CMC Webinar on the Canadian Asylum Program: Cross-Regional Exchange of Good Practices
16 January 2020
Speakers:

- Ms. Amaria Belaskri, Caribbean Protection Unit, UNHCR’s Regional Office Washington
- Ms. Joanne Blanchard, Acting Coordinating Member, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB)
- Mr. David Luchuk, Assistant Director, Refugees Affairs Branch, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)
- Ms. Samantha Tena-Russel, Assistant Director, IRCC
Webinar Overview

• An introduction on the CMC context and the Quality Assurance Initiative
• Presentation of the Canadian asylum system
• Guidance and tools for developing a triage system
• Guidance and tools for effectively dealing with common case profiles
• Q&A
CMC Priorities on Refugee Protection

- CMC participants have **identified priorities** on refugee protection at multiple CMC meetings including:
  - *Preparatory Meeting for the CMC* (Jan. 2016, Belize)
  - *First Meeting of the CMC* (Dec. 2016, Trinidad and Tobago)
  - *CMC Preparatory Meeting for a Regional Approach to Migration and Intl Protection* (Dec. 2019, Jamaica)

- Formulation of **policy, legislation, and SOPs** (at the national and regional levels) for a systematic approach to refugee protection

- Targeted **capacity building** initiatives and trainings

- Exchange of **good practices** and technical support between Caribbean countries

- Alternatives to immigration detention

- Local integration

- Evaluation of progress within the framework of the **Brazil Plan of Action (2014)**

- Statelessness issues

- **Opportunity to act on these priorities** in the CMC Regional Plan of Action to be adopted in 2020
QAI in the Americas

- Objective: a State-UNHCR joint program that aims at improving fairness and efficiencies of existing asylum systems in the region, or supporting States that wish to establish one, with the long-term goal to create an Area of Common Asylum in the region.

- Participants: open to all states in the region, started with 3 countries in 2012, expanded up to 12

- QAI’s methodology consists of a review of the RSD system broken down into 0-4 steps:
  1. Step 0: Human Resources
  2. Step 2: Interview
  3. Step 3: Decisions
  4. Step 4: Appeals procedures

CMC Webinar: Exchange of Good Practices with the Canadian Asylum Program
Thank you for participating!

Questions?