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COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION ISSUES (CAM)

(2020-2021)

(Item 5 on the order of business: Reports of the Chairs of the Working Group and the Permanent Committees of CIDI, CXVIII regular meeting of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, held on October 26, 2021).

INSTALLATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE CAM

The Committee on Migration Issues (CAM) was established pursuant to the resolution entitled “Strengthening the Topic of Migration in the OAS: Establishment of the Committee on Migration Issues,” which was adopted in 2012.

During this 2020-2021 period, the Committee on Migration Issues was installed at the regular meeting of CIDI held on December 8, 2020, when I was elected by acclamation as Chair of the Committee.

The election of the Vice Chair of the CAM took place at the second meeting of the CAM, held on January 27, 2021, when Alternate Representative of Ecuador Andrés Jáuregui was elected to that position.

1. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE CAM: 2020-2021 PERIOD

At the second meeting, held on January 27, 2021, the CAM approved its 2020-2021 Work Plan (Document CIDI/CAM/doc.85/21 rev. 1 - [Spanish](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=85&lang=s) |[English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=85&lang=e)). This work plan was designed to address migration issues in the Americas from a multidimensional, rights-based standpoint, covering the social and economic dimensions, from a national and regional perspective and with a gender focus, seeking to highlight the initiatives launched at the multilateral level for dialogue and cooperation on migration and international protection. The activities scheduled in the Work Plan were implemented in 11 meetings held during the period.

Meetings were thus held with high-level speakers on: “Access to social benefits, pensions, and agreements on pension transfers for vulnerable groups in host countries,” “Migrants’ contributions to host countries,” “Public policies and best practices in the region to combat discrimination, xenophobia, and racism,” “Assistance for human trafficking and migrant smuggling victims,” “Follow-up on measures to deal with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrants in the Americas,” “The impact of migration on small island developing states (SIDS) and the specific challenges in terms of their physical and financial capacity,” “Migration and climate change,” “Special migration situations in the region,” and “Collection of data and inter-American migration statistics.” It should be noted that, as promised at the beginning of the period, the requirement of gender parity in the composition of each of the panels was met at all of these meetings.

Furthermore, pursuant to the mandate to ensure that the institutions of the inter-American system fulfill the international migration objectives assigned them under the Inter-American Program for the Promotion and Protection of the Human Rights of Migrants, including Migrant Workers and their Families [AG/RES. 2883 (XLVI-O/16)], the Chair of the CAM requested the IACHR, the Inter-American Children's Institute (INN), the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), and the Department of Public Security of the OAS Secretariat for Multidimensional Security to submit written reports on the work they have done over the past year to achieve the objectives of the Program. This information will be shared with the member states in the CAM Chair’s Report on the Inter-American Program Follow-Up Process.

Lastly, through the CAM, at four meetings between September 13 and October 7, 2021 the OAS member states negotiated and agreed on a number of paragraphs on migration, for inclusion in 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.” They were referred to the Committee on Partnership for Development Policies on October 19 to be included in the draft omnibus resolution of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), for consideration at the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly (document (CIDI/CAM/doc.98/21 rev. 4- [Español](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=s) |[English](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=e)| [Français](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=f) |[Português](http://scm.oas.org/IDMS/Redirectpage.aspx?class=cidi/CAM/doc.&classNum=98&lang=p))

III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Chair would like to take this opportunity to thank the Vice Chair of the CAM, Alternate Representative of Ecuador Andrés Jáuregui, and each of the member state delegations, for the support they provided and for their valuable contributions during the negotiation of the paragraphs to be included in the draft omnibus resolution of CIDI; and, furthermore, for their active participation in the activities set forth in the 2020-2021 Work Plan of the CAM.

Likewise, the Chair is especially grateful to the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and the Department of Social Inclusion of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity – serving respectively as secretariat and technical secretariat to the CAM – for their valuable support.

I must especially thank Sandra Burns and Estela Díaz, of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development; and Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian, Álvaro Botero, Claudia González, and Sarah Meneses, of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity, for the indispensable, dedicated, and professional support they rendered the Committee on Migration Issues during the 2020-2021 period.

Thank you all very much.

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