



**Statement by H.E. Dr. LE Thi Tuyet Mai
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Viet Nam
at the 111th Session of the IOM Council
(24-26 November 2020)**

Mr. Chairman,

Mr. Director General,

Distinguished delegates,

First, I would like to congratulate the Philippines and H.E. Ambassador Evan Garcia on his election as Chair and member of the Council Bureau. Viet Nam warmly welcomes Russian Federation and Malaysia as our newest member and observer of the IOM respectively. This will further contribute to the realization of the ambition of IOM towards universalization of membership.

Mr. Chairman,

The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted migrants and migration throughout the globe. It also poses more challenges against international cooperation in migration. Viet Nam highly appreciate the comprehensive approach of the Director General and the IOM's efforts in addressing migration issues amid the pandemic. We welcome the important role of the organization in the development and implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. We also commend the determination and solidarity among members towards IOM reform process including the enhancement of the leadership in the IOM with the appointment of two DDGs.

Viet Nam places great importance and interest in promoting regular, safe and orderly migration and protecting the legitimate rights and interest of Vietnamese, both internal migration and Vietnamese labours overseas. Since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, Viet Nam has successfully curb and contain Covid-19 transmissions through early detection and a comprehensive containment strategy, thus helped to facilitate safe and orderly migration. Viet Nam has deployed more than 100 flights to repatriate nearly 30 thousand citizens, among them many labour workers, and at the same time kept the virus under control with zero community transmission case in 84 days.

This year marks the fifth year of implementaion of our National Action Program againts human trafficking and there has been significant progress in Viet Nam with a high level of commitment and action.

In March 2020, Viet Nam issued the National Plan on Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. We have taken various measures for implementing this National Plan and reaffirm our strong commitment in pursuing the policy of promoting legal migration, protecting the rights of migrants, and preventing irregular migration and human trafficking.

In this connection, I would like to thank the IOM and the IOM Viet Nam office for their collaboration with Viet Nam in ensuring the effective and synchronous implementation of GCM at the national level, thereby fulfilling the objectives of the 2030 Agenda.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate that Viet Nam supports the efforts of the Council, Director General and all IOM members in increasing IOM's effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency. We look forward to further enhancement of the long-standing, close and fruitful cooperation with the IOM in the years to come.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.