Mr. Chairman,

First, I would like to congratulate the Permanent Representatives of Denmark, Philippines, Mexico and Sierra Leone on their election to the Council Bureau. Under your chairmanship, our meeting will surely be a successful and fruitful session.

Viet Nam warmly welcomes our newest member of the IOM, the Lebanese Republic, and the International Commission on Missing Persons as observer of IOM. This increase in number of members to further realize the ambition of IOM towards universalization of membership. Viet Nam highly appreciate the comprehensive approach in the Director General report and strategic vision 2019-2023 and congratulate IOM in launching the World Migration Report for 2020.

Mr. Chairman,

The challenges of migration in today’s complex circumstances requires the cooperation of all stakeholders. The adoption of the Global Compact on safe, orderly and regular migration last year showed that international cooperation is recognised as an effective framework to address the migration challenges and promote safe, orderly and regular migration, thus protecting the rights and interests of migrants, for the peace, stability and prosperity of the world. In this regard, I am pleased to inform that under the instruction of the Prime Minister, Vietnamese agencies are
actively working towards building the National Plan to implement the Global compact. I would like to thank the IOM for its collaboration with Viet Nam in organizing a series of meetings in August and September 2019 to disseminate of the content of the Compact to relevant ministries, sectors, localities and organisations. Participants discussed the review and assessment of Viet Nam's policies and laws on international migration, contributing to the development of Viet Nam’s GCM implementation scheme to help ensure the effective and synchronous implementation from central to local levels, thereby fulfilling the objectives of the 2030 Agenda.

Mr. Chairman,

We are encouraged to see the increasing efforts of countries of origin, transit and destination in recent time, especially in tackling the issue of migrant smuggling. Viet Nam calls for continuous closer cooperation among all stakeholders in order to prevent and eliminate smuggling of migrants. We reaffirm our strong commitment in pursuing the policy of promoting legal migration, protecting the rights of migrants and preventing irregular migration and human trafficking.

Mr. Chairman,

Viet Nam strongly support the efforts of all IOM members and especially the Director General, in finding ways to reform IOM towards increasing its effectiveness, efficiency and transparency. We therefore call upon IOM members to step up cooperation, dialogue, in order to reach consensus on the important issues of this Session. We look forward to work together with other member states in the working group which will be established during this council session to reach consensus through consultation in a comprehensive, inclusive and transparent manner.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.