

STATEMENT
of
Mr. Amanmuhammet Sazakov

Deputy Chairman of the State Migration Service
of Turkmenistan

during the High Level Segment of the 113th session of the Council
of the International Organization for Migration

Dear Mr. Chairman,
Dear General Director,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Let me welcome you at the 113th session of the Council of the International Organization for Migration, express gratitude to the organizers for the atmosphere of cooperation and wish everyone fruitful work.

The climate is constantly changing, but in recent years these changes have become more extreme due to human activities. Greenhouse gas emissions are a key factor influencing climate change. Climate change affects almost all aspects of human life – households, economy and health. The impact of the climate crisis on human mobility is enormous. In 2021 alone, natural disasters resulted in 23,7 million internal displacements.

In this regard, the activities of the International Organization for Migration in this area are of particular importance, aimed at preventing forced migration caused by environmental factors, as well as providing assistance and protection to the population affected by climate change.

Dear Director-General,
Dear participants,

By fully sharing the concern of the world community in connection with the negative impact of industrial emissions onto the environment,

Turkmenistan consistently advocates for close coordination of international efforts aimed at minimizing the risks and challenges existing in this regard.

Having reaffirmed its commitment to the Paris Agreement on climate change as a fundamental document, our country is taking practical steps in this direction, **such as** the introduction of modern technologies in all areas of the economy, the adoption of the National Climate Change Strategy, the National Strategy for the Development of Renewable Energy until 2030 and the new Law “On renewable energy sources”, the annual planting of millions of seedlings, as well as the approval of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of Turkmenistan as part of the fulfillment of obligations under the Paris Agreement. The commitments that are in it confirm ambitious goal of Turkmenistan aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in key sectors of the economy.

Turkmenistan also takes an active part in solving environmental issues at regional and international levels.

Thus, in October of last year, the National Program of Turkmenistan on the Aral Sea for 2021–2025 was adopted, which provides for improving the socio-economic and environmental situation in the Aral Sea zone, minimizing the negative impact of the Aral Sea, as well as implementing the goals of the resolution “Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea”, adopted by the UN General Assembly.

With regard to the movements of migrants who can be affected by all sorts of risks and threats, natural disasters and emergencies, existing mechanisms are being created and strengthened in Turkmenistan to predict the occurrence of risks and threats. It should be noted that “migration and emergency management” is one of the priority areas of state policy and cooperation with the International Organization for Migration identified by Turkmenistan.

Clear evidence of this is the inclusion of a wide range of issues on climate change and migration in the Joint Action Plan on activities and projects scheduled for implementation by the Government of Turkmenistan together with the IOM Office in Turkmenistan for 2022. These activities include national capacity building workshops, training of national experts, case studies, and mapping of national legislation in light of the recommendations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, followed by a report on the results.

Taking into account the forecasting and monitoring of risks and threats that may affect the movement of migrants, and taking into account international recommendations and “the Guidelines for the Protection of Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster (MICIC), an interagency contingency plan was developed and approved in case of an emergency situation, associated with the influx of internally displaced people.

In this context, we deem appropriate to single out the new Law of Turkmenistan “On International Humanitarian Assistance in Emergencies”, which significantly expands the capabilities of the national mechanism for disaster risk reduction at the international level.

**Dear General Director,
Dear participants,**

In cooperation with the International Organization for Migration, Turkmenistan will focus its efforts on further resolution of issues related to the preservation of the environment and the prevention of forced migration associated with climate change.

Constructive interaction and exchange of best practices during international dialogues will give an additional impetus to the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the implementation of the mechanisms laid down in the Global Compact for Migration, as well as the decisions adopted at the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Turkmenistan is open to constructive international partnership that meets the goals of common well-being and prosperity.

I thank you all for your attention!