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**Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN
Geneva**

**Statement by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Permanent Representative of Pakistan at
the 113th IOM Council session, 1 December 2022**

**Chairperson,
Director General,
Excellencies,
& Dear colleagues,**

Let me start by extending profound condolences to the delegation of the People's Republic of China on the sad demise of former President and great statesman Mr. Jiang Zemin.

Congratulations to you, Chairperson and members of the Bureau for assuming your positions. We assure you of our delegation's full support. We would like to also recognize the contribution made by the outgoing Bureau.

We thank Director General Vitorino, his Deputies and IOM staff here and in the field for their commendable public service, advocacy and efforts to promote respect for the rights, dignity and welfare of the migrants.

Notwithstanding the tight fiscal environment, the adoption of the resolution on Budget Reform by the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (SCPF) this year was a welcome step.

While this measure would help ensure sustainability of the current funding model, we encourage IOM to further diversify and broaden its donor base to add predictability to its Programme Budget cycles.

We appreciate IOM's on-going work to implement the strategic vision, its valuable research work and its harnessing towards migration policy and practice.

We would like to underscore the need for enhanced geographical representation including at the senior management levels. We invite the IOM leadership to develop tools and targets and periodically report on progress made.

Chairperson,

Migration has been rightly recognized by the 2030 Agenda and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration as a positive phenomenon and a key enabler of sustainable development.

The promotion of humane and orderly migration should continue to be anchored in the global development policy agenda and address both the drivers and impacts of human mobility.

The IOM should also enhance its support to member states in building their national migration management capacities. Given the shifting dynamics of migration, there is a growing need for IOM advocacy and programmes towards regular migration pathways.

Similar efforts are needed towards universal recognition of academic and vocational certifications, as well as cheaper, faster and safer remittances of migrants. As the current chair of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue, these areas remain key priority for Pakistan.

Chairperson,

Pakistan is a country of origin, transit and destination. Over 9 million Pakistanis, around 4% of the country's population, are doctors, engineers, software developers, craftsmen and other blue-collar workers in 115 destination countries across the globe. The Pakistani diaspora has contributed substantially to national development and played a significant role in the destination countries as well.

Pakistan attaches high importance to the pursuit of a safe, legal and humane migration framework through legislative, policy and administrative measures.

Millions of Afghans, irrespective of their status, have and continue to benefit from social mobility, livelihood opportunities and access to health and education services in Pakistan.

Chairperson,

The impacts of and growing nexus between environmental, food and health security and human mobility were on display during the unprecedented flooding in Pakistan this year.

The huge loss of human lives and livelihoods, the massive dislocation and billion dollars infrastructure damages represents a call to action based on equity, common but differentiated responsibility and fulfillment of climate finance commitments. We are grateful to the assistance provided by IOM, our friends and the UN system.

In devising holistic responses to mobility in the context of climate change disasters, a global base line understanding is needed to evolve normative and policy responses. We value IOM's continuing research and advocacy in this vital area.

We look forward to engaging constructively with a view to raising further awareness, exchanging good practices and lending support to the on-going advocacy and efforts by and through the IOM on the intersection of mobility, migration, sustainable development and climate action.

I thank you.
