COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION ISSUES OEA/Ser.W

 CIDI/CAM/INF.116/22

 29 August 2022

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***COMMENTS AND PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE***

***DELEGATION OF CANADA***

***August 26, 2022***

PARAGRAPHS PROPOSED FOR INCLUSION IN THE CIDI DRAFT OMNIBUS RESOLUTION “ADVANCING HEMISPHERIC INITIATIVES ON INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT: PROMOTING RESILIENCE”

REGARDING THE STRATEGIC LINE “FOSTERING THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS, INCLUDING MIGRANT WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM ON THIS SUBJECT TO ENHANCE THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT”

1. To acknowledge the importance of ~~a~~ safe, orderly, humane, and regular migration and the creation of evidence-based public policies, strengthening mechanisms for gathering disaggregated and up-to-date information about migrant populations, in order to promote and strengthen regular pathways while addressing the risks associated with irregular migration and forced displacement. ~~causes and structural consequences of migration and reduce the risks associated with irregular migration.~~
2. To urge all member states, in keeping with the pertinent obligations under international human rights law, to strengthen their public policies for countering discrimination, racism, xenophobia, and any form of intolerance, in order to promote the socioeconomic integration and the empowerment of migrants in communities of origin, transit, destination, and return in all areas of society.
3. Likewise, to urge all member states to strengthen their public policies and regional cooperation mechanisms for preventing and combating the crimes of trafficking in persons, people smuggling and slavery, including the prosecution of such crimes, providing protection, and offering assistance to victims and survivors, and ensure its policies are victim and survivor-centred and include a gender perspective.
4. To recognize the need to provide people on the move with access to health services, disease prevention, vaccination, social services, education, employment, and recognition and accreditation of diplomas, for them to be fully included in host countries, regardless of their migration status, in keeping with applicable domestic law and international obligations.
5. To encourage the countries of the region to implement, as necessary, cooperation agreements and protocols on care, assistance, and protection for accompanied and unaccompanied children and adolescents or those separated in the context of mobility, safeguarding the best interests of the child, while respecting and protecting their rights and taking into account obligations of countries under international human rights law. Likewise, to encourage member states to ensure that accompanied and unaccompanied children and adolescents, or those separated from their families, receive specialized assistance and protection in any situation affecting them.
6. To urge member states, with a comprehensive focus on human rights, to take into account the rights of migrants and refugees and their families, when formulating and applying policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and any other pandemic that may arise, taking into consideration the particular impacts on all women, children and adolescents, and groups in situations of vulnerability o, based on the principles of equality and nondiscrimination and in keeping with each state’s domestic law and international obligations.
7. To encourage international cooperation initiatives at all stages of the migration process in support of migrants in countries of origin, transit, destination, and return, asylum seekers and refugees and to facilitate, as appropriate, the provision of humanitarian assistance and development, and their complete socioeconomic integration and inclusion, in keeping with applicable domestic and international law.
8. To promote and support, through cooperation policies, the strengthening and development of the capacities of member states in the area of migration and protection, especially for small island developing states, taking into account socio-economic integration goals and applying a human rights and sustainable development focus.
9. To recognize the challenges of human mobility caused by the effects of natural hazards, environmental degradation and biodiversity loss caused by climate change, as documented in the findings of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its report Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Similarly, to recognize the impact that natural hazards and the effects of climate change, environmental degradation and biodiversity loss have on people on the move, particularly for women and girls in all their diversity, and groups in situations of vulnerability , as well as the need to address the structural causes that increase disaster risk, with the consequent displacement of people, focusing on mitigation and prevention actions. Along these lines, reaffirm the validity and importance of advancing in the implementation of Declaration AG/DEC.88 (XLVI-O / 16) “Declaration on Climate Change, Food Security, and Migration in the Americas,” as approved by the General Assembly on June 14, 2016.
10. To explore international cooperation initiatives in matters of migration and protection to support countries affected by disasters of natural and/or human induced origins, as well as to those receiving large inflows of migrants and refugees.
11. To recognize the important contribution made by migrants and refugees to inclusive growth and sustainable development in countries of origin, transit, destination, and return.
12. To recognize the work of existing regional mechanisms such as the Regional Conference on Migration, the South American Conference on Migration, the Caribbean Migration Consultations (CMC), the Quito Process, the Andean Community, Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS), and other regional bodies that work on the issue and to underscore the need to establish a formal forum for dialogue involving these regional mechanisms, through an annual meeting under the Committee on Migration Issues (CAM), with the objective of helping to improve the governance of migration and international protection in the Americas, taking a comprehensive approach.
13. To acknowledge the initiatives arising at the multilateral level for dialogue, information sharing, and cooperation on migration and international protection and to take note of those initiatives in which a number of OAS member states participate, such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the Global Compact on Refugees, and the Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection, and to encourage the OAS General Secretariat, through the Department of Social Inclusion of its Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (DSI/SARE), to coordinate and collaborate with other regional and international institutions engaged in this area.
14. To encourage member states, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its goals, to promote faster, safer, and cheaper remittance transfers, with the aim of lowering, by 2030, average transaction costs to less than 3% of the amount transferred, developing policy and regulatory environments conducive to competition, regulation, and innovation in the remittances market, offering programs and instruments that are gender responsive, the ultimate aim being to improve the financial inclusion of migrants and refugees and their families.
15. To reaffirm the importance of continuing to strengthen and foster dialogue, information exchange and regional and bilateral cooperation on migration and protection matters, as appropriate, in confronting related challenges in the Hemisphere, especially in the Permanent Council and CIDI and the latter’s subsidiary bodies, including CAM, in accordance with the terms of resolution AG/RES. 2910 (XLVII-O/17) “Migration in the Americas” and declaration CP/DEC. 68 (2099/16) “Inter-American Cooperation to Address the Challenges and Opportunities of Migration,” adopted by the Permanent Council on December 15, 2016.

**ADD:** 16. To note the importance of responsibility sharing and ensuring a coordinated response with relevant non-governmental actors, including the United Nations system, multilateral development banks, international financial institutions, civil society, diaspora-led organizations, and private sector, among others.

Original version:

<http://scm.oas.org/pdfs/2021/Canada-CID-CAM-text-migration.docx>

<http://scm.oas.org/pdfs/2021/Note1604-Canada-CAM.pdf>

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