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WORLD  
FEDERATION

A Communion  
of Churches

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## Resolution - Migrants

On this year's occasion of World Refugee Day, the Lutheran World Federation Council expresses its deep concern for the increased number of migrants who are forced to undertake dangerous journeys to flee violence, oppression, or economic or environmental hardship. We highlight the need for continued attention to people and communities who are being forced to leave their homes. The LWF, with its long history of caring for refugees and displaced persons, continues to lift up and care for these vulnerable individuals, promoting durable solutions and safety and dignity for all people and communities.

### **In particular, the LWF draws attention to these vulnerable people:**

- Those who are risking their lives to reach Europe, either by land or across the Mediterranean, many of whom are fleeing from violence and oppression in Syria or Eritrea;
- In South and Central America: the indigenous peoples, the children and the other individuals who are fleeing violence and land grabbing, particularly from Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua;
- In the Andaman Sea; the Rohingya and Bangladeshi people who are fleeing from oppression or from poverty;
- West Papuan people who have fled into Papua New Guinea from Indonesian political oppression about 20 years ago;
- The asylum seekers who have been imprisoned by Australia on the remote Pacific islands of Manus and Nauru;
- Those people of Haitian descent in the Dominican Republic who are suffering from statelessness or being threatened with expulsion.

**Given the tragically overwhelming numbers of individuals affected and the global scale of this crisis, the LWF Council calls upon and encourages member churches to:**

- Raise a prophetic voice in their regions;
- Work with and advocate for migrants in their countries and within their communities;
- Lift up the best practices put forward in the “Welcoming the Stranger” document, welcoming migrants in their home communities;
- Look for opportunities to build bridges so that migrant people would have the opportunity to return home in safety and in dignity.