Extraordinary Declaration

THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION (RCM) REITERATES ITS COMMITMENT TO PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF GIRLS AND WOMEN IN MIGRATION CONTEXTS

The Member Countries of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM), on the occasion of the V Regional Congress on Women in Migration Contexts: “Migration has a Female Face: Towards Respect and Integrity of Women’s Rights”, held in Panama, Republic of Panama, on July 6 and 7, 2023.

Recognize the importance and impact of the change in trends in the region, by observing the growing number of girls and women in a context of human mobility, with specific needs, associated with feminization as a consequence of multiple factors, such as violence in all its forms, poverty, an increase and overload of care work for women, environmental disasters and the effects of climate change, among others; For this reason, we reiterate the importance of protecting and respecting their rights in the various stages of the migration cycle.

We reaffirm our commitment to continue working to achieve the eradication of all types of discrimination and violence against girls and women in all contexts, considering intersectionality, with special attention to those women who are in human mobility.

Likewise, maintain the commitment to join efforts through cooperation, solidarity, shared responsibility, constructive dialogue and exchange of experiences, at the international, regional or bilateral level; for the implementation and observance of the international commitments to which each State is a Party, which allow the promotion and economic and social empowerment of all women through policies, legal and institutional frameworks, projects and programs that incorporate the gender perspective in the actions of national and local governments, international agencies and civil society organizations.

Recall that the opportunity to migrate in a safe, orderly and regular way will promote the autonomy and true empowerment of migrant women, refugees and asylum seekers, through the guarantee of the comprehensive protection of their human rights, with the commitment to the highest authorities of each of the RCM Member Countries, as well as the Buenos Aires Commitment.

Highlight the need to promote respect and full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms in favor of girls and women; promoting an active dialogue, where counting on their participation will allow more efficient and effective actions,
based on evidence, to address a reality that allows their situation to be dealt with specificity, when being made visible, by carrying out concrete actions, and promoting safe spaces and trust without discrimination.

Appreciate the unconditional support of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Government of Canada, IOM, UNHCR, ICRC and OHCHR for the realization of this Fifth edition of the Regional Congress on Women in migration contexts, with the support of the PPT of Panama, promoting spaces for the comprehensive treatment of the needs of migrant girls and women, with an adequate gender approach.

Reiterate the willingness of the Regional Conference on Migration to continue the articulated work among Member Countries; to ensure the governance of migration, so that the needs of migrants are considered, from a comprehensive perspective, ensuring spaces for the promotion and protection of their human rights, especially of girls and women in migration contexts.