

Regional Twinning Meeting on Asylum Capacity Building for the MIRPS Working Group on Reception, Admission and Processing of Persons with Protection Needs.

**Hotel Le Meridien (Aqua Bay Room), Panama City
May 4th and 5th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm**

DAY 1- WEDNESDAY, MAY 4th			
Time	Topic	Presenter	Objective / Content
9.00	Welcome and introductory remarks	Her Excellency Juana López Córdoba , Vice Minister of the Government of Panama.	Provide welcoming remarks as the host country.
		Isabel Márquez (General Director, UNHCR, Americas Bureau).	Introduction to the regional meeting and speakers from the governments of Mexico and Canada highlighting the importance of Mexico leading this MIRPS working group and Canada's financial contribution to Central America and Mexico for the planning of this meeting.
		Cinthia Pérez , (General Director of Refugees, Mexican Commission for Refugee Aid).	Introduce the meeting and explain the purpose of the Reception and Admissions Working Group and the focus areas.
		Photinie Koutsavlis (Director General, Refugee Affairs Branch, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Agency).	Explain the leadership of the government of Canada in the MIRPS support platform and the financial contribution to strengthen asylum systems in the region.
9.30	Presentation of the agenda and expected results of the meeting.	Nadia Williamson (Acting Head of RSD/Asylum Unit, UNHCR, Americas Bureau).	Present agenda and explain methodology and expected results.
9:40	Presentation of participants and official photo.	María José Benítez (Associate CRR Officer, UNHCR, Americas Bureau) and James Restrepo (COI Officer, UNHCR, Americas Bureau).	Ice breaker activity.
Presentation of good practices.			
10:00	Presentation - government of Brazil followed by Q&A.	Pedro Henriques de Moraes Cicero (University Professor attached to the General Coordination of the National Committee for Refugees)/ Gabriel Dizner (General	Present the prima facie recognition procedure and COI as a tool to establish differentiated RSD procedures as good practices. Provide information on tools, lessons learned and recommendations.

		Coordination of the National Committee for Refugees).	
10:30	Presentation - Government of Canada (IRCC) followed by Q&A.	Leah Winsor (Director, Refugee Affairs Section, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Agency).	Present the RACBI model as a good practice. Provide information on tools, lessons learned and recommendations.
10:45	Presentation - Government of Canada (IRB) followed by Q&A.	Elise Escaravage (Member, Western Region, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada).	Present the gender task force as a good practice. Provide information on tools, lessons learned and recommendations.
11:00- 11:20- Break			
11:20	Presentation - government of Mexico followed by Q&A.	Dania Ortega (Director of Protection, Mexican Commission for Aid to Refugees).	Present mapping, tools and implementation of differentiated RSD procedures as good practices. Provide information on tools, lessons learned and recommendations.
11:50	Presentation - government of the United States followed by Q&A.	Robert Daum (Acting Deputy Chief of the Asylum Division, USCIS)/ Arthur Hale (Asylum Officer, USCIS).	Present USCIS's transition to a digitalized asylum application as a good practice. Provide information on tools, lessons learned and recommendations.
Presentation of twinning project outlines.			
12:20	Presentation- government of Belize.	Alexis Salazar (Eligibility Officer, Refugees Department, Ministry of Immigration).	Explain twinning project outline.
12:40	Presentation - government of Costa Rica.	Allan Rodriguez (Head of the Refugee Unit, General Directorate of Migration and Aliens)/ Gabriela Richard (Vice President, Administrative Immigration Court).	Explain twinning project outline.
13:00	Presentation - government of El Salvador.	Karla Quintanilla (CODER Secretary) / Rosy Girón (Director of Human Mobility and Attention to Migrants and Head of the CODER Subcommittee).	Explain twinning project outline.
13:20- 14:20- Lunch			
14:20	Presentation of regional digital platforms.	James Restrepo (COI Officer, UNHCR, Bureau for the Americas) and Mateo Privitera (Assistant Communications and Multimedia Officer, UNHCR, Bureau for the Americas).	Present: asiloamericas.org and mirpsplatform.org
14:40	Presentation - government of Guatemala.	Greta Mabela Mancilla (Head of the Refugee Status Recognition Department, General Institute of Migration).	Explain twinning project outline.

15:00	Presentation - government of Honduras.	Kenya Marcela Carranza Ramírez (Manager of Human Rights, National Institute of Migration).	Explain twinning project outline.
15:20	Presentation - government of Mexico.	Dania Ortega (Director of Protection, Mexican Commission for Refugee Aid).	Explain twinning project outline.
15:40	Presentation - government of Panama.	Johanna Messina (Deputy Director of the National Office for the Attention of Refugees of the Ministry of Government) / Saúl Jaramillo , (Lawyer of the Directorate of International Legal Affairs and Treaties of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs).	Explain twinning project outline.
16:00	Summary and conclusions.	Saúl Jaramillo , (Lawyer of the Directorate of International Legal Affairs and Treaties of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs).	Present important conclusions of all the twinning project outlines presented during the day.
16:30- End of the first day.			
17:00-19:00- Cocktail Buffet at Le Meridien (balcony of the second floor)			

DAY 2- THURSDAY, MAY 5th

Time	Topic	Presenter	Objective/Content
9:00	Welcome and explanation of group work methodology.	Nadia Williamson (Acting Head of the RSD/Asylum Unit, UNHCR, Americas Bureau).	Explain general objectives of group work, definitions, and twinning examples.
Preparation, discussion, and validation of twinning proposals.			
10:00	Group work (MIRPS members)– preparation of proposals.	MIRPS government participants of each country supported by UNHCR.	Preparation of draft project proposals.
11:30-11:50- Break			
12:00	Group work (MIRPS and MIRPS SP members) – matching.	Government participants of each country supported by UNHCR.	Speed networking to share draft project proposals with each participating country (discussions of 10-12 minutes each).
13:30-14:30- Lunch			
14:30	Presentation of proposals by each MIRPS country.	MIRPS government representatives of each country supported by UNHCR.	Summary of draft project proposals (15-20 minutes each).

16:30	Next steps and closing remarks of the meeting.	Germán Gutiérrez Gómez (Directorate of Attention and Institutional Liaison, COMAR) and Photinie Koutsavlis (Director General, Refugee Affairs Branch, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Agency).	Results and twinning project proposals that will be presented at the Solidarity Event in June 2022.
17:00- End of regional twinning meeting.			