



**Statement by H.E. Mr. Ram Prasad Subedi,
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations
and other International Organizations in Geneva
at the 115th Session of the IOM Council
Agenda Item 11: General Debate
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**Mr. Chairperson,
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

At the outset, I wish to congratulate Mr. Chair and the members of the Bureau on your election and we would like to express the sincere appreciation to outgoing Chair and bureau members for their contribution.

We would like to thank Madam Director General for the presentation of the report and appreciate her leadership role in protecting people on the move, facilitating pathways for regular migration and shaping the policy landscape for humane and orderly migration that benefits all.

Mr. Chair,

Migration positively contributes to building integrated and diverse societies, flourishing cultures and languages creating economic opportunities. We believe, regular and managed migration for overseas employment and economic migrations should be free from any kind of exploitation.

Nepal prioritizes the bilateral labour agreements and initiatives as a part of promoting regular and orderly migration. Most recently, we have signed a bilateral agreement with Switzerland on 26 November for Safer Migration (SaMi)

Phase IV which aims to support Nepali migrant workers and their families, that focuses on gender equality and social inclusion.

Mr. Chair,

Nepal regards the labour migration as an important aspect of socio-economic dimension. As the number of people moving for overseas employment is on the rise, it has become a matter of priority for Nepal to ensure that economic and cyclical migration remains safe, orderly, managed and humane. At the same time, we underscore the importance of skill development, ethical recruitment, social security and decent working conditions for migrant workers. We are discussing these matters within the regional consultative process i.e. Colombo Process and in this regard, the implementation of the Global Compact for safe, orderly and regular Migration (GCM) is key; and our commitment to the GCM should be reflected on the actions in the ground.

Ensuring the equal access of all migrants to social protection, basic services, including health, education, justice, and decent work are fundamental to make migration more orderly and humane.

A dignified treatment in the entire migration pathway, including in the country of transit, destination, and return to the country of origin, is moral minimum that all migrant workers deserve.

And the 2023 IOM Annual Report well reflects the situation of international migration and its role in managing migration in these challenging times are reflected. Thank you, Madam DG, for your initiative.

We take good note of the IOM's Strategic Plan 2024-2028 which aims to encouraging its efficiency and we appreciate IOM's support to the regional consultative process as well as in our common efforts to making migration economically beneficial to all and making cyclical migration more orderly and humane.

Mr. Chair,

To conclude, as we continue to confront increasing challenges in the international migration landscape, we must forge a strong collaboration among all stakeholders with equally strong IOM which is effective in facilitating regular pathways for migration and protecting people on the move and saving the lives of people impacted by the climate change and disasters.

I thank you Mr. Chair.