

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING ON HUMAN MOBILITY OF VENEZUELAN NATIONALS

Quito Process - Buenos Aires Chapter

The representatives of the Governments of the Argentine Republic, the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Republic of Chile, the Republic of Colombia, the Republic of Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, the Republic of Ecuador, the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, the Republic of Paraguay, the Republic of Peru, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, gathered in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 4-5 July 2019, for the purpose of following up on the items agreed under the Quito Declarations of 4 September 2018 and 9 April 2019, and the Plan of Action signed on 23 November 2018, have agreed:

1. To express their concern over the serious political crisis Venezuela is undergoing, with adverse effects in migration, humanitarian, economic and social terms, which poses a threat to regional and international peace and security. This situation is detrimental to the protection of and respect for human rights, and has caused more than four million Venezuelans to leave their country, as shown by the report published by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on 4 July 2019. The representatives urge all actors in the international community to undertake a commitment to support prompt restoration of institutional order in Venezuela, through a political solution that is both peaceful and democratic, and led by Venezuelans themselves.
2. To recognize and underscore the actions and efforts undertaken by the countries of the region to welcome and integrate Venezuelan migrants, especially those in highly vulnerable situations.
3. To call for an increase in and the strengthening of international technical and financial cooperation based on the principle of shared responsibility, in order to contribute to the efforts undertaken by host countries in the implementation of the Quito Plan of Action on Human Mobility of Venezuelan Nationals in the Region.
4. To continue working, with support from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in order to improve biographic and biometric data records of Venezuelan nationals, migrants and applicants for refugee status, with respect for the right to privacy and to personal data protection, in accordance with each country's laws, with a view to facilitating safe, orderly and regular mobility in the countries of this region, and to strengthening the fight against human trafficking and migrant smuggling.
5. To strengthen follow-up measures for the Quito Plan of Action on Human Mobility of Venezuelan Nationals in the Region, as set forth in Action 1.1.1.a.
6. To strengthen cooperation, communication and coordination between transit and destination countries for Venezuelan migrants, especially for entry into national territories, for the provision of humanitarian aid and for migration regularization, strengthening measures against transnational offences, such as migrant smuggling and human trafficking, and against sexual and gender-based violence, and supporting the fight against discrimination and xenophobia, thereby ensuring the protection of those who are

most vulnerable.

7. To reaffirm that the main purpose of the Quito Process is regional coordination with a view to ensuring safe, orderly and regular migration, fully respecting human rights, and in accordance with domestic regulations, international instruments, and best practices in the region.
8. To analyze the proposed "Regional Guidelines for the Protection of Venezuelan Refugee and Migrant Children and Adolescents" launched by UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund), with the support of UNHCR, IOM and IPPDH (MERCOSUR Institute of Public Policies on Human Rights).
9. To convey special gratitude to the entities, countries and cooperation agencies that have supported the project profiles introduced at this meeting, giving rise to the "Buenos Aires Chapter Road Map."
10. To thank cooperating and observer countries, as well as international organizations and cooperation agencies, for their support, attendance and participation, and, at the same time, to request that they increase and strengthen their support for implementation of the Quito Plan of Action and the "Buenos Aires Chapter Road Map."
11. To thank the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank for their presentations, and to announce the expansion of lines of credit and projects to finance the implementation of the lines of work introduced at the Buenos Aires Chapter.
12. To convey special gratitude to IOM and UNHCR for their support for and sponsorship of the Quito Process in general, and the IV International Technical Meeting on Human Mobility, Buenos Aires Chapter, in particular.
13. To promote the creation of a Group of Countries and Institutions in Support of the Quito Process, so that it will cooperate in mitigating the regional situation that has arisen as a consequence of the Venezuelan crisis, and endeavour to mobilize resources to back the implementation of priority actions in the Quito Plan of Action and the "Buenos Aires Chapter Road Map."
14. To renew the invitation to the countries that have participated in the Quito Process meetings but have not yet adhered to its Declarations and/or to the Plan of Action to sign said documents.
15. To ratify the commitment by the States participating in the Quito Process to cooperate with each other in supporting and protecting their nationals residing in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and to invite relevant international organizations to cooperate in this task.
16. To underscore the support of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which met in the city of Medellin, Colombia, on 26-28 June 2019, which has highlighted the role of the Quito Process as a mechanism to find jointly-developed, coordinated solutions for the Venezuelan migration crisis and its effects on the region.
17. To urge the member countries of MERCOSUR, the Andean Community (CAN), the Central

American Integration System (SICA), and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to encourage and take steps within said organizations to support the implementation of the Quito Plan of Action and of the "Buenos Aires Chapter Road Map," especially with a view to making progress on the instrument with information on regional mobility of Venezuelan migrants.

18. To welcome the proposal from the International Labour Organization (ILO) to hold, with support from IOM and UNHCR, a Technical Meeting on Labour Migration, Socio-economic Integration and Job Creation in the last quarter of 2019, for the purpose of building bridges between migration policies and employment policies, thereby increasing the efforts made by relevant actors in furtherance of migration governance.
19. To thank the Government of the Republic of Colombia for its offer to host the Fifth Meeting of the Quito Process, on 5-6 December 2019, as well as the Government of the Republic of Paraguay for its interest in hosting the Sixth Meeting of the Quito Process in Asunción, in the first half of 2020.
20. To thank the Government of the Argentine Republic for organizing this meeting.

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For the Argentine Republic

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Samuel Ossa Dietsch

For the Republic of Chile

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Gerardo César Ramón Pina Toribio

For the Dominican Republic

TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH. Buenos Aires, 22 July 2019.

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