

**General Debate**  
**Statement by Amb. Indra Mani Pandey, PR of India**

On behalf of the Indian delegation, I would like to thank the Director General for her report presented earlier today. We commend the DG and her team for the initiatives being taken to energise the IOM and to make it fit for purpose. Earlier in October this year, immediately after assuming office, DG had held regional consultations with Member States to ascertain their views and to spell out her vision for the IOM. India is looking forward to working together with DG and her team in taking requisite steps to implement the vision and priorities of member States. We assure her and her team of our continued support.

2. India commends and appreciates the role and contribution of the IOM as the primary global Organisation in facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration. India not only aligns itself with these objectives of the IOM but also supports various programs, projects and events aimed at fulfilling these goals. In the spirit of supporting the IOM in realising its core objectives, India has proposed two specific initiatives for the consideration of the IOM and its member States:

- a. Way forward on social security portability of migrants; and
- b. Mapping of global skills gap

3. India thanks the IOM for accepting these proposals and their inclusion in its Programmes, Governance and Organisational Priorities. We hope to make a quick progress as we believe that our initiatives will serve the interests of both Global South and Global North and will contribute in promoting orderly, safe and legal migration, reducing thereby illegal migration.

4. India, as we have often reiterated, supports safe, orderly and regular migration and to this end has put in place institutional mechanisms. These would be covered in more detail in the High-level Segment by our Vice-Minister. We are very confident that our experience and successes will inspire other countries to take similar steps in order to promote orderly migration of their people.

Thank you Chair.