



Statement by Finland - 110th Session of the IOM Council

26 – 29 November 2019

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Mr/Ms Chairperson, Director General, Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates,

Finland aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, and adds the following in its national capacity.

As we look ahead, it seems that the trend of increasing international migration will continue, and we appreciate the commitment of IOM to address today's multifaceted migration challenges. The cooperation between Finland and IOM is excellent and solidly established.

It is soon a year since the adoption of the the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and additionally, this year has been marked by important discussions on the IOM's strategic vision and internal governance framework.

We welcome these discussions and reform initiatives. There is clearly a need to strengthen IOM including its senior leadership as the size of the organization and the weight of its responsibilities are growing, and we are ready to support the organization in these processes.

We need to ensure that IOM is well equipped to do what it does best. That is, assisting Member States in their daily work to manage international migration, providing assistance to migrants themselves, as well as being an important actor in the international humanitarian system.

We welcome the proactive approach that IOM's leadership has taken to develop and adapt the organization to meet the needs of the evolving migration landscape, and the changes in the wider coordination system including UN Development System Reform. We believe it is a crucial time to strengthen IOMs

internal mechanisms such as result-based management, evaluation, and risk supervision to be able to support the growing organisation while clarifying IOM's vision for the upcoming years and increasing the cooperation with other relevant UN organizations and humanitarian agencies.

We support IOM as the Coordinator for the implementation of the GCM and Secretariat of the UN Network on Migration, and in this context, we welcome the Work Plan of the Migration Network to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to Member States.

We believe that the global compact can contribute to a sustainable and better-coordinated migration governance as it addresses the migration in a comprehensive manner taking into consideration the whole migration cycle and different concerns of countries of origin, transit and destination. We look forward to cooperate with the Network while we move on with the implementation of the GCM.

Finally, Mr/Ms Chairperson,

We are moving towards the end of the Finland's Presidency of the Council of the EU, and one of the main priority areas during our Presidency for the past months has been to address climate change including the complex nexus of environment, climate change and migration. We acknowledge that climate change and environmental degradation have become one of the underlying root causes of irregular migration as climate change exacerbates existing pressures on scarce natural resources, especially water.

We believe it is crucial to tackle the interlinkages between climate change, environment, security and migration in an integrated manner. From prevention to managing the impacts through adaptation and disaster risk reduction while also strengthening the bridge between early warning and early action. In this respect, we welcome IOM's approach to address these interlinkages through recent initiatives such as "FindAWay"-campaign on climate migration, and we are ready to support IOM in addressing this increasing challenge of climate-induced migration.

Let me conclude by reiterating Finland's appreciation and support for the important role and work of IOM, and we look forward to continuing our cooperation.

Thank you.