

Speech
for the 114th Session of the IOM Council, the General Debate

Chair, Director General, Excellences and Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, I am honoured to address the Council and I warmly congratulate Ms. Amy Pope as new International Organization for Migration Director-General.

Republic of Moldova looks forward to continuing the partnership with IOM under your leadership on all aspects of migration, acknowledging the priority areas of the findings of the Director-General's Report: saving lives and protecting people on move; driving solutions to displacement; and facilitating pathways for regular migration.

We express gratitude to IOM along with all partners involved in the joint effort to evacuate Moldovan citizens from Gaza Strip.

In the wake of the war of Russia against Ukraine, Moldova's Government works closely with IOM to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, to meet the challenges posed by the refugee crisis.

As the war against Ukraine is dragging on, we remain committed to host the Ukrainian people and facilitate their social integration and to maintain the temporary protection regime.

Today, our call to the international community is to concentrate common efforts on increasing capacity of all governmental agencies dealing with public order and security, enhancing resilience capacity of Moldova in keeping the safety and security within the borders but also in the region as we are neighbouring with the war zone, especially, counting on support in the following areas:

- the Migration and Asylum Program aligned with the objectives of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration;

- preventing, combatting trafficking in persons and irregular migration by providing accurate information on legal migration opportunities, setting national partnerships, strengthening cooperation with development partners;
- the national program to stimulate returns and facilitate the (re)integration of citizens of the Republic of Moldova involved in the migration process;
- the National Climate Change Adaptation Program that incorporates input on migration, environment and climate change.

On this note, we would like to reiterate that the Republic of Moldova will be further engaged in common and supported efforts to put in place policies and practices, and to enhance cooperation on achieving safe, orderly, and regular migration.

Thank you for your attention!