



## Virtual Meeting for discussion on the thematic consultations of the Global Compact

**Attendees:** Canada: Luis Monzón; Costa Rica: Luis Alonso Serrano; El Salvador: Vice-minister Magarín; Ingrid Zuniga; United States: Christopher Ashe; Guatemala: Fabiola Mazariegos, Alida Pos; Honduras: Karol Godoy, Alejandrina Rendón; Mexico: Sergio Zapata, Pablo Rodríguez; Panama: Nadia Montenegro, Saúl Jaramillo, Martín Delgado, Gabriela Ramos

### Topics Adressed:

- The TS reviews the themes to be discussed during this meeting:
  1. Review of the agreements reached in the meetings of 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> in Washington DC.
  2. Analyze the different pathways that the Member Countries may want to take in regard to the agreement of these previous meetings.
- Vice-Minister Magarín summarizes the agreements reached at the meeting of March 29<sup>th</sup>, according to which the TS would be in charge of preparing the following documents: a background paper on the experiences of the RCM concerning the topics established in the GCM, a document on best practices implemented by the RCM in the past 20 years, to be used as input for the development of the GCM, a draft political declaration to be used as a leading document in regard to the GCM. The participants are consulted if they consider necessary including other topics.
- Guatemala proposes to focus on the agreements reached in Washington.
- The TS refers to the agreements reached at the March 29<sup>th</sup> meeting in Washington, which included three activities: *recount of statements made within the framework of RCM during its 21 years of history*, in this sense, the Member Countries have received a document counting all these declarations, in this document a column was added that asks if it is still considered valid for the countries in order to collect their opinions with regard to these declarations and based on this updated vision another document can be elaborated that would be the declaration of the CRM for the PMM.
- The TS also sent a *questionnaire in order to collect comments from the Member Countries for the RCM declaration for the PMM*. Yesterday, a *recount of the good practices presented by Member Countries* was also sent, which only leaves the task of constructing the declaration remaining, however with the documents sent it is expected to gather the information necessary to construct the declaration on the GCM. With the documents sent two tasks are fulfilled and one remains pending.
- Panama mentions that it would be good to have minutes of the meeting of March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- The TS mentions that the report of the meeting of March 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> was already sent and maybe by mistake Panamá didn't get it, but it will be sent again to Panamá.
- The TS mentions that they have already received the answers for the questionnaire from: El Salvador y Mexico.
- Vice-Minister Magarín mentions that the questionnaire issued by the TS can strengthen what has been constructed so far to elaborate a more detailed document on the positioning of the RCM towards the GCM.



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- Panamá mentions that they are in consultations with the National Service on Migration and as soon as they have the answers of the questionnaire ready they will share the document.
- Guatemala mentions that they have completed the questionnaire, however they ask if item 10 refers to migrant children.
- The TS mentions that effectively, item 10 refers to migrant children.
- Guatemala mentions that they will submit the questionnaire at the end of the meeting.
- Canada asks if the drafts are only in Spanish when could they be seen in English? Since they must be in English before answering. Canada mentions that it will be very difficult to have consensus on this, since it will make a very extensive document. The contribution that RCM has made on migration and all necessary qualifiers, but the countries themselves can be representations and do not necessarily have to be signed by RCM, as in the case of Canada, since each country has the opportunity to contribute under their own abilities.
- Vice Minister notes that the RCM space does not discredit any country to make its efforts, but urges countries to make their initiatives at regional level so they can be stronger, and calls on countries to reach consensus within the framework of the RCM.
- Panama mentions that each country has its sovereignty to influence the process towards the GCM as established in the New York Declaration, it should also be remembered that regional consultative processes also have an impact on the contributions, given that the RCM has Worked 21 years on best practices and efforts that could be presented as inputs and as products of this constant dialogue within the RCM, without jeopardizing the sovereign right of each country to present their inputs to the GCM.
- Mexico would like to have more time to review the document on best practices and believes that it is necessary to be more precise in terms of what it is desired to be produced in the context of RCM.
- Viceminister Magarín comments that there are some time frames, and due to the change in methodology, it is reminded that we are in the first phase that goes from April to November, so there is probably an opportunity for RCM to create a position. Vice-Minister Magarín proposes to reach an agreement on how to conduct this consultation to incorporate it into the process as RCM. IOM has mentioned that a conceptual document is being worked out for each of the 24 themes of the GCM, the TS and Mexico are asked if they have more information about them and if the documents can be sent for the use of each country and for the regional contribution.
- The TS mentions that yesterday 7 of these documents were submitted, and they will send them to the Member Countries if they wish so.
- Vice-minister Magarín requests that these documents be sent to all member countries. As for the meeting of the Global Forum in Germany, from June 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, a target should be set for the progress of the RCM position towards the GCM. To this end, it is proposed to set up a team to consolidate the preparation of this document to be presented at the Global Forum. Suggestions are requested to address this calendar, since April already finalized and only May and June remain to have the document ready for the Global Forum.



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- Panama mentions that they would like to work in sync with the UN timetable at the RCM and country level and with their diverse representations and institutions.
- Mexico mentions that because the Global Forum is at the end of June, during the meeting of the RCGM a space can be open in the agenda to discuss the contributions that would be made in the Global Forum.
- Costa Rica agrees with Mexico's proposal.
- Vice-Minister Magarín reviews the phases and dates of the thematic sessions established in the document Modalities for the intergovernmental negotiations of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. Item 17 states that these thematic sessions will have maximum duration of 12 days and will have two or three expert panels moderated by a Member State.
- The Vice-Minister proposes that the TS establishes a calendar with the dates for the national discussions in order that in the meeting of the 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of June of RCGM, a dialogue can be held on the contributions of each of the Member Countries and build the path on how to contribute as RCM.
- The TS mentions that they already have the documents on the themes and offers to read them:
  - Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration
  - Family reunification
  - Readmission
  - Enhancing migrant well-being upon return through an integrated approach to reintegration
  - Combating Trafficking in Persons and other forms of Slavery
  - Border Management
  - Immigration detention and alternatives to detention
- Vice-minister Magarín proposes to have a period of internal consultations to collect these contributions; the Vice-minister proposes to reconvene on June 5<sup>th</sup> to share the results of these consultations on the 24 issues covered by the GCM, in order to work between June 5<sup>th</sup> to review the comments to the documents and constitute a team with the TS to consolidate the contributions of the countries so that the document can be discussed in any of the sessions from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June and to be able to refer it to the Global Forum, if the Member Countries agree.
- Guatemala agreed with the dates proposed by the Vice-minister.
- Mexico agrees with the dates.
- Panama agrees with the dates and requests the TS to share the minutes of the meeting to have clarity on the dates.
- Honduras agrees on the dates.
- Costa Rica agrees on the dates.
- Canada and the United States agree on the dates.



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- The Vice Minister Magarín mentions that if there is consensus on these dates, the TS will be expected to share the IOM documents, and that Mexico will guide on any changes that may arise in the process as co-facilitators.
- Vice Minister Magarín asks about the draft political declaration elaborated by Mexico, Canada and the United States.
- Mexico mentions that they have worked on a proposal of political declaration in which a draft has been advanced in English and Spanish, last night the document was sent to the TS, it is a first proposal to be worked on, this proposal feeds on the 7 elements agreed at the March 29<sup>th</sup> meeting in Washington. Mexico would like to present this proposal for consideration of the PPT and the Member Countries, if the United States and Canada agree.
- The United States mentions that it is important to define the areas where the countries can join efforts and take the lowest fruits to have an agreement to reflect the baseline, without going into too many details, the United States made a series of consultations to approve the terminology with the White House. It is mentioned that the larger the document the more difficult it will be to reach consensus with the language, the version that worked Mexico seems to be acceptable for the United States.
- Canada agrees with the effort made by Mexico, and considers that the longer the document is the more difficult it will be to work on it, it must be a simple and high level practical document. That said, it is kindly requested to see the document from a proactive point of view of having a consensus on the declaration and seeing the draft that Mexico, Canada and the United States are developing, and once there is an agreement on this, it can be submitted to the Vice Ministers and do it as has been done in the past and then send it the co-facilitators.
- The PPT has some suggestions that they will submit tomorrow, regarding the documents sent by the TS.
- Panama support the proposal of the Vice Minister about the time table and mentions that the declaration should be representative of what the Member Countries have in common.
- The TS notifies that the ECLAC meeting will be in August, so the consultation carried out by ECLAC will be the first regional consultation at global level, which allows us the RCM to have a better insight on how the rest of the consultation process will happen, the TS will send the exact dates of the next consultations.
- Vice Minister Magarín agrees with Mexico with the declaration being of high level. Today, she will make a critical reading of this proposal to send some suggestions.
- The TS will send tomorrow the declaration made by Canada, Mexico and the United States to the Member Countries so they can make their contributions, analyze the document and submit their comments until May 18<sup>th</sup>, for the TS to collect the inputs and re-circulate the document with the inputs on May 19<sup>th</sup> so that a consolidated document is approved in the virtual meeting of June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Another subject for this meeting is the virtual meeting to be held with the SACM, which will take place next Monday at 2:00 pm (Central America). The Vice Minister wants to make sure that everyone has the final act signed with SACM.



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- Vice Minister Magrín recalls that within the agreements reached with the SACM it was agreed to prepare a draft of regional contributions to be forwarded as a consensual document for the GCM and to identify a set of principles, commitments and understandings shared by both Conferences, and to reflect it in this document that must be approved by all the Member Countries of both Conferences to generate the consensual document.
- Panama reiterates its interest in addressing the issue of extra-regional migrants between the two Troikas as part of the agreements reached in Washington D.C.
- On Monday May 8<sup>th</sup> at the meeting with the SACM the following issues will be addressed: Global Compact on Migration and Extra-regional Migrants.
- The TS mentions that in terms of the arrangements for the RCGM, the dates (June 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>) were confirmed for the meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador and the logistics note will soon be sent.
- There is a proposal by UNHCR to hold a workshop previous to the meetings of the networks to discuss the topic of the best interest of the children in the context of mixed flows. As soon as this is confirmed the information will be shared, the 3 networks are also being foreseen to participate for which funds are being sought. In addition, it is still pending to receive comments on 3 documents: the Memorandum of Understanding with IOM, the proposal for a tripartite mechanism between Civil Society, PPT-RCM and TS-RCM, as well as the work plan for the Network for the Protection of Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents, the three documents already shared by the TS. The fourth document would be elaborated in the coming days, which is one of the commitments of the RCM that is the Work Plan on Migrant Smuggling.
- The TS requests the Member Countries to follow up on these documents to reach an agreement regarding them in the meeting of the RCGM.

### Agreements:

- The TS will share with the Member Countries the thematic documents related to the thematic consultations of the GCM that have been elaborated by IOM.
- The TS will prepare a calendar with the dates that have been defined to carry out the consultations of the GCM, so that at the RCM meetings (20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of June) a dialogue can be held on the contributions of the RCM to the GCM.
- The TS will send on May 4<sup>th</sup> the latest, the draft declaration advanced by Canada, Mexico and the United States with the feedback of the PPT, to the Member Countries for them to make contributions, analyze the document and submit their considerations and comments to the document on May 18<sup>th</sup> at the latest, for the TS to collect the inputs and re-circulate it promptly with inputs included, so that a consolidated document is approved on June 5<sup>th</sup> at a virtual RCM meeting.
- On Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm (Central America), a meeting will be held with the SACM, where the following topics will be discussed: Global Compact on Migration and extra-



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regional migration flows. It remains to be determined with the SACM whether it will be a meeting of troikas alone or whether all Member Countries will participate.

- The dates for the RCGM meeting will be June 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador and soon the TS will send the logistic guide.