Inclusive Migration Governance in the Americas and Caribbean

A Primer for Parliamentarians

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📖 INTRODUCTION

Throughout history, migration has been a fundamental part of human development, presenting with it many opportunities and challenges for both individuals and States. Over the last 50 years, the share of migrants among the world population has remained relatively stable, rising from 2.3 percent in 1970 to 3.6 percent in 2020. As the global population has increased, the number of migrants has also grown significantly – from 84 million in 1970 to 281 million in 2020 – along with unequal distribution across regions.[1] Coupled with increasingly complex drivers of migration, such as climate change, this has led to a growing understanding that the consequences of cross-border movements must be better addressed, and that the economic, social and cultural benefits of international migration must be more effectively realized.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, addressing the root causes of migration – such as poverty, political instability, and crime and violence – is crucial in creating sustainable solutions and reducing the pressures that drive people to migrate irregularly. However, this work alone cannot reduce migrant flows in the short term and today's migration challenges require both a focus on long-term sustainable development, as well as an approach to governance that meets the more immediate needs of individuals and States. Parliamentarians, through their oversight, legislative, and representative responsibilities, can play a crucial role in governing the movement of people and promoting rights-based policies to support migrants in all their diversity.

This publication, created as a joint effort between ParlAmericas and the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), provides parliamentarians with an overview of the various international commitments and frameworks guiding migration policies; the benefits of migration for sustainable development; reputable data sources on migration; and tangible actions that parliamentarians can take to contribute to inclusive governance in the region.

📍 MIGRATION LANDSCAPE IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

In recent years, international migration has increased in complexity and emerged as a pivotal concern on the political agendas of Latin American and Caribbean countries. Every country in the region is a country of **origin, destination, return or transit**, and migratory flows are increasingly characterized by **irregularity**.

According to United Nations estimates, in 2020, 43 million people who were born in Latin America and the Caribbean were living outside their countries of birth, either within the region or beyond, representing 15% of the world's migrant population. While the United States remains the main destination for the region's migrants, **intraregional migration** has seen a significant increase compared to the previous decade. Between 2000 and 2010, intraregional migration increased by 1.6 million, while between 2010 and 2020 it increased by more than 5.9 million.

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1 United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) (2020). International Migrant Stock. https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/content/international-migrant-stock

The underlying causes of migration are multifaceted and stem from a confluence of push and pull factors. **Push factors** include structural lack of opportunities for decent work, compounded by economic crises, disasters and the repercussions of climate change, along with humanitarian emergencies and various forms of violence. In turn, **pull factors** arise from greater opportunities for employment and education, along with higher wages and family reunification. Social and economic inequalities thus shape the incentive framework in which decisions to migrate are made, in pursuit of better living conditions and job opportunities.

Gender and other intersecting social variables have a large impact on the migratory experiences of people of all genders, whether **voluntary or forced**. Women and men from different backgrounds, for example, may have different reasons for migrating, shaped by inequalities and discrimination and by their expected familial and social roles and responsibilities. Their opportunities, risks, physical security, ability to access resources, and networks will likewise shape all aspects and stages of migration. Gender therefore should be central to all regulatory interventions related to migration.

Data at a Glance

- In 2020, a total of 14,794,623 immigrants resided in Latin America and the Caribbean. Approximately 11 million of these came from countries of the region itself (DESA, 2020).

- Intraregional migration increased 72% between 2010 and 2020 (DESA, 2020).

- Women represent an estimated 51.3% of the number of international migrants in the Americas (IOM, 2022).

- About 46% of the 22.1 million forcibly displaced people in the Americas are women, adolescents and girls (UNHCR, 2023, in Spanish).

- In 2022, 2.6 million internal displacements were documented in the Americas, with nearly 80% resulting from disasters. Storms alone caused nearly 1.2 million of these displacements (IDMC, 2023).

- By mid-2023, the population of Latin America and the Caribbean accounted for about one-third of the 1.6 million new individual asylum applications worldwide (UNHCR, 2023).

- In 2023 more than 6.5 million Venezuelans lived in another Latin American and Caribbean country, according to the Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V).

More migration statistics can be found on the Americas Dashboard of the Global Migration Data Portal, managed and developed by IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC).

HARNESSING THE BENEFITS OF MIGRATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Current migration flows within and originating from Latin America and the Caribbean have elicited a range of public and political responses. Comprehensive frameworks that integrate **both humanitarian and security considerations**, along with **economic and social variables**, are necessary to ensure that migration policies in the region are effective and balanced. Developing and implementing such approaches in practice, however, can be challenging amidst opposition and anti-immigration sentiment.

Negative perceptions of migration can lead to stigmatization and discrimination against individuals and groups of migrants, fostering a broader climate of xenophobia, racism, social division and economic inefficiencies.[2] Combatting these adverse views requires a concerted effort to highlight the **social and economic benefits of migration**, such as filling labour shortages, contributing to innovation, and fostering cultural diversity. By emphasizing these positive contributions, both sending and receiving countries can work towards a more inclusive and productive dialogue on migration with the aim of better regulating and overseeing the movement of the region's people.

ECLAC studies have demonstrated that migration results in significant economic contributions to sustainable development. Migrants, most of whom are of working age, enhance productivity and drive economic growth. They boost the local labour supply, engage in entrepreneurship, pay taxes, and send **remittances** to their families in their countries of origin, even during crises like the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, migrant workers have played significant roles in alleviating labour shortages in various sectors such as agriculture, healthcare, and hospitality services.

In Chile, a recent ECLAC study revealed that between 2009 and 2017, the country's GDP increased by $63.3 billion, mainly sustained by the contribution made by the Chilean workforce and migrants recently arriving from Peru, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, and Haiti. Similarly, migrant remittances represent 23.8% of GDP in El Salvador, 22.5% in Haiti, 21.2% in Jamaica, 19.9% in Nicaragua and 19.8% in Guatemala.[3]

Migration can also yield significant social benefits by increasing diversity and cultural enrichment in host communities. Migrants often play active roles in community development, bringing energy, creativity, and a wealth of new perspectives, traditions, and experiences that can inspire positive change. This diversity fosters a richer cultural tapestry and can promote cross-cultural understanding among community members. Additionally, diaspora social networks can also serve as important bridges between countries of origin and host countries, facilitating development, trade, and cultural exchange. In countries with ageing populations, migrants also help to alleviate intergenerational demographic imbalances.

Maximizing the positive impacts of migration involves implementing policies for inclusion which facilitate

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2   More information on the consequences of inequality of opportunities arising from gender-, race- and ethnicity-based discrimination can be found in ECLAC's The Inefficiency of Inequality (LC/SES.37/3-P).

3   ECLAC (2023). Social Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean 2023: Labour inclusion as a key axis of inclusive social development. https://www.cepal.org/en/publications/68703-social-panorama-latin-america-and-caribbean-2023-labour-inclusion-key-axis

formal employment opportunities and comprehensive **social protection**. Ensuring that migrants have legal rights, access to healthcare, education, and social services, including language training, can help to address their specific needs and vulnerabilities. Such policies safeguard migrants from the risks of exploitation and discrimination, while **labour formalization** and strong social welfare infrastructure prevent unfair competition between national and migrant workers. Additionally, the expeditious **validation of professional competencies and qualifications** is crucial for fully harnessing the potential of migrant populations.

Establishing **regular pathways** for human mobility is an essential part of migration governance to address the unique vulnerabilities of migrants and to harness their contributions. Though there is no universal approach, regularization mechanisms are widely acknowledged for promoting the social and labour integration of migrants. This is supported by various international agreements, including the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION: A GUIDING FRAMEWORK

The challenges of international migration, often central to political debates, require multilateral cooperation. The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), adopted in 2018, is the first comprehensive intergovernmental agreement on international migration developed under the United Nations.

The GCM is based on the values of State sovereignty, shared responsibility, non-discrimination, and human rights. While not legally binding, it provides a framework to improve migration governance by emphasizing migrants' human rights and protections regardless of their migration status. It includes 23 objectives to better manage migration at the local, national, regional and global levels.

Key objectives of the Global Compact are to:

1. Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data on international migration as a basis for evidence-based policies.

2. Mitigate adverse and structural factors hindering individuals from establishing and maintaining sustainable livelihoods in their countries of origin.

3. Reduce the risks and vulnerabilities faced by migrants at the different stages of migration by respecting, protecting, and fulfilling their human rights and providing them with care and assistance.

4. Address the legitimate concerns of States and communities, recognizing that societies are experiencing demographic, economic, social and environmental changes on different scales.

5. Create an enabling environment for all migrants to enrich societies through their human, economic and social capabilities, thus facilitating their contributions to sustainable development at the local, national, regional and global levels.

Beyond the GCM, various international instruments provide important guidance for guaranteeing the human rights of migrants and refugees, as well as those in receiving communities. These include the [International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families](#) (1990), specific [ILO labour conventions](#) on Migrant Workers' Rights, [the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development](#) (2013), the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) (2015) and [the Global Compact on Refugees](#) (2018). Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 10.7, in line with the GCM, calls on countries "to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies."

To advance migration policies and governance in Latin America and the Caribbean, it is essential to follow the GCM road map and promote bilateral and multilateral agreements for safe, orderly and regular human mobility. Countries must collaborate to address new migration challenges, safeguarding the development and human rights of migrants and their families. The GCM's **whole-of-society approach** highlights the need to foster broad multi-stakeholder partnerships, including among migrants, diasporas, local communities, civil society, academia, the private sector, parliamentarians, trade unions, national human rights institutions, the media and other relevant stakeholders. In recognizing the key perspectives offered by these groups – and contributing their own parliamentary viewpoints - parliamentarians can strengthen multilateral cooperation and, in doing so, work to address the challenges of migration.

Finally, the **collection and utilization of data** on international migration is crucial to responsible decision making. This requires ensuring data interoperability and creating comparable indicators over time and across countries.

Objective (1) of the GCM - Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies

Parliamentarians depend on current data to effectively fulfill their representational, lawmaking and oversight responsibilities, and to enhance their understanding of diverse policy issues, including those related to migration. Although there have been significant advancements in the global migration evidence base due to concerted efforts by States and the international community,[4] data on population movement remains incomplete and fragmented.

A lack of reliable data on migration – or the incomplete use of existing data – can perpetuate myths and misconceptions in public debate.[5] Conversely, disaggregated data (broken down by categories like age, gender, migratory status, and more) provides deeper insights into migrants' living and working conditions and reveals how migration affects health, education, and other areas of sustainable development.

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4 IOM (2021). Migration Data Strategy. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/aide-memoire-iom-migration-data-strategy.pdf

5 UN DESA (2023). 4 Things You Need to Know About Why Migration Data Matters, webpage. https://www.un.org/en/desa/4-things-you-need-know-about-why-migration-data-matters#:~:text=Migration%20data%20allow%20for%20highlighting,trade%20and%20foreign%20direct%20investment

To ensure that migration policies are grounded in evidence, parliamentarians should (1) **leverage existing data in their analyses and debates on migration**, and (2) **advocate for the ethical production, analysis, and dissemination of migration data at the national level**. By doing so, they can help ensure that the needs of migrants – in all of their diversity – are considered in policy making, highlight their societal contributions, and effectively monitor setbacks or progress towards rights-based commitments.[6]

MIGRATION GOVERNANCE: THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

Although international agreements and national-level policies on migration are primarily developed and negotiated by the executive branch, parliamentarians play a crucial role in shaping these policies and contributing to migration governance at both national and internationals level through their oversight, legislative, and representative functions.

This section offers an overview of mechanisms and tools that parliamentarians can use to promote inclusive and rights-based migration governance. These tools and mechanisms align with the guiding principles and objectives of the GCM and other international commitments.

Oversight	Legislative	Representative
Parliamentarians work to ensure that the government is held accountable for its actions and commitments (or lack thereof) related to migration, ensuring that policies are implemented in accordance with the laws and budgets approved by parliament.	By proposing, reviewing, amending, and/or approving legislation, parliamentarians can uphold the rights of migrants, achieve the broader goals of the GCM, and contribute directly to developing and implementing the country's migration policy framework.	Parliamentarians are responsible for representing the diverse segments of society, participating in democratic debate, and mobilizing public opinion within decision-making spaces. This includes representing constituents from immigrant backgrounds and engaging in multi-stakeholder consultations with those dedicated to safeguarding migrant rights.

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6 Ibid.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARY WORK ON MIGRATION

Encourage and contribute to a more holistic understanding of migration

☑ Avoid the narrative that migration is an issue to be "solved." Rather, recognize that migration is a natural phenomenon and highlight the positive contributions of regular migration for sustainable development.

☑ Adopt an intersectional approach to parliamentary work on migration, acknowledging the inherent diversity of migrants, their overlapping social identities which inform their relative disadvantages and/or discrimination (based on gender, age, race, class, and ethnic and cultural groups, among others), and the complex socio-economic motivations to migrate.

☑ Employ inclusive, person-centered language, even when referring to irregular migration (e.g. refer to migrants as "undocumented" rather than "illegal").

☑ Challenge existing stereotypes and harmful beliefs about migrants with evidence. Positive discourse within parliament can contribute to improving the public perception of migrants. Portray ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious diversity as an enrichment for society.

☑ Strengthen or implement legislative measures to combat discrimination, hate speech and xenophobia – all of which have a direct effect on the wellbeing of migrants and host communities.

☑ Engage in multi-stakeholder dialogues and consultations with civil society – including representatives in advocacy roles – in order to understand the impact and needs related to migration in local or national contexts.

☑ Present a motion or resolution for the government to produce and report disaggregated data on migration as a mechanism to strengthen transparency, access to information and evidence-based decision making.

☑ Work to establish or maintain a committee on migration to promote holistic discussion within parliament on issues related to migration and migrant rights.

☑ Bring the rights of migrants to the forefront of more general parliamentary discussion on topics relevant to their well-being, such as education and healthcare.

Harmonize migration efforts with development priorities

☑ Prioritize parliamentary action on the Sustainable Development Goals, as the needs of migrants are explicitly reflected across the 2030 Agenda; work to implement the SDGs and to improve migration governance is mutually reinforcing.

☑ Advance gender-sensitive legislative action and work to eliminate structural discrimination and violence faced by migrant women and girls.

☑ Introduce legislative measures to combat the effects of climate change that lead to forced migration, including climate displacement and food insecurity.

☑ Adopt open parliament practices and promote open government to build inclusive, participatory governance structures and increase citizens' trust in political institutions.

☑ Encourage investment in programs and workforce development initiatives that create more economic opportunities for youth in their countries of origin.

☑ Build political will for budgets, policies and reforms that make quality education and training accessible to all.

Strengthen the national protection framework for all migrants

☑ Review national legislation on employment, health, social security, housing and education, and work to remove any existing obstacles for individuals to access basic services, regardless of their immigration status.

☑ Ensure the full implementation of conventions protecting the rights of migrants and refugees as outlined in international human rights treaties and international public law, including international labour standards. Pose oral or written questions to the government to ascertain its intention to ratify any relevant treaties.

☑ Promote safe, regular channels for migration, including legal entry and residence schemes for study, work, humanitarian and family reunification purposes.

☑ Propose/amend legislation for the prevention and reduction of statelessness.

☑ Undertake post-legislative scrutiny and conduct studies to deepen analysis of the outcomes of policies enacted in response to migration flows.

☑ Address gaps and gray areas in the legal protection of migrants and refugees, such as the responsibility for searching and rescuing migrants en route within the law of the sea and laws on responsibility for persons fleeing environmental disasters.

☑ Seek alternatives to the administrative detention of undocumented migrants, especially for unaccompanied or separated children.

☑ Ensure that the impact of national budgets and expenditures on migrants is discussed and monitored.

Engage in parliamentary diplomacy activities on migration and related themes

☑ Advocate for parliamentary representation at multilateral forums. Ahead of migration-specific forums, request briefings on the priority issues that will be discussed and the country's negotiating position to encourage active transparency.

☑ Remain up-to-date on migration realities in the region (beyond the national context), as well as parliamentary actions in other countries that can serve as good practices and lessons learned for future work on migration governance.

PARLIAMENTARY WORK ON MIGRATION: GOOD PRACTICES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Argentina - General Law for the Recognition and Protection of Stateless Persons

Argentine [Law No. 27512](#), enacted in August 2019 and introduced by the National Congress with bipartisan support, establishes Argentina as one of the first countries in the region to enact specific legislation dedicated to addressing the issue of statelessness.

Law 27512 complies with international human rights standards and adheres to international conventions on statelessness, notably the [1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness](#). Through this measure, Argentina has been able to establish a statelessness determination procedure, which in turn facilitates the process of regularization. This legal framework aims to guarantee the human rights of stateless persons by facilitating their access to personal documentation or travel documents and enabling them to exercise fundamental rights to education, health care and employment.

The law was developed with technical assistance from the UN High Commission for Refugees, which also provided training on stateless determination to authorities and collaborated in the design of internal procedural regulations for its implementation.

📖 **Sources:**

[UNHCR welcomes the adoption of the Law on the Recognition and Protection of Stateless Persons in Argentina](#) (in Spanish); [General Law on the Recognition and Protection of Stateless Persons - Law 27512](#) (in Spanish)

Colombia - Climate-Driven Displacement Recognition Bill

Colombia is advancing a [legislative proposal](#) aimed at legally recognizing individuals displaced by climate-induced disasters, including a wide range of climate change effects, from hurricanes to agricultural failures due to drought. The bill has passed initial debate in Congress and is poised to be the first of its kind in the region, which would represent a significant shift towards acknowledging climate change as a driver of displacement in the 21st century.

This legislation would provide climate-displaced individuals with prioritized access to essential services such as housing, healthcare and education, laying a foundation for comprehensive legal protection and support. It would also establish a national registry for climate-displaced people as one of the proposed mechanisms to facilitate the identification and assistance of those affected.

📖 **Sources:**

[Colombia Moves Closer to Legally Recognizing Internal Climate Displacement](#)

Ecuador - Reforms to the Human Mobility Law

Ecuador's recent reform of the Human Mobility Law in March 2023 consolidated three distinct proposals from members of the legislature and the Ombudsman into a comprehensive reform. This effort was supported by contributions from a range of institutions, including the Ombudsman's Office, the Ecuadorian Red Cross, Caritas, the International Committee for the Development of Peoples, Fundación Diálogo Diverso, and Care Ecuador.

Central to this reform is the reinforcement of due process rights for all individuals, irrespective of their migration status, within Ecuador's jurisdiction. This includes enhanced procedural guarantees for those facing the revocation of nationality or the determination of statelessness, ensuring individualized processes, the right to a defense, and the prohibition of nationality revocation that results in statelessness.

A notable highlight is the law's provision for the identification and protection of vulnerable migrants, establishing clear criteria for vulnerability, for instance being an unaccompanied

minor, a victim of violence, or unable to return to one's country of origin due to threats to life or freedom.

The reforms address the needs and rights of children and adolescents in migratory contexts, ensuring procedural and evidentiary guarantees that consider their best interests. These include measures to prevent family separation and priority processing of their applications for international protection.

📖 **Sources:**
[Presidency of the Republic of Ecuador Official Document No. T. 348-SGJ-23-0032 Quito, February 2, 2023 Dr. Virgilio Saqu](#) (in Spanish); [The Plenary approved a project that facilitates orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and human mobility](#) (in Spanish)

Guatemala - Legislation for Promoting Temporary Work Abroad

In June 2022, the Guatemalan National Congress passed the [Law to Promote Temporary Work Abroad](#), which aims to regulate and facilitate the migration of citizens for foreign employment purposes while protecting their rights and enhancing their economic opportunities.

The law seeks to create regular and formal employment opportunities for Guatemalans abroad, thereby improving their economic prospects and those of their families. It provides incentives such as exemptions from Value Added Tax (VAT) and air departure taxes on airline tickets for Guatemalans who secure employment contracts with international employers and are registered under the law. It establishes that the Ministry of Labor (MINTRAB) works in collaboration with registered personnel recruiters to ensure compliance with employment regulations and to facilitate the hiring process.

📖 **Sources:**
[The regulations also promote regular migration](#) (in Spanish); [Legislation is in favour of workers abroad](#) (in Spanish)

Honduras - Law on Shelter Houses for Women Survivors of Violence

In March 2024, the Honduran parliament unanimously approved the [Law on Shelter Houses for Women Survivors of Violence](#). This law, which establishes a regulated framework for shelters that protect women experiencing abuse, displaced by violence, or victims of human trafficking, exemplifies a coordinated effort between civil society and public and private entities to manage these spaces and ensure comprehensive care for women and their children. It guarantees fundamental rights, including safety and access to legal and health services.

The Law on Shelter Houses specifies the creation, recognition, financial sustainability and operation of shelter houses in Honduras for women who are victims of gender-based violence or those in conditions of vulnerability, such as migrants, returned migrants, refugees, displaced persons and victims of trafficking, among others. These shelters aim to provide temporary and safe accommodation for women victims of violence and other risks mentioned, along with their children up to the age of 12, and offer psychosocial, legal, educational and health support.

This legislation builds on years of advocacy work by feminist organizations in the country and takes a holistic approach, seeking not only to mitigate the effects of violence but also to create a secure environment for the full exercise of women's rights and those of their children.

📖 **Sources:**

[The Parliament of Honduras approves the Law on Shelters for Women Victims of Violence](#) (in Spanish)

Saint Kitts and Nevis - Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Bill

The [Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Bill,](#) which was [passed](#) by the National Assembly of Saint Kitts and Nevis in June 2024, aligns with international standards and obligations set forth by the [Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air,](#) which supplements the [UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.](#) This legislation establishes the Agency for the Prevention and Countering of the Smuggling of Migrants, tasked with coordinating national strategies to prevent and combat migrant smuggling. It specifies offenses related to smuggling activities, outlines penalties for the creation and use of fraudulent documents, and mandates protective measures in favour of the rights of smuggled migrants, ensuring they receive necessary medical care, legal protection, and assistance. It also provides enhanced jurisdiction to prosecute smuggling acts committed both inside and outside the country, irrespective of perpetrator or victim's nationality, employing a victim-centered approach in its enforcement.

📖 **Sources:**

[Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Bill, 2024](#)

Trinidad and Tobago - Treatment of Migrants with specific focus on the Rights to Education, Employment and Protection from Sexual Exploitation

In November 2022, the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality, and Diversity of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago resolved to hold a [follow-up inquiry into the treatment of migrants,](#) focusing on their rights to education, employment and protection from sexual

exploitation. This inquiry was a continuation of efforts detailed in the [18th Report of the 11th Parliament](#), aimed at assessing the implementation of previously recommended legislative and policy measures.

The inquiry included a series of virtual public hearings involving key governmental agencies and NGOs, such as the Ministry of National Security (including its Immigration Division), the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Labour, among others. The hearings were designed to gauge progress and gather fresh data on the current status of migrants in the country. The Committee also organized site visits to facilities like the Immigration Station at Chaguaramas Heliport and the Immigration Detention Centre in Aripo, which provided firsthand insights into the conditions and operational standards.

The findings informed a set of recommendations to enhance oversight, improve inter-agency coordination, and strengthen the legal and institutional framework to protect migrant rights, including:

- Training officers from the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard (TTCG) on international human rights law, refugee rights, and civil and political rights;
- Providing Parliament with updates on the status of disciplinary proceedings for alleged sexual misconduct by TTCG officers;
- Developing a whistleblowing mechanism for personnel supervising detainees;
- Continuing discussions with the Judiciary on creating a specialized court for human trafficking-related offenses;
- Updating Parliament on the adjustments made at the Heliport since its designation as an Immigration Detention Centre;
- Updating educational policies to better accommodate migrant children; assessing the feasibility of Trinidad and Tobago acceding to the [International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families](#);
- Expanding the Ministry of Labour's foreign language outreach to include more languages spoken by migrants in Trinidad and Tobago.

📖 **Sources:**

[Sixth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity on a Follow-Up Inquiry Into the Implementation of the Recommendations of the 18th Report, 11th Parliament, on an Inquiry Into the Treatment of Migrants with Specific Focus on the Rights to Education, Employment and Protection from Sexual Exploitation.](#)

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