XIV SOUTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION

LIMA DECLARATION

“MIGRATION AND INCLUSION: A CHALLENGE FOR SOUTH AMERICAN INTEGRATION”

The XIV South American Conference on Migration (SACM) was held on October 15-17, 2014 in Lima Peru, with participation 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 Republic of Paraguay, the Republic of Peru, the Republic of Suriname, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, led by Peru as President Pro Tempore, with collaboration from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) as Technical Secretariat, with the motto “Migration and Inclusion: A Challenge for South American Integration” and with participation of various international organizations as observers and special guests.

The SACM:

1. Reaffirmed the full validity and currency of the “Declaration of Principles and General Guidelines of the SACM”, the “South American Plan for Human Development of Migration” and the “Buenos Aires Declaration” as the basis for its thematic agenda and its political proposal to achieve free human mobility with social inclusion, which is the basis for South American integration.

2. Recognized that social inclusion of migrants is one of the main pillars of the regional integration process and that it constitutes a broad and comprehensive concept that should serve as a model for the efforts implemented by the SACM in matters of human rights, human development of migration and migration management, as well as for the actions oriented toward building South American citizenship that are being promoted by States.

3. Considered that, in order to achieve the social inclusion of migrants their access to all rights should be promoted, under equal conditions as national citizens, including the right to work, social security, health, justice, housing, education, social and political participation and culture in the receiving society.

4. Urged Member States to promote the incorporation of migration into the Post-2015 Development Agenda, since migrants generate multiple positive impacts in the economic, social, labour, cultural and political sphere in societies of origin and destination.

CENTRAL THEME I: FOLLOW-UP ON THE SOUTH AMERICAN PLAN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT OF MIGRATION (PSDHM)

1. The SACM reiterated the fundamental role of education and training of officials and agents from the public and private sector, especially immigration and consular officers, aimed at contributing to a human rights-based migration management.

2. The SACM agreed to promote the design and implementation of teaching strategies (workshops, manuals, virtual platforms, etc.) and exchanging best practices, as established in the projects entitled “Fortalecimiento de Capacidades Gubernamentales para el
Desarrollo Humano de las Migraciones” (Building government capacity for human development of migration) and “Fortalecimiento de capacidades para la promoción y defensa de los derechos humanos de la población migrante en situación de vulnerabilidad en Sudamérica (PRODEHSA)” (Capacity-building to promote and protect the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations in South America (PRODEHSA)).

3. The SACM asked Member States to prepare a report, to be submitted at the X Intersessional Meeting in 2015, on policies and programmes for social inclusion of migrants in matters such as health, education and work. Based on the reports, the SACM will develop a proposal oriented toward supporting public policymaking on the matter in the region.

CENTRAL THEME II: MIGRATION AND SOUTH AMERICAN INTEGRATION

1. The SACM reaffirmed the importance of the link between migration and regional integration and the contribution of regional integration processes.

2. The SACM discussed advances relating to the relationship between UNASUR and SACM and thanked the Republic of Colombia for formalizing the mandate on this matter, which was entrusted to Colombia during its term as President Pro Tempore (PPT) at the XIII SACM, held in Cartagena de Indias.

3. The SACM received the reports submitted by the General Secretariat of the Andean Community (CAN) and the Republic of Argentina as MERCOSUR PPT (Specialized Forum on Migration – FEM). The reports describe the advances of both bodies in migration matters and potential convergences of the processes to further develop the integration mechanisms.

4. The SACM recognized the advances in the implementation of the MERCOSUR Residence Agreement and took note of the proposals submitted by Member States aimed at helping to increase the coverage of the Agreement, such as decentralization of relevant procedures and effective application of the MERCOSUR residence through consular services.

CENTRAL THEME III: STRENGTHENING MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

1. The SACM reaffirmed the need to maintain a comprehensive approach in addressing challenges relating to international migration, based on the concept of management and considering that actions should be implemented as joint efforts by States in coordination with international organizations and other relevant actors.

2. The SACM highlighted the relevance of consular cooperation and horizontal cooperation as tools that help address migration in a comprehensive manner, further strengthening South-South cooperation. In this regard, the SACM highlighted the development of a “Consular Directory” as a first step toward achieving this objective, and charged the Technical Secretariat (TS) with the task of keeping and annually updating these instruments, with support from Member States.

3. The SACM took note of the report submitted by the TS on advances toward the establishment of a Fund for South-South Cooperation. In this regard, the TS was asked to
develop a proposal for a work plan, in coordination with the PPT and in consultation with Member States, to be considered at the next meeting of the SACM.

CENTRAL THEME IV: INTERNATIONAL IMPACT OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN REGION

1. The SACM reiterated its commitment to promote and protect the full exercise of the human rights of migrants and, similarly, to combat discrimination against migrants.

2. The SACM welcomed the proposal by Republic of Chile for a South American Convention on Migration. The proposal falls within the decision of the SACM to reposition the treatment of the topic of international migration in the sphere of the United Nations, thus strengthening the international impact of the SACM.

3. The SACM called for ratification of the “International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families”, urging States to recognize the competence of the Committee on Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families; comply with submitting progress reports about compliance with the above-mentioned Convention; and implement the recommendations from the Committee.

4. The SACM reaffirmed its willingness to participate and collaborate in developing an approach to address migration in ECLAC and thanked the Republic of Ecuador for the invitation to participate in the III ECLAC Meeting on Migration.

5. The SACM agreed to participate, through delegates from Member States, at the ECLAC-EU IX High-Level Meeting on Migration, with the aim of reiterating its position regarding the agenda items consistent with the central theme of the XIV SACM proposed by Argentina, Chile and Peru.

6. The SACM received the proposal by the Republic of Peru for collaboration between the SACM and other regional consultative processes, to be submitted to Member States for consideration and consultation. In addition, the SACM charged the TS with the task of compiling the input from the other Member States and preparing a final document, to be submitted at the X Intersessional Meeting of the SACM.

OPERATIONS AND STRUCTURE OF THE SACM

1. The SACM received the proposal for “Regulations Relating to the Structure and Operations of the South American Conference on Migration” by the Republic of Peru, as PPT, and the Republic of Argentina, to be submitted to Member States for consideration and resolution at the X Intersessional Meeting of the SACM. To this end, Member States will submit their comments to the TS by March 31, 2015 to be considered in preparing in the final version of the regulations.

2. The SACM considered the participation of civil society organizations (CSOs) to be important and agreed that each Member State will promote and develop a formal and permanent national space for dialogue with CSOs involved in migration matters, considering the specific characteristics of the CSOs and using information and communications technologies, as required. In addition, the SACM will facilitate the direct
and timely provision of information to CSOs about the efforts of the SACM and through the South American Observatory on Migration (OSUMI).

3. The SACM agreed to request that Member States submit a report on the results relating to their efforts to convene CSOs at a national level, to be discussed at intersessional meetings.

SPECIFIC MIGRATION SITUATIONS

1. SACM received and accepted the request by the Federative Republic of Brazil to establish mechanisms for effective cooperation in combating migrant smuggling and trafficking, particularly for cases occurring within South America with the region as the place of origin, transit or destination.

2. The SACM reiterated its concern regarding the increase in the movement of unaccompanied boys, girls and adolescents. Within this framework, the SACM ratified the need for States to make every effort to implement protection strategies under the Principle of the Best Interest of the Child, considering additional factors such as gender, ethnic minority, special abilities and language, among others, that could further increase the vulnerability of this population group.

3. The SACM welcomed the commemorative process initiated in the region relating to the 30th anniversary of the 1984 Cartagena Declaration on Refugees (Cartagena + 30) and recognized the efforts of States, international organizations and civil society to advance toward adopting a new strategic framework and public policies to address the challenges concerning the topic in the upcoming decade.

4. The SACM received and was particularly interested in the information about extra-continental migration submitted by the Federative Republic of Brazil, agreeing on the need to reach consensus on an appropriate course of action.

5. The SACM adopted and was particularly interested in the proposal by the Republic of Paraguay to establish a permanent space for discussion about the free movement of persons and to include this topic as an independent central theme in the future.

6. The SACM received the information and invitation by the Republic of Chile and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to participate in the training workshop on “Migration, Environment and Climate Change” to be held in Santiago, Chile on October 28-30, 2014. The workshop is a preparatory activity for the Climate Change Conference (COP 20), to be held in Lima, Peru in December 2014.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. The SACM thanked the international organizations and observer countries for their participation in the XIV SACM and their important input, which enriched the discussions between Member States highlighting areas of convergence and potential spheres of cooperation.
2. The SACM saluted the presence of the Director General of IOM and the willingness expressed by him to continue supporting the SACM in the development of effective public policy in the sphere of international migration; promotion of the free movement of persons; and consolidation of South American citizenship, with inclusion of migrants.

3. The SACM charged the TS with the task of exploring funding alternatives for regional initiatives concerning shared access to data on migration, in order to facilitate mobility processes through technology support.

4. The SACM congratulated the Oriental Republic of Uruguay for passing and implementing the Permanent Residence Act within the framework of the Residence Agreement for States Parties to MERCOSUR and Associated Countries.

5. The SACM took note of the Regional Meeting of Civil Society Organizations and Regional Networks of the Migration and Development Programme (MADE Americas) – the report of the meeting was presented at the XIV SACM by representatives from the International Network for Migration and Development (INMD) and the Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN) – and encouraged them to continue implementing migration research and analysis efforts in promoting and protecting the rights of migrants.

6. The SACM welcomed the offer by the Republic of Chile to host the XV SACM, to be held in October 2015 and the offer by the Republic of Paraguay to host the X Intersessional Meeting, to be held in June 2015.

7. The SACM expresses its appreciation to the Republic of Peru, as President Pro Tempore and host country, for the hospitality and the excellent organization and development of the XIV SACM, and to the Technical Secretariat for its support in organizing this meeting.

In witness whereof, this document is signed in the city of Lima, Republic of Peru, on October 17, 2014.

For the Republic of Argentina

For the Federative Republic of Brazil

For the Plurinational State of Bolivia

For the Republic of Colombia

For the Republic of Chile

For the Republic of Ecuador
For the Republic of Paraguay

For the Republic of Peru

For the Republic of Suriname

For the Oriental Republic of Uruguay

For the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela