

**German General Statement  
112<sup>th</sup> IOM Council**

**Mr. Ulrich WEINBRENNER Director-General**  
Directorate General of Migration  
and Return Policy, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Germany completely aligns itself with the EU statement.

We would like to thank IOM for 70 years of intense Cooperation and fruitful support.

I use this opportunity to underline our deep acknowledgement of IOM's role as a reliable partner in many fields of migration management.

Germany very successfully cooperates with IOM in many international migration related projects, particularly in the field of our humanitarian and development engagement.

When it comes to resettlement of vulnerable people to Germany, IOM is our tried and trusted partner for many years.

Without the essential support of IOM we would not be able to carry out our Resettlement operations, which have grown significantly over the past years.

We live in a world of increasing challenges of migration.

Germany strongly counts on IOM's long experience and its well established worldwide network of missions and experts.

Only safe, orderly and regular migration can contribute to the benefit of all.

We strongly welcome IOM's new concept on the full spectrum of return and reintegration. Increasingly stretched resources require more anticipatory and evidence based action and coherence within the UN system.

Thus we support the approach to make IOMs Global Migration Data Analysis Center more operational and strengthen its networking. We are glad the GMDAC is based in Berlin.

We also support IOM's initiative for a structural and budget reform. We feel the need to strengthen IOM core structure. Effectiveness and efficiency of IOM are in the interest of all members.

I will end with a remark about an ongoing deeply embarrassing development:

We are highly concerned about the fact that Belarus has actively lured people to the country in order to cynically instrumentalize them for its political purposes against the EU.

This cynical orchestration of irregular migration at the external borders of the European Union has put people's lives at risk, disregards human rights, international law and the „Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration“.

We stand in solidarity with the Member States affected.

At the same time we are working closely with countries of origin and transit to put an end to these actions.

Quick and unhindered access for humanitarian organisations is crucial. We expect Belarus to alleviate the immediate needs of the persons on its territory. IOM and UNHCR need access, also in order to promote returns.

Thank you!