

RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE INCLUSION OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LOS ANGELES DECLARATION ON MIGRATION AND PROTECTION

JUNE 2024

TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

1. Establish a dedicated technical secretariat to oversee the coordination and implementation of the LA Declaration by the end of 2024. The secretariat should incorporate civil society organizations (CSOs) into its design and formal structure.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS

2. Ensure substantive participation of CSOs, academia, and refugee- and migrant-led groups in all LA Declaration high-level meetings.

- Create a public registration process for CSO participation, with transparent selection criteria and mechanisms.
- Ensure the participation of service providers, as well as research and advocacy organizations working at the local, national, and regional levels, particularly indigenous-, refugee-, migrant- and black-led organizations that can provide technical expertise and speak to the on-the-ground experiences of impacted populations.

PILLARS

3. Reactivate Pillar IV, which focuses on promoting a coordinated emergency response to crises and has seen no commitments since the LA Declaration's launch.

ACTION PACKAGE COMMITTEES

4. Appoint a designated civil society representative for each action package committee to ensure inclusivity and representation.

- Share the name and contact details of action package committee coordinators with the designated CSO representative to follow up on proposals and recommendations.

5. Hold biannual briefings in which each action package committee provides progress updates on government commitments and civil society shares their proposals and recommendations.

- Share the briefing agendas well in advance and allow CSOs to suggest agenda topics.
- Establish a channel for CSOs to submit written proposals for public policy and technical expertise to the action package committees in between briefings.

NATIONAL-LEVEL COORDINATION

6. Organize a regional meeting between the LA Declaration's special coordinators and civil society by October 2024 to develop a joint work plan to strengthen national-level coordination of civil society in the LA Declaration's implementation.

7. Thereafter, each country's special coordinator should meet quarterly with local and national CSOs to brief them on progress and learn about their concerns or general proposals.

8. Invite CSOs as observers of the meetings among the special coordinators, including the national CSOs when the meetings are held in the different convening countries.

MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

9. Create a formal mechanism to monitor the LA Declaration progress through quantitative and qualitative indicators. Civil society can contribute technical expertise to create indicators and develop tracking matrices for governments' use.

10. Commitments and plans should be elaborated in a consultative and participatory manner, and evaluation and accountability processes should be transparent.

11. Publish and disseminate information on the commitments made in local languages (Spanish, English, Portuguese, French, Haitian Creole, and other common languages of the region), so that CSOs can effectively participate in implementation, monitor progress, and accurately communicate policy shifts to local organizations and migrants.

- Maintain the [LA Declaration website](#) updated and disseminate its existence and use.
- Create and regularly update a public tracker on the LA Declaration website with commitments from governments and progress on indicators.
- Ensure that signatory governments disseminate written commitments at the national level through their special coordinators to increase local civil society ownership of the process and foster an inclusive dialogue on the commitments.

ARTICULATION WITH OTHER PROCESSES

12. Ensure coordination between the LA Declaration and other regional and international mechanisms.¹ This is crucial for promoting and exchanging good practices and lessons learned, as well as policies and approaches that have already been developed. It also avoids duplicating efforts and ensures that governments can build upon existing initiatives.

- Invite the same CSOs that have participated in other regional mechanisms to ensure continuity. The experience of these CSOs is helpful to contribute to policy and programming.

(1) Regional mechanisms include the South American Conference on Migration (CSM), the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM), the United Nations Regional Network on Migration, the Quito Process, MIRPS, Cartagena +40, Mercosur, and CARICOM.