

This problem includes the stigmatization these women face upon returning to their communities of origin, which seriously hampers their reintegration process. Equally as challenging is the reintegration of women and LGBTI persons who are returned after fleeing from their country of origin due to domestic violence or gender violence.

To address these challenges, the Compact must include a commitment from countries to guarantee the necessary security conditions for returned women and LGBTI persons. This can be achieved by creating temporary shelters that offer legal counsel, accompaniment, and productive and labor opportunities for these populations, as well as programs that facilitate their relocation when necessary to safeguard their lives and integrity.

With respect to **internal displacements**, the GCM should serve to encourage States to commit to: (i) establishing immediate protection mechanisms to guarantee and protect the physical integrity, dignity, and rights of migrant women, LGBTI persons, children, and adolescents, thus ensuring the existence of the necessary conditions and infrastructure to guarantee the development of this population wherever they may be; (ii) facilitating access to the justice system (filing of complaints, investigation, protection) for this population; and (iii) developing relocation and shelter programs to provide security and protection to this displaced population. In addition, the GCM should establish financial mechanisms to provide proper protection and assistance to this population of displaced persons.

Regarding **trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling**, the GCM should acknowledge the special vulnerability of this population to these crimes. Based on this recognition, the international community, within the framework of the Global Compact, should commit to prioritizing the prevention and combatting of trafficking in persons committed against this population. To that end, it is fundamental that the GCM establish capacity-building measures for States. It is also essential that the GCM lead to the strengthening of preventive measures by States and the international community as a whole to address the factors that make women and the LGBTI community more vulnerable to trafficking in persons.

With respect to **consular assistance for migrant women and LGBTI and vulnerable populations**, the GCM should call on States to commit to contracting psychologists and social workers and promoting accompaniment networks for migrants abroad, in order to put such services within reach of the migrant population.

Regarding the **rights of migrant workers**, the Compact should clearly set forth the commitment of each State to guarantee that migrant women, LGBTI migrants, and other vulnerable groups receive the same salaries and conditions as nationals and male and heterosexual workers.

» Missing Migrants

With respect to the issue of **justice in cases involving missing migrants**, it is essential that the Global Compact commit States to facilitating access for the relatives of missing migrants to justice systems in general, and complaint filing procedures specifically, in countries of origin, transit, and destination, regardless of where said relatives are located.

Regarding **national legislation and policies designed to address the issue of missing migrants**, it is essential that States (especially transit and destination countries) commit by way of the GCM to developing public policies and protocols for dealing with cases involving missing migrants, and establishing cooperation agreements between States to facilitate information exchange and cooperation designed to search for these migrants in a timely manner, specifically with respect to searching for incarcerated migrants.

The Global Compact should acknowledge the importance of the communication media as a fundamental ally, both for making the issue visible and for searching for missing migrants. The GCM should serve to develop information campaigns regarding the disappearance of migrants along migratory routes, in order to inform all migrant shelters along said routes and provide information to the relatives of missing migrants concerning how they can start searching for their missing relatives.

Finally, regarding the **gathering of reliable data on missing migrants**, one of the main challenges consists of the lack of reliable data on the number of missing migrants and the specific characteristics of disappearance cases. The Global Compact should serve to commit the international community to exchanging information between countries of origin, transit, and destination and updating same frequently, and to constantly review the patterns, disappearance routes, and characteristics of cases involving disappearance along migratory routes, in order to develop actions to prevent the disappearance of migrants.

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