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Draft Statement of Lithuania at the 110th session of the Council of the IOM

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson,

Lithuania aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. We would like to add the following remarks in our national capacity.

Mr. Chairperson,

At the outset, I wish to congratulate you on your election and thank you for the excellent conduct of our session. I also wish to congratulate the Lebanese Republic on its admission as a new Member of the IOM, as well as to welcome the new observer, which will strengthen our organization.

Mr. Director General,

It is with great attention and interest that we have listened to your comprehensive report informing us about key activities of the organization in 2019, and also outlining your plans of building the organization that is better fit to face challenges of the future. In the course of several years the tasks and activities of the IOM have increased in scale and complexity, therefore we acknowledge the timeliness and importance of discussions on the organization's strategic vision and internal governance framework. In this regard, we share and support your goal of providing our organization with increased efficiency by strengthening its operational effectiveness and responsiveness, with the help of increased transparency, flexibility and informed decision-making. Your determination, proactive approach and leadership are very much appreciated, and we will continue supporting you along this way.

Mr. Chairperson,

It is almost a year now that the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. The Compact serves as a very useful platform for various stakeholders, for the states and for the international organizations, helping them to come together and cooperate with a view to strengthening coordinated international responses to migration flows. Given multifaceted character of challenges we face, accordingly, our response has to be both comprehensive and holistic. Therefore it is encouraging that the IOM will enhance its cooperation with other relevant organizations and agencies, building upon their respecting strengths, generating useful synergies and avoiding unnecessary duplication of efforts, both at the level of headquarters and in the field. The United Nations Network on Migration could be regarded as a good facilitator of coherence and cooperation, and we are looking forward to the briefing on its outcomes and plans.

We are pleased with the priority accorded by the Director General to addressing the problems of Internally Displaced Persons. Lithuania continues to contribute. For example, we have already allocated resources to the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa. At the same time, bilaterally and through various humanitarian organizations and agencies we extend our help to people in Ukraine.

We welcome IOMs pledge to give active support to High Level Panel on Internal Displacement, which was recently launched by the United Nations Secretary General.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairperson, Mr. Director General, I wish to thank IOM for its indispensable work, and to assure of Lithuania's continued strong cooperation and support.

Thank you.