



ZIMBABWE

NATIONAL STATEMENT

BY THE

DIRECTOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MR. TAWANDA ZIMHUNGA

AT THE

113TH IOM SESSION OF THE COUNCIL GENERAL DEBATE

ON

**“THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE,
FOOD SECURITY, MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT”**

30 NOVEMBER 2022

CICG CONFERENCE CENTRE, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

**Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Heads of Delegations,
Distinguished delegates**

Zimbabwe aligns itself with the statement delivered by Nigeria on behalf of the African Group. Chairperson, we would like to commend you for the excellent manner in which you continue to preside over our deliberations.

Zimbabwe would like to express appreciation to the IOM Director General, Mr. Antonio Vitorino for his report which provides a good basis for this General Debate.

Having followed with interest the issues raised by the DG which resonate with statements articulated by Member States during the High Level Segment, Zimbabwe wishes to highlight the following areas for consideration in line with the IOM's strategic vision for 2019-2023 under the areas of resilience, mobility and governance: -

With respect to Resilience,

It is important for us to invest in early warning systems and preparedness to anticipate crises. In this sense Disaster Risk Reduction strategies must also include forced migration mitigation measures. There is also need to put Risk-reduction measures in place so that communities can be more resilient to the shocks of climate change and this would best be done by designing and implementing solutions in an integrated manner that includes early warning systems and community capacity strengthening. These are crucial preventive measures to the effects of climate induced forced migration.

Regarding Mobility Chairperson,

The Government of Zimbabwe recognises that there is a growing concern of migration and human mobility in Africa given that the relationship between migration, environment and climate change is highly complex. The dynamics of climate change coupled with population changes and migration,

and their intricate relationship with development, are amongst the most pressing challenges that continue to dominate Africa's socio-economic development discourse. In this regard, IOM should assist in migration flow monitoring within countries and across borders.

Under Governance,

In order for us to effectively manage the effects of climate change induced migration and food insecurity, it is important to invest in strengthening the capacity of member states to come up with institutional frameworks for migration governance. In Zimbabwe IOM has been working closely with the Civil Protection Unit in ensuring that the system is prepositioned to respond to emergencies and disasters that could result in forced displacement of communities. In addition, migrant resource centres have been established at ports of entry and exit to provide pre-departure information and familiarization for migrants and sustainable reintegration packages for returnees to strengthen the household economy.

These institutional frameworks are designed to mainstream age and gender and we therefore urge the IOM to continue providing both technical and financial support to member states. Moreover, it is important to build and expand partnerships with other UN agencies dealing with human mobility such as the UNHCR. Other important stakeholders include communities, private players, and the diaspora who have a stake in the migration management discourse.

Chairperson, with respect to the issues raised by the Director General under labour migration policy reforms, Zimbabwe wishes to highlight the importance of ethical recruitment which allows for the safe and orderly movement of migrants. As a country already implementing an ethical recruitment project, we call upon the IOM to increase its support to both migrant sending and receiving countries.

In conclusion, Chairperson Zimbabwe is of the considered view that if migration is going to be effectively managed, the development related imperatives need to be joined, and for us, this relates to agricultural

development, access to better trading opportunities for developing countries and providing funding to mitigate the effects of climate change as articulated during COP27.

I thank you.