

Statement by Ambassador HONSEI Kozo
in the General Debate, 112th IOM Council on 30 November

Chair,

First of all, I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations to IOM on the 70th anniversary of its establishment and the 5th anniversary of its participation in the United Nations system. We understand that the high-level segment was successful with fruitful discussions on the challenges of and lessons learned from COVID-19. We hope the result of the discussion will contribute to the global mobility for the future emergency.

We welcome the strengthening of IOM's leadership with the appointment of Ms. Ugochi Daniels, Deputy Director General for Operations, and Ms. Amy Pope, Deputy Director General for Management and Reform. We look forward to working together closely with both DDGs to tackle global migration issues as well as to strengthen IOM itself.

Chair,

In the Council meeting yesterday, IOM's formal regional groups were adopted by consensus. We appreciate the constructive engagement of Member States in the Working Group on IOM Partnerships, Governance and Organizational Priorities.

International Migration Review Forum will take place in May led by United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres. We look forward to IOM's leading role in organizing the Forum and Japan is ready to contribute towards its success.

Chair,

We appreciate IOM's efforts to advance its reform through the Internal Governance Framework and Budget Reform.

While we recognize the need for budgetary reform, we need to first see the overall picture and details of the reform and then discuss how to fill the budgetary gap. In this regard, we appreciate the Director-General showed his readiness to discuss further the issue of reform with Member States during the last Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance. Japan is ready to engage in the discussion.

We also hope to have an analysis on the quantitative and qualitative effects of the reform, including from the perspective of the associated cost and working hour reductions as an aid to understanding the value of the organizational reform,.

Thank you, Chair