



Statement by Finland - 113th Session of the IOM Council

30 November 2022

[*Check against delivery*]

Mr/Ms Chairperson, Director General, Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates,

Finland aligns itself with the statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

I would like to start by stating that we highly value the excellent cooperation between IOM and Finland.

Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, which Finland continues to condemn in the strongest possible terms, has further highlighted IOM's invaluable role and the special nature of its work. We commend IOM for its response to the situation in Ukraine and other affected countries. Our support to Ukraine is steadfast, but we have not lost sight of the rest of the world. We are concerned that conflicts and crises, and not least the climate crisis, are causing more human suffering and forced displacement all over the world. Finland aims to continue providing

assistance globally. Our budget allocations to Ukraine have been additional to our support for other global needs.

We need to ensure that IOM is well equipped to do what it does best and what is at the core of its mandate. Therefore, we welcome the efforts by the IOM leadership to develop the organization and encourage the continuation of this important work. Strengthening internal mechanisms, such as result-based management, evaluation, risk supervision and internal justice system, is necessary. In line with this, we warmly welcome the adoption of the budget reform.

We welcome IOM's institutional commitments, including enhanced work towards combatting sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as strengthening disability inclusion. We encourage IOM to make sure its work on disability inclusion is strategic and cuts across the whole organization, including IOM's internal structures and its operations. We encourage the IOM to pay particular attention to the needs of migrant women, children and persons with disabilities, through an intersectional approach, especially on the country level.

Let me conclude by reiterating Finland's appreciation and support for the vital role and work of IOM. We look forward to our continued cooperation.