

REGIONAL CONSULTATION

HIGH-LEVEL PARLIAMENTARY DIALOGUE
ON MIGRATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN:
REALITIES AND COMMITMENTS TOWARDS

THE GLOBAL COMPACT

REPORT ON RESULTS





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Report on Results of the High-Level Parliamentary Dialogue on Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean: Realities and Commitments towards the Global Compact.

This report has been published by the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The publications issued by PARLATINO and the IOM do not represent specific national or political interests. The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the perspective of PARLATINO, the IOM, nor their members.

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Latin American and Caribbean Parliament; International Organization for Migration. High-Level Parliamentary Dialogue on Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean: Realities and Commitments towards the Global Compact. Report on Results.

Contributors: Marcelo Pisani Codoceo; Salvador Gutiérrez González; Gabriela Rodríguez César; Jean Pierre Mora Casasola. San José, Costa Rica: OIM, 2017.
24 pages, illustrated.

====>Classification: OCDE: 14.07.01 // DEWEY: 341.77

MIGRATION; EMIGRATION; IRREGULAR MIGRATION; LABOR; INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION; MIGRANT SMUGGLING; TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS; CLIMATE CHANGE; ECONOMIC ASPECTS; LEGISLATION; HUMAN RIGHTS; REFUGEES; DISCRIMINATION; DIALOGUE; REPORT; GLOBAL COMPACT; PARLATINO.

XL/XI

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Introduction	5
I.I Summary of the Inaugural Session	7
II. Panel Discussion Summaries	9
Panel 1. Human Rights of Migrants	
Social Inclusion and Cohesion and Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination (Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance)	9
Panel 2. The Effects of Irregular Migration and Migration through Regular Channels	
Dignified Work, Labor Mobility, and Accreditation of Skills and Qualifications	10
Panel 3. International Cooperation and Migration Governance in All its Dimensions	
Borders, Transit, Entry, Return, Readmission, Integration, and Reintegration	11
Panel 4. 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	12
Panel 5. Contributions of Migrants and Diaspora Communities to Sustainable Development	
Remittances and Transferability of Earnings	13
Panel 6. 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	14
III. Final PARLATINO Declaration towards the Global Compact	15
IV. Summary of Recommendations for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration	19
V. Appendix	
Message from Pope Francis to the PARLATINO Session on Migration	21

INTRODUCTION

Within the framework of the XXXIII General Assembly of the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament (PARLATINO), held on 09-10 June 2017, more than 200 legislators from throughout Latin America and the Caribbean participated in the High-Level Parliamentary Dialogue on Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean. The event was jointly convened by the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for purposes of sharing experiences, identifying and analyzing challenges, exchanging good practices related to international migration, and generating useful input for the development of a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration.

Following the Inaugural Session, the Parliamentary Dialogue consisted of a series of Panel Discussions with experts who spoke on the six main themes that have been proposed for the thematic consultations. According to Resolution 71/280 (Modalities for Inter-Governmental Negotiations towards the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration), the thematic consultations form part of the first phase of the preparatory process for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration. The six main themes are as follows:

1. The human rights of migrants.
2. The effects of irregular migration and migration through regular channels.
3. International cooperation and migration governance in all its dimensions.
4. Migrant smuggling and trafficking of women and children.
5. The contributions of migrants and diaspora communities to sustainable development.
6. Migration caused by the effects of climate change or crisis situations.

Each panel was comprised of Parliament Members, government officials, international agency specialists, civil society representatives, and academics from throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. This document contains the principal recommendations offered and conclusions reached during the event's Inaugural Session and Panel Discussions, in hopes that same will be considered as input towards the construction of the Global Compact.



SUMMARY OF THE INAUGURAL SESSION

The following persons (listed in order) participated in the Inaugural Session:

Clarissa Azkoul	IOM Deputy Chief of Staff
Juan José Gómez Camacho	Special Ambassador, Plenipotentiary, and Permanent Representative of Mexico before the United Nations, and Co-Facilitator of the Global Compact
Blanca Alcalá	PARLATINO President
Andrés Carrascosa	Papal Nuncio for Ecuador
Maria Luisa Romero	Interior Minister for the Republic of Panama
Kailash Satyarthi	2014 Nobel Peace Prize Winner

During his address to the Inaugural Session of the Dialogue, Clarissa Azkoul pointed out that “the importance of involving Parliaments in the discussion and formulation of proposals for the Global Compact is undeniable.” She added that Congresspersons, Parliament Members, and Legislative Deputies are key actors on matters related to migration governance and the numerous correlated issues, hence the importance that discussions contribute to creating a conceptual and operative framework that serves to orient parliamentary action on migration related questions.

Juan José Gómez Camacho, Special Ambassador, Plenipotentiary, and Permanent Representative of Mexico before the United Nations, and Co-Facilitator of the Global Compact, highlighted the importance of having legislators participate in the construction process. “[The Global Compact] will lose sense if at the national level it is not translated into public policy, legislative frameworks, and concrete solutions to problems. This is why lawmakers play a central role.” Ambassador Gómez stressed that the participation, involvement, and impetus of legislators and legislatures at the national, regional, and global levels are a fundamental element of the discussions on migration governance.

Senator Blanca Alcalá, President of PARLATINO, stated that the six Panel Discussions planned for the event would identify:

- (1) the laws that should be improved;
- (2) the ordinances that lawmakers should propose;
- (3) the good practices that should be replicated;
- (4) the public policies that need to be improved; and
- (5) the basic protocols that each country should observe.

All of these elements seek to respond to the existing migration-related challenges facing the region

The Inaugural Session also included the participation of Andrés Carrascosa, Papal Nuncio for Ecuador, who shared the words of His Holiness Pope Francis concerning the Parliamentary Dialogue. “Behind each immigrant is a human being with his/her own story, culture, and ideals. A sterile analysis produces sterile measures, whereas relating to a person of flesh and bone helps us to perceive the deep scars that person carries, scars caused by the reason or the injustice of his/her migration,” said Nuncio Carrascosa.

The Interior Minister of Panama, María Luis Romero, then emphasized the fact that the population of Latin America and the Caribbean has, to a large extent, been formed by migratory flows that in turn have created a broad ethnic and cultural diversity in the region. Minister Romero also pointed out that “migration in the region is characterized by aspects that require specific attention (...), structural factors such as poverty, violence, internal conflicts, and the lack of opportunities, which have driven many people to leave their countries of origin and risk their lives on a journey that is often plagued by natural disasters or predatory criminals.” Minister Romero highlighted the importance of addressing these challenges in order to ensure safe migration for these persons.

The Session concluded with the words of Kailash Satyarthi, 2014 Nobel Peace Prize Winner. Satyarthi stated that the line between migration, refugees, and trafficking in persons is becoming more and more blurred, since the three issues are almost always inter-related. Satyarthi recommended that the IOM take the initiative to coordinate with other United Nations agencies to strengthen the efforts to address these three issues, in the form of a more effective joint effort that makes better use of the available resources.

SUMMARY OF PANEL DISCUSSIONS

PANEL 1 HUMAN RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS

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

“Human rights are not derived from being citizens of a country, but rather from being human beings.”

LUIS ERNESTO VARGAS SILVA, Commissioner, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Moderator	Javier Palomo	MERCOSUR Public Policy Institute
Panel Members	Senator Mariana Gómez del Campo	Vice-President of Mexico before PARLATINO
	Senator Diva Gastelum	Chairwoman, Equality Commission (México)
	Oscar Chacón	Director of the Americas Alliance (formerly known as the National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities)
	Commissioner Luis Ernesto Vargas Silva	ICHR Rapporteur on the Rights of Migrants and Other Persons in the Context of Human Mobility

The Panel Members agreed on highlighting the importance of a human rights focus when States address the issue of migration governance. Based on said focus, they stressed that the efforts to combat irregular migration should not be seen as a battle against migrants with irregular status.

They emphasized that public policies are incomplete unless they consider the concepts of migration, development, and human rights. They pointed out that migrations are the human face of the process of configuring the new global neighborhood that the world is moving towards, as human mobility is a cross-cutting process that occurs in every nation. In that sense, if migration is a process of a transnational nature, the policies to address it should also be so.

The Panel Members indicated that migratory flows should not be seen as a source of conflict, but rather as a development opportunity for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. As such, the challenge inherent in the process of constructing the Global Compact involves defying the perception that human mobility is harmful. The participants emphasized that the right to equality and non-discrimination should constitute the central and fundamental axis of the Inter-American Human Rights System. They pointed out that the Global Compact should serve to ensure that all migrants in the region have access to social rights.

One of the Members concluded that, “The obligation to respect and guarantee human rights has an *erga omnes* nature that does not allow States to establish any cause for discrimination.” This principle reiterates the position shared by the participants of vindicating the principle that human rights apply universally to all persons, regardless of their migratory status, and their call for this principle to be the core theme of the Global Compact.

PANEL 2 THE EFFECTS OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND MIGRATION THROUGH REGULAR CHANNELS
Dignified Work, Labor Mobility, and Accreditation of Skills and Qualifications
"Migration is not a phenomenon. It is a process that accompanies development and history."
JORGE MARTÍNEZ PIZARRO, CELADE

Moderator	Parliament Member Enrique Jackson	
Panel Members	Jorge Martínez Pizarro	Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Center (CELADE)
	Horacio José García	National Director of Migration (Argentina)
	Patricio Melero	Chilean Congress Labor Committee
	Francesco Carella	ILO Labor Migration Specialist
	Tonatiuh Guillén López	Northern Border College

The Panelists discussed the development opportunities that the GCM represents for Latin America and the Caribbean. They considered that accountability is a substantial aspect of this initiative, and thus it should include a plan of action that clearly sets forth responsibilities. They also discussed the effects of irregular migration. Of particular interest is the issue of migrant women, a population that has increased in numbers in recent years and that faces higher risks during the process of irregular migration.

Another group of interest in this discussion is returned migrants. The Panel Members pointed out the fact that the number of returnees has increased considerably in recent years. Many of these returned migrants bring skills obtained through both education and experience. The Panelists indicated that it is important to formulate development policies designed to take advantage of this capital, further develop their capacities, and also offer them the possibility of reinsertion into the community to which they have returned.

The issue of shared responsibility was also discussed, with emphasis on the importance of creating a system that enables comprehensive management of migration, as well as encouraging each State to analyze the reasons why people emigrate from their country of origin, and making joint efforts to address the causes to the extent possible. As part of this discussion, the Panel Members concluded that access to labor opportunities is the main goal of the people who migrate.

Along those lines, they stressed the link between irregular migration and the underground economy, with the latter representing a risk factor that puts migrants into a position of greater vulnerability of having their rights violated by employers, who do not facilitate options to normalize their status and who exploit the migrants' irregular status to avoid complying with labor legislation. The participants highlighted the importance of States' committing to ensure respect for the rights of migrant workers in the destination country, especially their labor rights, and facilitating the safe transmission of remittances.

They reiterated the importance of having destination countries broaden regular migration channels and reduce the related bureaucracy, which at times hampers the process of normalizing migratory status. It is important to stress the shared responsibility among States, take advantage of the regional integration forums (such as MERCOSUR, SICA, RCM, and SACM) to address the issue of labor migration, and move ahead with the execution of binational agreements between countries that share significant migratory flows.

PANEL 3 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND MIGRATION GOVERNANCE IN ALL ITS DIMENSIONS

Borders, Transit, Entry, Return, Readmission, Integration, and Reintegration

“A country is made great by the hands of those who live within its territory, be they nationals or foreigners.”

PARLIAMENT MEMBER JOSÉ RAMOS, MACRO-ECONOMY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER, CENTRAL AMERICAN PARLIAMENT

Moderator	Parliament Member Elpidio Báez	Dominican Republic
Panel Members	Senator Diva Gastelum	Chairwoman, Equality Commission (México)
	Parliament Member José Ramos	Macro-Economy and Finance Committee Member, Central American Parliament (PARLACEN)
	Liduvina Magarín	Vice-Minister for Salvadorans Abroad, Salvadoran Ministry of Foreign Affairs
	Lelio Mármora	Director of the Institute for Public Policies on Migration and Asylum (Argentina)

One of the points the Panel Members emphasized was that international collaboration has to take place as a permanent exchange that is based on dialogue and that primarily allows migrant populations to be served from a humanitarian focus with respect for their human rights. The Global Compact is an opportunity to generate a universal consensus in favor of migrants and their families. Even so, the participants pointed out that in order to achieve good migration governance, not only must there be universal consensus, but also political coherence within governments. This means that States will face the challenge of aligning their policies with the Global Compact and other related regional and global efforts.

The Panelists indicated that the circumstances faced by Central American migrants who emigrate to the United States include family separation. They emphasized the fact that the impacts of migration tend to be more complicated for women. For example, single mothers who remain in the country of origin usually end up depending on remittances that could stop coming at any time, or single mothers in destination countries that have to face alone all of the risks that affect migrant women with irregular status. As such, the participants agreed that a gender focus should be included in any legislative reform or new proposal aimed at migrants.

Concerning the situation of returned migrants, the Panel Members noted that, upon returning to their country of origin, these migrants face various difficulties that impede their reintegration and social inclusion, as not all countries offer mechanisms to help facilitate this process. Many of these migrants find that their skills and degrees obtained in the destination country cannot be accredited upon returning to their country of origin.

The participants mentioned the Addis Ababa Plan of Action, which calls for an increase in international cooperation regarding access to benefits earned and the transferability thereof, thus enabling the recognition (by the country of origin) of qualifications, education, and skills acquired in destination countries, and the reduction of the cost of hiring migrants by enabling such recognition on the part of the destination country. The Panelists agreed on the importance of active participation by local governments in implementing public policies aimed at facilitating the reinsertion of returned migrants.

The Panel concluded by reiterating that migration should be seen as a positive opportunity for international cooperation, which when managed properly can benefit both migrants as well as the countries of origin and destination. As an example, facilitating the normalization and labor insertion of migrants also favors the economic and social development of the destination country.

PANEL 4 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**“Both migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons have a disproportional impact on women and children.”**Alma Viviana Pérez, Representative from UN Women Colombia*

Moderator	Fabienne Venet Rebiffe	General Director, Central American Institute for Migration Studies and Dissemination
Panel Members	Alma Viviana Pérez	Representative from UN Women Colombia
	Alexis Bentancourt Yau	Minister of Security, Panama
	Giovanni Bassu	UNHCR Deputy Representative for Central America, Cuba, and Mexico

The discussion among the Panel Members centered on the current challenges in combatting migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons, considering the needs and the progress that have characterized the region recently. The Panelists acknowledged that, in Latin America and the Caribbean, an increase in both crimes has been detected in recent years.

This implies that the region faces several significant challenges when addressing these issues, such as a lack of sufficient shelters that meet international standards for receiving victims of trafficking, and the fact that many countries lack proper legislation and policies to allow implementation of effective strategies to combat trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling. Although regional progress has been made towards proposing and enacting general legislation, such efforts are insufficient to deal with the challenges being faced.

The Panel Members pointed out that, in order to ensure the financial and institutional sustainability of initiatives aimed at preventing and combatting trafficking in persons, it is essential to establish adequate and sufficient mechanisms for financing prevention efforts and victim assistance and protection. They also recommended the enactment of laws that punish the different forms of trafficking that are defined in the Palermo Protocol.

The participants noted that criminal networks do not acknowledge borders, and thus international cooperation must be strengthened, principally regarding intelligence. To that end, they suggested the creation of networks among the security forces of the region's countries, taking advantage of the existing trust between countries and the specialized agencies that exist in the region.

The Panelists agreed that the establishment of legal options for regular migration would help reduce the rate of migrant smuggling. Likewise, the participants highlighted the importance of consular networks, both in countries of origin and destination, with respect to disseminating and facilitating opportunities for regular migration, and stressed the need to strengthen said networks to enable them to fulfill this function.

There was a general consensus among the Panel Members that trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling have a greater impact on women and children. For this reason, the Panelists recommended that States broaden preventive measures to address the factors that make women and children more vulnerable to trafficking. They mentioned the need to gather reliable data that allows the authorities to determine the scope and nature of trafficking in persons, especially when the victims are women and children. To that end, they recommended capacity-building efforts to enable the gathering and analysis of information on this issue on the part of governmental statistics offices.

Finally, the Panel Members repeatedly emphasized the importance of continuing with efforts to strengthen mechanisms designed to prevent these crimes and to assist and protect the victims. To achieve this, it is essential to maintain dialogue and cooperation at the regional and national levels regarding such mechanisms. It was pointed out, however, that local-level analysis is even more relevant, in view of the fact that most public policies regarding this issue end up being implemented at the county and city levels.

PANEL 5 CONTRIBUTIONS OF MIGRANTS AND DIASPORA COMMUNITIES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Remittances and Transferability of Earnings

“One generally assumes that the link between migration and development consists of remittances, but the magnitude of migrants’ contribution to their countries is actually much broader

MANUEL OROZCO, Director of Migration, Remittances, and Development, Inter-American Dialogue

Moderator	Alberto Hernández	President, Northern Border College (Mexico)
Panel Members	Manuel Orozco	Director of Migration, Remittances, and Development, Inter-American Dialogue
	Esther Cuesta Santana	Parliament Member from Ecuador
	Pedro Hernández	Assistant Director for International Migration, Chile

The Panelists established that the link between migration and development is much broader than just the contributions migrants make to their country of origin through remittances. Though it is clear that remittances are a very important component of the GDP for some countries in the region, it is necessary to recognize the comprehensive contribution that migrants make in both their countries of origin as well as the destination countries. For example, the diaspora communities have contributed to integrating their countries of origin into the global economy by enabling increased commercial and cultural relations between countries.

Besides sending remittances to their country of origin, migrants also share their culture with their host community in the destination country, stimulate relations between peoples, help to build peace, and contribute to the technological and scientific development of their countries of origin and destination. Many times, however, citizens who reside abroad are not taken into account by national public policies.

Acknowledging the breadth of contribution by migrants to a country’s development, the Panel Members stressed how important it is for the countries of Latin American and the Caribbean to develop an economic policy that integrates all the economic activities generated by migrants, including, for example, the sending of remittances, ‘nostalgic consumption’ (purchase abroad of a country’s characteristic products), and philanthropic acts by diaspora communities. These economic policies could strengthen the contribution of migrants to development through, for example, actions to include foreigners in the financial system.

The Panel Members also recommended that citizens residing abroad be incorporated into the public policies of their country of origin, since said citizens are fundamental actors in the development of their country despite not residing there. In this sense, it is important to create spaces that permit nationals abroad to actively exercise citizen participation, with the use of consular networks being recommended to encourage such participation. The Panelists recognized that it is important to have updated data on the diaspora communities, suggesting the development of a regional platform to integrate all such data to facilitate the use of same for defining public policies.

PANEL 6 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 link between climate change and human mobility should be a key chapter of the Global Compact on Migration
Diego Beltrand, Director IOM Regional Director for South America

Moderator	Diego Beltrand	IOM Regional Director for South America
Panel Members	Marcela Guerra	Senator from Mexico President of Parlaméricas
	Rolando González Patricio	Secretary General of PARLATINO
	Roberto Aruj	IOM External Consultant

The Panelists affirmed the importance of promoting more spaces for analysis and reflection on the migrations caused by the effects of climate change, natural disasters, and crisis situations. They also recommended using a human rights focus as a starting point for any action or policy that aims to permit safe, orderly, and regular migration, emphasizing that migrants should not be criminalized, regardless of their reasons for migrating. When persons need to urgently leave their community or country for environmental reasons, they should be recognized as victims of an environmental catastrophe or high-risk situation.

The participants also highlighted the importance of strengthening natural disaster prevention and mitigation policies by including the migrant population, while also indicating that a key aspect is to ensure that said policies include measures to address the persons displaced by such events. One weakness identified is the lack of political will to accompany not only the affected communities, but also the persons displaced by environmental effects.

To address this issue, the Panelists considered it important to prepare population relocation plans for areas where evidence of extreme climatic events already exists. These contexts expose the affected communities to very high levels of vulnerability, a fact that should be acknowledged and addressed by States.

The Panel Members also emphasized the lack of information regarding environmental issues and climate change, as well as an absence of policies that encourage scientific studies on the subject. As such, they recommended the initiation of processes whereby the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean may generate research and statistics regarding migrations caused by climate change, as well as the development of profiles of 'environmental migrants.' This implies the need to strengthen the region's institutions in charge of statistics and censuses.

FINAL PARLATINO DECLARATION TOWARDS THE GLOBAL COMPACT

During the Parliamentary Session held on 11 June 2017, the PARLATINO Members adopted the *declaration Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean: Realities and Commitments towards the Adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration*, which includes the recommendations that PARLATINO agreed to contribute to the Global Compact negotiations. Said Declaration is transcribed below in its entirety

MIGRATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN:
REALITIES AND COMMITMENTS TOWARDS THE ADOPTION OF
THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY, AND REGULAR MIGRATION

Panama City, Panama – 10 June 2017

The Latin American and Caribbean Parliament,

Emphasizing the link that exists between safe, orderly, and regular migration, the reduction of inequality, and the promotion of sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, as recognized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations in September 2015;

Highlighting the importance of designing and implementing programs and strategies for inclusion and reintegration in the communities of origin and destination to ensure that migrants have full enjoyment of their rights, respect for their fundamental liberties, and recognition of their dignity;

Manifesting its uneasiness in light of the racism, xenophobia, and intolerance seen in different regions around the world, and the stigmatization of migrants as result of the criminalization of the migratory phenomenon;

Expressing its concern due to the situations of exploitation and abuse and human rights violations that migrants are exposed to, particularly with respect to migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons;

Reaffirming the principles and objectives of this regional body, as set forth in the Treaty for Institutionalizing the Latin American Parliament signed y 16 November 1987 in Lima, Peru;

Considering the efforts made by PARLATINO to address migration as a cross-cutting theme in the issues examined by its bodies and committees, which include: creation of the Sub-Committee on Migratory Affairs in the Region, in 2007; the establishment of the Work Group on Migration in Relations between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean, in 2010; and the Framework Act on Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean, in 2015;

In accordance with the signing, on 29 July 2016, of the Cooperation Agreement between PARLATINO and the International Organization for Migration;

Recalling the Special Declaration on Migration and Development adopted at the V Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, in January 2017;

Recalling also the commitments included in the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants, adopted on 19 September 2016 by the United Nations General Assembly, especially the commitment to initiate inter-governmental negotiations leading to a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration in 2018;

Considering the process laid out in Resolution 71/280 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in April of this year concerning the modalities for the inter-governmental negotiations related to said instrument; and

Encouraging dialogue among legislators, government officials, and academicians, as well as representatives from international agencies, members of civil society, and other actors involved in the efforts to address the migratory phenomenon from a multi-sector perspective, based on evidence and ensuring respect for the human rights, security, and dignity of migrants:

1. Reiterates the prevalence of the principles of international human rights law when addressing migration, and stresses the obligation of States to respect the human rights and fundamental liberties of all migrants, regardless of their migratory status.
2. Acknowledges the contributions made by migrants towards development of their communities of origin and destination, and calls for their full integration and participation through non-discriminatory access to education, healthcare, and justice, as well as to dignified and paid work that, by benefitting host communities, contributes to forming more inclusive societies.
3. Emphasizes that the walls and barriers being built today in the name of security may impede passage, but do not solve the causes due to which millions of human beings migrate now and shall continue to migrate.
4. Encourages States to analyze the relevancy of developing, with the participation of governmental authorities, international agency representatives, business community leaders, and civil society members, institutionalized mechanisms for advising and professional training, as well as the identification of employment opportunities to generate encounter points between potential employers and employees, in order to stimulate the inclusion of migrants in destination countries, thus reducing their vulnerability to potentially abusive and exploitative situations.
5. Pronounces its support for the universalization of Conventions 97 (1949), 143 (1975), and 189 (2011) of the International Labor Organization, as well as the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, and calls for international community actors to join efforts in obtaining said objective, and for the PARLATINO Members to promote the ratification thereof by the legislative bodies to which they pertain.

6. Encourages the States that comprise this body to consider the relevance of issuing identity documents to their nationals abroad, by way of the respective consular networks and regardless of each person's migratory status, as a public policy that can contribute to facilitating access to services (healthcare, education, and banking services, among others) and compliance with various procedures in destination countries.
7. Condemns the messages and acts of racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against migrants, and calls for its Members to promote, in their respective countries and legislatures, measures that help to counteract same.
8. Acknowledges the sovereignty of each State to determine its migratory policies, and at the same time emphasizes the obligation to respect at all times the human rights of migrants in relation to border management, as well as the importance of addressing the factors that increase the vulnerability of migrant populations.
9. Expresses its rejection of the stigmatization and criminalization of migration derived from the securitization of borders and the imposition of barriers as 'dissuasive measures' which, by pushing migrants to seek smuggling networks and thus place their life and personal integrity in danger, increase the costs incurred by migrants and the dangers they face.
10. Requests that States seek alternatives to physical detention, especially in cases involving migrant children and adolescents, so that detention is always used as a last resort, and reiterates the obligation to guarantee that detention conditions meet the highest international standards set forth in international treaties and the recommendations of special human rights mechanisms.
11. Calls for a strengthening of cooperation with international bodies and civil society, as well as between States, for purposes of generating relevant and updated information regarding trafficking in persons and modern slavery, thus allowing greater knowledge of these crimes to identify their victims and provide them with the necessary assistance and protection.
12. Emphasizes the need to include the adverse effects of climate change among the factors that drive international migration and, in this context, promote coherence among development agendas and the financing thereof, and climate change and migration, based on the guidelines agreed upon in recent years within the framework of sub-regional consultation processes such as the Regional Conference on Migration, and global consultation processes such as the Nansen Initiative, the Platform on Displacements Due to Disasters, and the Migrants in Countries in Crisis Initiative.
13. Reiterates its commitment to participate in the preparatory process for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration, to be adopted in 2018 prior to the corresponding general debate at the 73rd United Nations General Assembly.

14. Encourages States to adopt a general definition of vulnerability during this preparatory process, considering that proposed by the IOM which, while considering the capacity of individuals or groups to resist, confront, or recover from violence, exploitation, abuse, and violation of their rights, also considers individual, family, community, structural, and situational factors that reduce or increase vulnerability.
15. Acknowledges and expresses its support for the work of the co-facilitators of the consultation process and negotiations related to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration, as well as the efforts of both the UN Secretary General's Special Representative for International Migration and the International Organization for Migration.
16. Calls for the Members of PARLATINO, as well as the members of other regional forums that share democratic objectives, to promote the Parliamentary Network for Safe and Orderly Migration, committed to remaining alert to the changing conditions faced by migrants in the countries they represent, and take all actions needed to enact legislation that, within the framework of each State's sovereignty, contributes to these objectives in accordance with international law, thus ensuring respect for human rights and cooperation among the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY, AND REGULAR MIGRATION

PANEL 1

RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS *Social Inclusion and Cohesion and Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination (Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance)*

- Address migration governance from a human rights focus.
- Ensure access to social rights for all migrants of the region.
- Challenge the perspective that human mobility is harmful, and redefine it as a development opportunity for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Formulate public policies that are transnational in scope.

PANEL 2

THE EFFECTS OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND MIGRATION THROUGH REGULAR CHANNELS *Dignified Work, Labor Mobility, and Accreditation of Skills and Qualifications*

- Prioritize the issue of women migrants and returned migrants.
- Formulate development policies designed to facilitate the reinsertion of returned migrants.
- Regulate the underground economy to prevent it from becoming a risk factor for migrants with irregular status.
- Respect the rights of migrant workers in destination countries, especially their labor rights.
- Facilitate the secure sending of remittances.
- Broaden regular migration channels in destination countries.
- Promote shared responsibility among States.

PANEL 3

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

- International collaboration should take place as a permanent exchange based on dialogue, a humanitarian focus, and respect for human rights.
- Promote political coherency within governments in order to achieve good migration governance.
- Align State policies with the Global Compact.
- Include a gender focus in legislative reforms or new proposals regarding migrants.
- Increase international cooperation relating to access to benefits earned and favor the transferability of same; strengthen the recognition of qualifications, education, and skills acquired in destination countries; and reduce the costs of hiring migrants in said countries.
- Highlight the importance of active participation by local governments for the implementation of public policies designed to facilitate the reinsertion of migrant returnees.

PANEL 4**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***

- Increase the number of shelters that comply with international standards for receiving victims of trafficking in persons.
- Promote efforts to ensure that every country has a proper legal framework and policies that allow the implementation of effective strategies to combat trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling.
- Ensure the financial and institutional sustainability of initiatives aimed at preventing and combatting trafficking in persons.
- Enact laws that punish the forms of trafficking in persons set forth in the Palermo Protocol.
- Strengthen international cooperation, principally with respect to intelligence, through the creation of networks among the security forces of the region's countries.
- Expand prevention measures to address the factors that make women and children more vulnerable to trafficking in persons.
- Strengthen the mechanisms for preventing these crimes and providing assistance and protection to victims.

PANEL 5**CONTRIBUTIONS OF MIGRANTS AND DIASPORA COMMUNITIES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: *Remittances and Transferability of Earnings***

- Acknowledge the comprehensive contribution made by migrants in their countries of origin as well as their destination countries.
- Develop a political economy in Latin America and the Caribbean that integrates all economic activities generated by migrants.
- Incorporate into public policies the citizens of each country that reside abroad.
- Create spaces for nationals abroad to actively exercise their citizen participation through consular networks.
- Develop a regional platform that allows access to updated data regarding diaspora communities

PANEL 6**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***

- Promote the analysis and study of migrations caused by the effects of climate change, natural disasters, and crisis situations.
- Avoid criminalizing migrants.
- Include the migrant population when designing policies to prevent and mitigate the effects of natural disasters.
- Initiate processes by which the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean generate statistics and research on migrations caused by climate change, and formulate profiles of 'environmental migrants.'

APPENDIX

Message from His Holiness Pope Francis to the PARLATINO Session on Migration

Mrs. Blanca Alcalá
President of the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament

Dear Madame President

On the occasion of the High-Level Parliamentary Dialogue on Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean: Realities and Commitments towards the Global Compact, I greet you in your capacity as President and, along with you, all those who shall take part in this event. Allow me to congratulate you for this initiative that seeks to help and make life more dignified for those who, having a homeland, weep at not finding in their own country proper conditions for security and subsistence, thus being forced to emigrate elsewhere.

*I would like to highlight three words that appear in the name of your encounter, words that call for reflection and effort: **reality, dialogue, and commitment.***

*First, **reality.** It is important to know why migration occurs and what characteristics it presents on our continent. This requires not only analyzing the situation from behind the study desk, but also seeking contact with people, meaning looking into real faces. Behind each immigrant is a human being with his/her own story, culture, and ideals. A sterile analysis produces sterile measures, whereas relating to a person of flesh and bone helps us to perceive the deep scars that person carries, scars caused by the reason or the injustice of his/her migration. This encounter will help to find feasible responses in favor of migrants and host countries, and will contribute to ensuring that agreements and security measures are examined based on direct experience, to determine whether they reflect reality. As members of one great family, we must work to place the person in the center of our efforts (*Speech to the Diplomatic Corps Accredited before the Holy See, 09 January 2017*). That person is not just a number or an abstract entity, but rather a brother or sister who needs to feel our help and a friendly hand.*

*To accomplish this task, **dialogue** is essential. We can not work in isolation; we need each other. We have to be 'capable of moving from a culture of rejection to a culture of encounter and welcome' (*Message to the World Event for Migrants and Refugees, 2014*). Joint collaboration is necessary in order to formulate efficient and equitable strategies for receiving refugees. Achieving a consensus among the parties involved is a customized effort, meticulous and almost imperceptible, but essential to giving form to agreements and standards. All elements must be offered to local governments as well as to the international community, in order to create the best agreements for the good of many, especially those who suffer in the most vulnerable areas of our planet and in some areas of Latin America and the Caribbean. Dialogue is fundamental to encouraging solidarity towards those who have been deprived of their fundamental rights, and to increasing the willingness to receive those who are fleeing from dramatic and inhumane situations.*

*To respond to the needs of migrants, a **commitment** is needed from all parties involved. We can not just go on with detailed analyses and debates over ideas, because we urgently need to find a solution to this problem. Latin America and the Caribbean have an important role to play at the international level and the opportunity to become key actors regarding this complex situation. This commitment includes 'the need to establish medium- and long-term plans that go beyond simply responding to an emergency situation' (Speech to the Diplomatic Corps Accredited before the Holy See, 11 January 2016). These plans serve to set priorities in the region while also looking to the future, such as the integration of migrants in the countries that receive them and development aid for the countries of origin. Then there are many other actions that are urgent, like attention to children and adolescents: 'All children have the right to play (...), and they definitely have the right to be children' (Message to the World Event for Migrants and Refugees, 2017). They and their families need our attention and help. For this reason I renew my call to stop trafficking in persons, which is a blemish on the face of humanity. Human beings can not be treated as objects nor merchandise, as each one carries the image of God (cf. Exhort. ap., Evangelii gaudium, 197-201).*

The task is enormous and requires men and women of good will who, by their specific commitment, can offer a response to this cry that comes from the heart of the migrant. We can not turn a deaf ear to their cry. I call on all national governments to assume their responsibility to those who reside within each territory, while renewing the commitment of the Catholic Church, through the presence of local and regional Churches, to respond to this wound that so many of our brothers and sisters carry with them.

Finally, I offer you encouragement to face the task that lies ahead, and ask the Holy Virgin to intercede. She, who also experienced migration when fleeing to Egypt with her husband and Son Jesus (Mt 2,13), shall look after you and sustain you with her maternal blessing. I ask you to please pray for me, as I ask the Lord to bless you all.

Vatican City, 07 June 2017

Francis



