



AGENDA

Workshop on Labor Migration: Contributions from the Ministries of Labor of the Americas

July 13 & 14, 2017 - San José, Costa Rica

Venue: Radisson Hotel - Calle Central y Tercera, Ave. 15, contiguo a Periódico La República, San José, Costa Rica

Brief Description and Objectives:

This workshop is part of the activities of the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) of the OAS, which in its XIX reunion held in Cancun, Mexico in December 2015, had as one of its priority themes labor migration and the need to advance on the protection of rights of migrant workers. The event is co-organized by the Organization of American States, as the Technical Secretary of the IACML, the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and is hosted by the Ministry of Labor and Social Security (MTSS) of Costa Rica.

The **general objective of the Workshop** is to analyze and exchange experiences (policies and programs), as well as identify lessons learned and recommendations, in order to strengthen the work of the Ministries of Labor on labor migration.

Considering that labor migration is a multi-dimensional phenomenon, the Ministries of Labor of the region were consulted on the topics to cover during the workshop. Based upon their responses, the workshop will focus on the analysis and exchange of policies and programs undertaken by Ministries of Labor in the following two areas:

- The development of labor market information systems and the provision of relevant information to guide comprehensive migration policy
- The protection of labor rights of migrant workers, including the role of labor inspection, as well as efforts to raise awareness and disseminate information.

Participants

- Technical officers from the Ministries of Labor of the OAS Member States
- Representatives of workers and employers, grouped in COSATE and CEATAL
- Representatives of International Organizations and other special guests

DAY 1 – July 13, 2017

8:00 – 9:00 Participant Registration

9:00 – 9:30 **OPENING – WELCOMING REMARKS**

- Maria Claudia Camacho, Chief of Labor and Employment Section, Executive Secretariat for Integral Development of the Organization of American States (OAS)
- Anna Platonova, Regional Specialist in Labor Migration and Human Development, Regional Office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for Central America, North America, and the Caribbean
- Carmen Moreno, Director of the International Labor Organization (ILO) for Central America, Haiti, Panama and the Dominican Republic.
- Hosanna Mora, Director of Cooperation and Migrant Workers, Unit for International Affairs, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare of Mexico and President of the XIX Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor.
- Juan Alfaro Lopez, Vice-Minister of Labor and Social Security of Costa Rica

9:30 – 11:00 **FRAMEWORK SESSION: LABOR MIGRATION IN THE AMERICAS TODAY AND THE ROLE OF MINISTRIES OF LABOR**

Moderator: Maria Claudia Camacho, Chief of Labor and Employment Section, Executive Secretariat for Integral Development of the OAS

Presentations (15 minutes each)

- Situation of migration in the Americas, conclusions from the last Report of the Continuous Reporting System of International Migration in the Americas (SICREMI). Juan Manuel Jiménez, Migration Specialist, Department of Social Inclusion, Secretariat of Access to Rights and Equality of the OAS
- The link between labor market and migration, and the rights-based approach. Francesco Carella, Labor Migration Specialist at the ILO
- Protection of migrant workers at all stages of the migration cycle. Anna Platonova, Regional Specialist in Labor Migration and Human Development, Regional Office of the IOM for Central America, North America, and the Caribbean
- Social Security and Migration. Omar de la Torre de la Mora, General Secretariat of the Inter-American Social Security Conference (CISS)

Question and Answer Session (30 minutes)

11:00 – 11:15 Break

11:15 – 1:00 **PANEL 1: LABOR MARKET INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND MIGRATION POLICY**

Moderator: Francesco Carella, Labor Migration Specialist for the ILO

Introductory Presentations (15 mins each):

- **Costa Rica.** Johnny Ruiz, Head of Labor Migration, Ministry of Labor and Social Security.
- **Colombia.** Alvaro Calderón, Alternative Representative, Permanent Mission of Colombia to the OAS, Chair of the Committee on Migration Issues (CAM) of the OAS.
- **CARICOM.** Rosa-Mae Whittier, Free Movement and Labour Officer, CARICOM Secretariat, CSME Unit

Open dialogue among all participants (1 hour)

Guiding questions for dialogue and presentations:

1. What initiatives are Ministries of Labor developing to collect, analyze, and disseminate information on the labor market? Do they include information on migration? Indicate advancements and challenges
2. Are there initiatives to maintain shared information systems (with another country or countries)? Indicate prior or current experiences on regional labor market information systems within the framework of regional integration processes
3. How is labor market information being used in the definition and implementation of migration policy?

1:00 – 2:00 Lunch offered by the ILO for all participants

2:00 – 3:30 **Continuation of PANEL 1**

Workers' and employers' perspectives (15 minutes each):

- **Workers' representative.** Jonatan Monge, CMTC of Costa Rica and Trade Union Confederation of the Americas
- **Employers' representative.** Jorge Araya, Executive Sub-Director of the UCCAEP, representative of the Business Technical Advisory Committee on Labor Matters (CEATAL).

Open dialogue space among all participants (1 hour)

3:30 – 3:45 Break

3:45 – 5:30

PANEL 2: PROTECTING THE LABOR RIGHTS OF MIGRANT WORKERS

Moderator: Anna Platonova, Regional Specialist on Labor Migration and Human Development, Regional Office for Central America, North America and the Caribbean for the IOM.

Introductory Presentations (15 minutes each):

- **Mexico.** Susana Casado, Director of International Legal Affairs, Unit for International Affairs, Secretariat for Labor and Social Prevision
- **Chile.** Ana Bell Jaras, Director of International Relations and Migrant Work, Directorate of Labor, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare
- **Jamaica.** Delroy Palmer, Director of Overseas Employment, Ministry of Labor and Social Security

Open dialogue space among all participants (1 hour)

Guiding questions for dialogue and presentations:

4. What strategies are being developed, both in countries of origin and destination, to raise awareness and disseminate information on the labor rights of migrant workers?
5. What initiatives do the Ministries of Labor implement to strengthen the capacity of labor inspection in order to protect the rights of migrant workers?
6. What cooperation initiatives between countries of origin and destination are being developed to protect migrant workers? Specify actions to promote ethical recruitment

7:00 p.m.

Departure from Hotel to the Welcome Dinner offered by IOM to all participants

DAY 2 – April 14, 2017

9:00 – 10:30 **Continuation of PANEL 2**

Intervention on OAS recent decisions on migration. Alvaro Calderón, Chair of the Committee on Migration Issues (CAM) of the OAS and Alternative Representative, Permanent Mission of Colombia to the OAS.

Workers' and employers' perspectives (15 minutes each):

- **Workers' representative.** José Olvera, Vice-president of the Trade Union Advisory Council (COSATE)
- **Employers' representative.** Nancy Fonseca, Director of International Affairs of the Confederation of Employers of Mexico (COPARMEX) and CEATAL representative

Open dialogue among all participants (1 hour)

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 1:00 **WORK IN SUB-GROUPS** – Participants were divided into 3 sub-groups, which appointed a moderator. Objective: to exchange experiences, to hold technical discussions and to identify lessons learned, recommendations and challenges with regard to the two priority themes of the Workshop (reflected in Panel 1 and 2).

1:00 – 2:30 Lunch offered by the ILO for all participants

2:30 – 4:00 **PLENARY**

Presentations from Sub-group moderators on challenges, lessons learned and recommendations:

- Moderator of Sub-Group 1: Ana Bell Jaras, Director of International Relations and Migrant Work, Directorate of Labor, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare
- Moderator of Sub-Group 2: Eltonia Anthony-Rojas, Labor Commissioner, Ministry of Labour of Antigua and Barbuda
- Moderator of Sub-Group 3: Johnny Ruiz, Director of International Affairs, Ministry of Labor and Social Security of Costa Rica

4:00 – 4:30 **CLOSING SESSION**

- Francesco Carella, Labor Migration Specialist for the ILO
- Anna Platonova, Regional Specialist in Labor Migration and Human Development, Regional Office of the IOM
- Maria Claudia Camacho, Chief of Labor and Employment Section, Executive Secretariat for Integral Development of the OAS
- Alfredo Hasbum, Minister of Labor and Social Security of Costa Rica