

Commission on Population and Development

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Statement by Mr. Paulo Saad, Chief, Population Division of ECLAC

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has a broad experience in the interlinkages of international migration, human rights and development. For decades, it has been mandated by its Member States to follow up on these issues in the region, particularly by undertaking studies and research, providing training and technical assistance, promoting technical cooperation and capacity building, and generating migration related data and information.

Over the years, CELADE - the Population Division of ECLAC, has produced several studies on migration patterns and trends, has launched and maintained IMILA, a major regional data bank on international migration, and has assisted governments in the region in the design and evaluation of policies, regulations, plans and strategies on migration. The role played by ECLAC in the generation of evidence and indicators for the follow up of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, which includes a specific chapter on international migration, has been particularly relevant.

ECLAC has been able to leverage its work on international migration through collaboration with key strategic partners in the region, such as the International Labor Organization (ILO), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

A most recent and relevant collaboration was the co-organization by ECLAC, IOM and DESA Population Division of the *Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration* held in August 2017 in Santiago at ECLAC headquarters.

The meeting was attended by about 50 experts from governments, civil society and academia from 15 countries of the region, and counted on the participation of Louise Arbour, special representative of the Secretary General for International Migration and Ambassador Juan José Gómez Camacho, Co-facilitator for the Global Compact

on Migration. The results of the meeting constitute an important contribution of the region to the process leading to the Global Compact.

ECLAC provides continuous support to the intergovernmental forums on migration in the region – the South American Conference on Migration and the Regional Conference on Migration -, and has many intergovernmental subsidiary bodies in which its Member States can undertake and advance policy discussions on a broad range of development issues. In the case of international migration, the most relevant subsidiary organ is the Regional Conference on Population and Development, which next meeting is scheduled to take place in Lima, Peru from 7 to 10 August of this year.

Mr. Chairman,

ECLAC stands ready to continue supporting member states in addressing issues related to international migration, human rights and development, including the implementation and follow-up of the agreements arising from the negotiations currently underway on the Global Compact on Migration.

Thank you!