IOM joined the Organization of American States (OAS) and nine international institutions of the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG) to support the implementation and follow-up of the mandates of the Summits of the Americas. At a signing ceremony held on Sept. 4 at OAS Headquarters in Washington, IOM and the JSWG member organizations reaffirmed their commitment to put forth and consider the most salient issues facing the Americas. At the Eighth Summit of the Americas held in Lima this past April, there was a renewed focus on tackling corruption. Article 51 of the Lima Commitment calls upon the JSWG to provide resources and technical capacity-building to address corruption, including acts related to trafficking in persons and smuggling. Since migrants are especially vulnerable to trafficking, exploitation and other abuses during their journey, bolstering transparency and strengthening accountability mechanisms is necessary to ensure migration is orderly and safe. As corruption is a cross-cutting issue that directly and indirectly impacts migrants, IOM is in a unique
position to share technical support with the JSWG and OAS concerning human trafficking - the world's fastest growing crime. Read more [here](#).

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**USA for IOM, United Nations Association of the National Capital Area Partner to Educate Youth on Global Migration Issues**

USA for IOM, the nonprofit partner of IOM in the United States, has developed a partnership with the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA) to strengthen youth engagement on migration issues for the 2018-19 academic year. With more people on the move today than ever before, the collaboration encourages dialogue and understanding through a curriculum set to reach more than 1,000 middle and high school students in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia. As part of UNA-NCA's Global Classrooms DC (GCDC) education program, USA for IOM collaborated to develop a curriculum unit on the topic of migration. The curriculum includes a mini Model UN simulation on resolution writing, designed to strengthen students' writing skills and teach about the many ways the UN works to address international migration issues. The curriculum incorporates creative films submitted to the PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival, a joint initiative between IOM and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations that encourages young people to explore issues of migration, diversity and social inclusion. Read more [here](#).

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**IOM Conducts Disaster Response Training for Diaspora in San Francisco**

With funding from the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, IOM organized a training for diaspora organizations on Aug. 18 in San Francisco, California, in cooperation with the Filipino American Society of Architects and Engineers, and the University of the Philippines Alumni Association of San Francisco. About 30 participants from the Filipino diaspora attended a number of sessions focused on safer shelter in disaster response and preparedness. Presenters and trainers included representatives from IOM Washington, IOM Philippines, the Philippines Consulate of San Francisco, Filipino American Society of Architects and Engineers, and the University of the Philippines Alumni Association of San Francisco. This training is part of a larger project to increase awareness and knowledge among diaspora groups on issues of disaster preparedness, response and safer shelters in their countries of origin. Another training was held in Washington earlier this year for members of the Bangladeshi, Haitian and Filipino diasporas. Following the success of the initial training, IOM conducted another session targeting Haitian diaspora organizations in Miami in June. Training material will also be available online as a learning tool for participants who are unable to join in person. To
To learn more, contact Roberta Romano.

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U.S. Government Increases Funding for Rohingya Response
The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration is providing an additional $30 million in support of the response to the Rohingya refugee crisis. The latest commitment raises the total U.S. award amount to $50 million for activities outlined in the Rohingya Refugee Response March-December 2018 appeal.

USA for IOM Contributes to Global Assistance Fund
USA for IOM remains committed to support victims of trafficking and other vulnerable migrants. With support from its generous donors, USA for IOM has granted $30,000 to IOM's Global Assistance Fund. This emergency mechanism provides immediate and comprehensive protection and assistance to migrants in vulnerable conditions.

Central American Governments Strengthen Capacities to Protect Migrant Workers
On Sept. 12, about 40 officials from central and local governments of El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico convened in Guatemala to discuss how to enhance their capacities to protect migrant workers. The event was organized by IOM and the International Labour Organization with the support of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration among other partners. Read more here.

Afghanistan Promotes Regional Cooperation on Combatting Human Trafficking
IOM co-organized a second regional forum bringing together non-governmental organizations from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to discuss cross-border cooperation to combat human trafficking in Central and South Asia. The two-day forum held Aug. 27-28 is part of the multi-year Combating Human Trafficking in Persons project funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development. Read more here.
New Research: American Companies Awarded $1.74 Billion Annually From Working With the United Nations

New research conducted by the Better World Campaign finds that U.S. businesses won over $1.74 billion in procurement contracts with the United Nations in 2017, by far the most of any country around the world. Since 2010, U.S. companies have received over $9.5 billion in procurement contracts with the UN. Read more here.

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Over the years, films have been used to inform, entertain, educate and provoke debate. In this spirit, IOM launched the Global Migration Film Festival in 2016. The Festival showcases films that capture the promise and challenge of migration, and the contributions migrants make to their new communities. Last year, the Festival took place in 100 countries, including the United States. IOM Washington is excited to host another screening this year. Please complete this survey to help us gather feedback as we move forward in planning the event.