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**Pre-recorded Statement**

[654 words, approx. 5 minutes]

[STARTS]

I would like to start by thanking Director General Amy Pope and International Organisation for Migration for convening this discussion. It is my pleasure to speak to you today on behalf of the United Kingdom and I am sorry that I am unable to join you in person.

The impact of climate change on human mobility is growing. The World Bank estimates that by the midpoint of this century, more than two hundred million people could be forced to migrate. Moving because of rising temperatures, extreme weather events, floods, drought, and the myriad other threats exacerbated by climate change. Most will move within their own country, but many will cross borders and continents.

We are at a pivotal stage on the international discourse on this issue. Proper consideration of the intersection between climate change and human mobility is crucial if we are to meet the challenges ahead. For this reason, I welcome the focus that IOM has placed on this topic during this 114<sup>th</sup> session of the Council and the ambition for a global approach to solutions.

The Global Compact for Migration provides us with an important framework for working towards this goal, building on the firm foundations of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Countries and institutions must continue to deepen their partnerships, through sharing evidence, through identifying best practice and through jointly addressing the wide-ranging impacts of climate migration.

Britain is proud to be one of the largest donors to the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund which brings the GCM to life through programming right across the globe. This includes funding climate mobility specific projects like the one in the IGAD region which seeks to address data and knowledge gaps pertaining to the drivers of migration in the context of climate change and disasters.

Climate mobility will continue to grow in salience in discussions on loss and damage, on inclusive development, and on adaptation.

I was pleased to lead a GCM Talk in September which considered 'Migration and Adaptation in the Context of Climate Change'. This Talk both advanced the conversation on this important issue and informed the British White Paper on International Development, launched last week, which sets out our approach to international development up to 2030.

I wanted to share with you a few key takeaways from that talk:

1. Firstly, it is clear migration can act as an effective adaptation strategy. One which allows people to manage risks related to climate change.
2. Secondly, if we are to address the intersections between climate change and migration, a wide range of stakeholders need to be engaged, particularly migrants themselves. We will also need

stronger partnerships between humanitarian, development, and climate actors.

3. And thirdly, some communities will be more affected by climate because it will compound existing vulnerabilities. This includes young people and children, women, and people with disabilities. We must engage these all groups in regional and global fora to ensure their voices are being heard and their perspectives factored into our approach to solutions.
4. Fourthly and finally, it is important to consider populations unable to move and areas experiencing out-migration, alongside the challenges of migration itself. Better adaptation to climate change will help to support those who wish to stay, or who are unable to move. Which is why at COP27, the UK committed to triple funding for climate adaptation, from £500 million to £1.5 billion.

In my speech this summer at Chatham House, I launched the UK's new development platform, UKDev. This new vision for UK development aims to reduce poverty and tackle climate change. Addressing migration is core to meeting both of these challenges.

As we look ahead to COP28, the Global Forum on Migration and Development and next year's GCM Regional Reviews, it is vital that we build on the existing momentum and continue to integrate climate and migration perspectives across international fora.

And we must work even more closely together to ensure that countries of origin, transit and destination are prepared for this phenomenon, so

that where it happens, migration can be safe, orderly and regular. Thank you very much.

[ENDS]