



**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY NIGERIA AT THE HIGH-  
LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE 114<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE  
COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION  
FOR MIGRATION (IOM)**

**AGENDA ITEM: 11**

**HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT- NIGERIA STATEMENT ON CLIMATE IMPACT ON  
HUMAN MOBILITY: A GLOBAL CALL FOR SOLUTIONS**

**27<sup>TH</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023**

## **Chairperson, Your Excellencies,**

I must begin by acknowledging the timeliness of the discourse on the impact of climate change on human mobility, particularly the global call for solutions. Debates on Climate change-induced displacements and human mobility have become topical and essential at multiple multilateral fora such as the Conference of Parties and Global Forum on Migration and Development.

Quite stridently, the delegation of Nigeria has continued to register deep concerns on the growing impact and nexus between climate change and human mobility, particularly the grave threats to existing challenges and the creation of new ones. We are witnesses to extreme weather events in form of recurring floods, droughts, wildfires and hurricanes and accompanying severe destruction across the globe. The estimation is that at the end of 2023, unaddressed and growing incidences of drought will affect at least seven hundred million (700,000,000) people globally, with Sea-level rising between 30cm - 60cm by 2100. In the Lake Chad Basin region for instance, desertification has adversely impacted lives, livelihood activities and living conditions of communities.

In 2022, Nigeria witnessed unprecedented flooding across thirty-three (33) States, resulting in extensive damage to nearly three hundred and sixty thousand (360,000) homes, more than one million (1,000,000) hectares of farmlands and displacing about five (5) million people. This disaster, together with security concerns have impeded the progress envisaged in our national development. For Internally Displaced Persons and vulnerable migrants, particularly children, persons with disabilities, women and elderly persons, such impact is often protracted and invariably leading to additional vulnerability.

## **Objective 2 of the Global Compact on Safe and Orderly Migration (GCM)**

highlights the need for countries to take concrete steps towards adaptation and resilience strategies, to address the effects of sudden and slow onset of natural disasters. As humanitarian and protection needs increase, our Government is focused on livelihood empowerment and building resilience for climate shocks. It is against this backdrop that Nigeria has made significant investments in the Special National Economic Livelihood Emergency Intervention (SNELEI) to support vulnerable groups of persons impacted by disasters to advance timely post - disaster and socio-economic recovery. This is done with a view to ensuring that durable solutions are implemented in a humane and orderly process that leaves no one behind.

Whilst it is evident that the decision to migrate is anchored on a number of cross-cutting dynamics, including conflict and socio-economic factors, it is equally pertinent to highlight that currently, the impact of climate change continues to force large populations to move within and outside countries. It is on this premise that our Government has put in place a 'three-phased climate change adaptation project'; first to assess the vulnerabilities and capacity of communities; secondly to implement community-based adaptation projects, and to include at-risk-groups in the larger social investment schemes dedicated to poverty alleviation. Indeed, a Victim Support Fund (VSF) has also been established to provide short term relief and solutions to human displacement.

Furthermore, and anchored on the need to employ adaptation strategies to meets our commitment under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Nigeria is implementing the **National Adaptation Strategy and Plan of Action on Climate Change Policy**. For instance, the ongoing reclamation of the land lost to coastal erosion in Lagos, through the Eko Atlantic City project and the Kano

Relocation Project, to relocate at least eight hundred (800) households in flood-prone areas were cases in point.

Nigeria's 2015 National Migration Policy also acknowledged the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on population distribution and human mobility. This policy, which is currently under review, has its focus on addressing climate change induced mobility and integrating innovative solutions by conducting relevant studies.

**Chairperson, Excellencies,**

My delegation notes the compelling need to mainstream deliberations on disaster risk management to ensure that global financial facility within the context of multilateralism is made accessible to developing countries, less developed nations and small island states. I must recall **Objective 23** of the GCM, which emphasizes the importance of strengthening international cooperation and seize this opportunity to call on Member States to redeem commitments on climate action and financing, particularly the "Loss and Damage" Fund.

Nigeria remains a committed partner to IOM in the execution of its mandate.

**I thank you.**