

LIMA DECLARATION

**XXI SOUTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION
"ARTICULATING THE CONTINENTAL DIALOGUE FOR COMPREHENSIVE
ASSISTANCE TO MIGRATION IN THE AMERICAS"**

Lima, Peru - December 5 and 6, 2023

The XXI South American Conference on Migration (SACM) was held in the city of Lima, Republic of Peru, on December 5 and 6, 2023, under the Presidency Pro Tempore of the Republic of Peru. It relied on the attendance of delegations from the Governments of the Republic of Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Republic of Chile, the Republic of Colombia, the Republic of Ecuador, the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, the Republic of Paraguay, the Republic of Peru, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, as well as representatives from International Organizations, Observers, Special Guests, and the Technical Secretariat in charge of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Under the slogan "Articulating the continental dialogue for comprehensive assistance to migration in the Americas", the XXI SACM proposed deepening actions associated with SACM thematic networks, the revitalization of the Extended Troika, and the updating of the South American Plan for Human Development of Migration (PSDHM), as well as the articulation with other regional consultative processes on migration issues in the Americas and the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration.

SACM Member States:

1. Recognize migrants as subjects with rights and duties, and commit to guarantee full protection and promotion of their rights all along the different stages of the migration process.
2. Stress the relevance of the integration of migrants in host countries and the promotion of policies and programs that facilitate their active participation in the societies of destination, also recognizing their contribution to the economic, social, and cultural development of the different countries.
3. Lay the emphasis on immigration regularization as an essential tool to achieve the effective integration of migrants through transparent and accessible processes.
4. Recognize that SACM is the main forum on migration issues in South America, and therefore, they encourage promoting cooperation and effective coordination

between the forums and mechanisms already existing, avoiding the creation of new forums to address this issue.

5. They recognize that the lack of legal frameworks for immigration regularization can lead to the social, labor and economic exclusion of migrants, and, in extreme situations, to their marginalization, informality, labor exploitation, and xenophobia, representing significant obstacles for integration and well-being.
6. They seek to eliminate any expression of discrimination against migrants and their families, in accordance with international law, advocating for a positive public discourse about the contributions they make to transit and host countries.
7. They will deepen comprehensive strategies to combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling.
8. They recognize the importance of financing by States, agencies, banks and international organizations to address the structural and multidimensional causes of migratory flows and increase the resilience of the populations of the countries and communities of origin.

I. NETWORK ON BORDER MANAGEMENT

The SACM member countries recognize the importance of advancing studies on the possibility and feasibility of integrated border management as an instrument for the promotion and protection of the human rights of migrants. They lay the emphasis on the need to continue promoting the exchange of experiences among countries, and the good practices in cross-border coordination, management modernization processes, and the promotion of capabilities among SACM Member States.

II. NETWORK ON MIGRANT CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

The SACM member countries recognize the importance of continuing making efforts to protect migrant children in South America, particularly unaccompanied children and adolescents and children in situations of special vulnerability. They commit to continue working on the creation of a network of contacts among member countries for consular protection and protection systems in each country to strengthen coordination, as well as the coordination of protection systems and care protocols for unaccompanied or separated migrant children and adolescents.

III. NETWORK ON GENDER AND MIGRATION

The SACM member countries highlight the importance of continuing analyzing the gender variable within the context of international migration in an effort to advance the formulation of more inclusive policies. They undertake to continue sharing experiences

and increasing their efforts to protect migrants in all their diversity from the different forms of gender-based violence to which they may be exposed throughout the migration cycle, promoting access to the specialized services existing in the countries, including sexual and reproductive health.

IV. NETWORK ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MIGRANT SMUGGLING

The SACM member countries are making progress in the fight against human trafficking and migrant smuggling, and identify the need to continue exchanging good practices and experiences among the countries in the region, including assistance to victims of human trafficking. As far as migrant smuggling is concerned, they note the importance of advancing the development of a regional plan to combat migrant smuggling in South America, and more particularly, to promote exchanges with the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM).

They also underscore the need to continue strengthening consular assistance, judicial and police cooperation mechanisms to further underpin the fight against these crimes in the region.

V. NETWORK ON MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL DISASTERS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The SACM member countries congratulates the Presidency Pro Tempore, the Government of the Republic of Chile, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) for holding the Face-to-Face Workshop on collaboration and exchange of experiences on migration, environment, natural disasters, and climate change in August 2023.

They understand the importance of advancing in assistance processes that take into account the specific vulnerabilities and capabilities of population groups affected by climate factors from a from a holistic intersectional and multicausality viewpoint of the reasons that lead to the decision to migrate.

They defend the scientific consensus on the multi-causal nature of the migration phenomenon and propose implementing a repository of information on the subject.

They also highlight the importance of producing data and developing prospective analyses to anticipate migration dynamics resulting from environmental, economic, social, and human rights factors, facilitating the implementation of preventive policies and programs that protect the rights of the populations affected by these dynamics and reduce the risks of disasters.

VI. NETWORK ON SOCIAL AND LABOR INTEGRATION: WORK AND EDUCATION

Although the SACM member countries have developed migration policies that favor the social and labor integration of migrants, as well as access to education across the three levels, they recognize the need to strengthen the regional work agenda in the areas of labor and education. In this regard, they highlight the importance of the Open South America Platform for the disclosure of requirements for the recognition of qualifications, certification of competencies, and access to justice in South American countries.

The SACM recognizes the importance of strengthening the progress achieved in access to regularization, access to education and to social and labor rights in specialized subregional migration forums such as the Andean Community (CAN) and MERCOSUR, promoting a permanent dialogue with them.

VII. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER ENTITIES

The SACM member countries highlights the opportunity to exchange views and experiences with the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) and the importance of strengthening collaboration and coordination with other regional bodies to jointly address migration challenges in the region in order to enhance joint work and not duplicate efforts.

They congratulate the efforts of Pro Tempore Presidency of Peru in the articulation with agencies under the United Nations System and with observer organizations within the framework of the thematic networks, promoting alliances that consolidate migration governance in South America.

VIII. PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE SOUTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION

They reaffirm their commitment to listen to the multiple stakeholders in the migration process and therefore, the importance of the participation of Civil Society Organizations through an addendum to its rules of procedure, which is an important milestone in enriching the work of the Conference.

IX. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

They welcome the results achieved during the XXI South American Conference on Migration (SACM) and reaffirm their commitment to the principles and objectives of this conference in promoting safe, orderly, and regular migration in the South American region.

They recognize the importance of the six thematic areas addressed during this conference and reiterate the need to continue working together on border management, the protection of migrant children and adolescents, the introduction of a gender perspective in migration policies, the fight against human trafficking and migrant smuggling, and to deepen studies and discussions on the relationship between migration, the environment, natural disasters and climate change, as well as on the social and labor integration of migrants.

They highlight the importance of the human rights perspective addressing climate caused migration and they highlight the development of studies based on scientific evidence within the framework of the United Nations Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Climate Change, aim to understand how the adverse effects of climate change can affect migratory movements in the region.

They congratulate the Pro Tempore Presidency of the CSM, Republic of Peru, and the Technical Secretariat, for their participation in the Tenth Global Meeting of Presidencies and Secretariats of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (GRCP 10), held on June 9, 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.

They express their commitment to continue supporting the update of the South American Plan for Human Development of Migration (PSDHM), highlighting the project financed by the IOM Development Fund (IDF).

The SACM is especially grateful for the participation of the Deputy Director General for Operations of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Ugochi Daniels, and the IOM Regional Director for South America, Marcelo Pisani, in the opening ceremony of the Plenary Meeting of this XXI SACM and express its gratitude for the participation and contributions made by the observer organizations and the special guests.

The Presidency Pro Tempore of the Republic of Peru also announces that it has received the candidacy of the Republic of Colombia to take the Presidency Pro Tempore of the XXII South American Conference on Migration. Accordingly, the SACM Member States have accepted such appointment in plenary session, congratulating and wishing Colombia the best of success during its presidency. The SACM appreciates the offer and decides to make formal handover by organizing a face-to-face inter-sessional meeting in Lima upon conclusion of the XXI Plenary Meeting.

Finally, they express their gratitude to the Republic of Perú for its leadership in the Presidency Pro Tempore of the XXI SACM and to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for its valuable work as Technical Secretariat. They do renew their

commitment to continue such efforts for the benefit of migrants in the South American region.

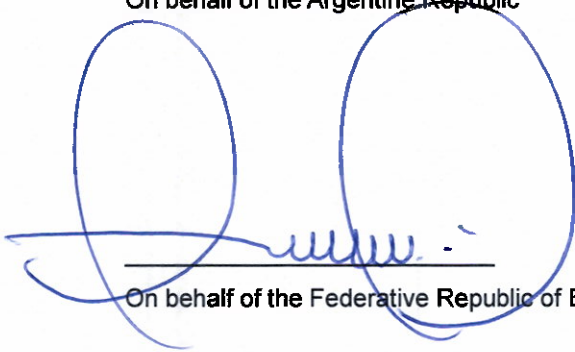
In witness whereof, this document is subscribed in the city of Lima, Republic of Peru, on December 6, 2023, in both the Spanish and the English languages, and both texts are deemed equally true.



On behalf of the Argentine Republic



On behalf of the Plurinational State of Bolivia



On behalf of the Federative Republic of Brasil



On behalf of the Republic of Chile



On behalf of the Republic of Colombia



On behalf of the Republic of Ecuador



On behalf of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana



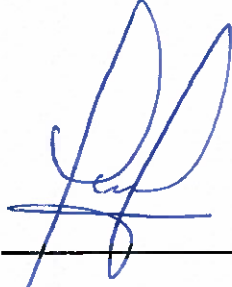
On behalf of the Republic of Paraguay



On behalf of the Republic of Peru



On behalf of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay



On behalf of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

ANNEX 1

**Addendum to the Bylaws of the South American Conference on Migration for the
Formal Participation of Civil Society in the SACM**

“ARTICLE 17: Participation of Civil Society Organizations”

1. With a view to strengthen the overall understanding of migration processes and to leverage its work, the South American Conference on Migration (SACM) will facilitate the participation of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) working on migration issues.
2. A Civil Society Organization (CSO) means an entity which is preferably regional and has a track record on international migration. The CSO track record can be shown by its contribution to the building of regional migration policies, as well as the quality of research and actions on the field.
3. CSOs which intended to participate in the SACM should be registered with the acting Technical Secretariat and Pro Tempore Presidency (PTP), which will draw up a technical report based in their mission, vision, objectives, scope, track record, composition and other relevant aspects. The final decision on the interested CSO participation will be made by the Member Countries consensus.
4. Authorized CSOs will participate and have a right to speak at certain SACM means, determined by Member States, following the participation guidelines set out by the Technical Secretariat and Member Countries, in order to contribute with their know-how and experience in the creation of initiatives to consolidate the Conference work and enrich the dialogue.