



STALNO PREDSTAVNIŠTVO REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE PRI URADU ZDRUŽENIH
NARODOV IN OSTALIH MEDNARODNIH ORGANIZACIJAH V ŽENEVI

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

Statement by HE Mr Vojislav Šuc,

**Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations Office and other
international organizations in Geneva**

**at the 108th Session of the Council of the International Organization for
Migration**

Mr Chairman,

Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement, and would like to present some views in its national capacity.

At the outset I would like to thank the outgoing chair Ambassador of Australia for his active role and welcome the newly elected chair, the Ambassador of Chile.

The preparation of the global compact for migration is progressing well. The first phase has ended, and as far as Slovenia is concerned, we believe we have had very productive thematic discussions, demonstrating that long-lasting solutions for migration management are in our mutual interest.

In a globalised world we need to act in harmonised and coordinated way at the national, regional and global level.

We cannot tackle migration challenges efficiently without addressing the drivers of large movements; we need to prevent conflicts, find political solutions to ongoing conflicts and prevent all kinds of human rights violation. Poor governance and eradication of poverty have to be improved. Education and job opportunities for the young have to be created. The battle to fight climate change has to be intensified.

The goal of the global compact for migration should bring about better migration management, meaning that it needs to reduce irregular migration, address return and readmission and at the same time facilitate opportunities for safe, orderly and regular migration recognising both labour market needs and demographic trends. All this should be done with respect of human dignity and by putting people in the center of our deliberations.

The priorities have already been set during the thematic debates. Through those Slovenia has been underlining and continues to highlight: 1. the importance of respect for human rights of all migrants, especially those in vulnerable situations; 2. the importance of international cooperation and solidarity for successful migration management; 3. the need to address irregular migration, particularly by promoting border management and 4. the importance of migration-development nexus.

The global compact for migration should be legally non-binding, based on the framework of the existing UN forums, and should not lead to the creation of any new structures.

Let me reiterate that Slovenia highly appreciates the work of the IOM and its Director General. We cannot imagine the preparation of the global compact on migrants without the IOM's active participation, just as without the IOM we cannot imagine its implementation and the achievement of our common goal, which is safe, orderly and well-managed migration.

Mr Chairman,

Slovenia has in response to large flows of migrants and asylum seekers established a Government Office for Support and Integration of migrants which was opened in June. The office is responsible for coordinated and comprehensive treatment of various categories of foreigners, what allows for targeted and more efficient action in this area.

To conclude I would like to congratulate IOM for the first anniversary within the UN system and express our best wishes for the excellent continuation of your work.

Thank you.