

Dear Minister,

I am writing this to express my grave concern for hundreds of displaced Haitians, Africans and internally displaced Mexicans stranded in Tijuana and Mexicali, many awaiting appointments with US Customs and Border Protection across the border. Many are in precarious conditions without adequate shelter, security and psychological support. Some of them, as well as Central Americans from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, could be at risk of being deported to situations of risk if official asylum screening is not improved.

I, therefore, call on you to urgently and significantly enhance reception conditions ensuring migrants and possible asylum seekers have access to shelter beds, food, psychological attention and personal safety.

I also urge special attention be given to children, adolescents and women without shelter.

At the same time, I call on you to immediately deploy COMAR officials to the field in order to ensure proper screening of migrants who may qualify for international protection, ensuring close collaboration with authorities of the United States and ensuring priority to the respect of human rights and principles of family reunification.

Thank you for your prompt attention to the above.

Sincerely yours,