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**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. MUNKHTUSHIG LKHANAAJAV,  
STATE SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MONGOLIA  
AT THE HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE 115<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATION ON MIGRATION COUNCIL**

*“Regular migration pathways: a global call for action”*

Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to extend Mongolia’s sincere gratitude to the Director General, the Chairperson of the Council, and the dedicated staff of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for their leadership and hard work for the successful preparations of this meeting.

Distinguished delegates,

Today the world is facing unprecedented emergencies, cross-border conflicts, prolonged displacement, disease outbreaks and climate change. We highly appreciate the efforts and actions of the IOM to address these problems around the world.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to express our deep gratitude to the IOM, for its invaluable support during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since Mongolia became the member of IOM, Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Program played a vital role in helping stranded migrants return home safely, providing essential assistance and support. This crucial assistance is a clear indication of IOM’s firm commitment and dedication to protect people regardless of their origin during hard times.

Distinguished delegates,

Mongolia supports the IOM for its commitment and impactful leadership as Coordinator of the UN Network on Migration. In particular, we deeply value the IOM’s work in addressing climate-induced displacement.

Between November 2023 and May 2024, Mongolia faced its harshest winter condition or we call it “dzud” in almost 50 years, affecting 76% of the country. The crisis impacted close to 200 thousand individuals, including over 80 thousand children and caused a devastating loss of 7.2 million livestock which is 11.6% of the total livestock in Mongolia, decimating vital food and income sources for rural, nomadic communities.

As a landlocked country with a third of the population reliant on livestock, such extreme snow blizzard events severely disrupt Mongolia’s social and economic fabric. Therefore, we emphasize prevention, preparedness and resilient solutions to address the root causes of climate-induced displacement while empowering communities for better adaptation.

In this connection, we would like to express our strong support for IOM's leadership of the Internal Displacement Solutions Fund in 2025, under the guidance of the Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General.

We also recognize the critical role of real-time, reliable data in crafting effective solutions and commends the IOM's Migration Data Portal, which enhances preparedness and saves lives by offering insights into regular migration routes. Mongolia, in alignment with fellow Members, actively collaborates with stakeholders and international organizations to implement the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM), the SDGs and its national "Vision 2050" agenda.

Distinguished delegates,

In recent years, climate change has been recognized as one of the causes behind forced displacements in the world.

According to the study conducted by the UN-Women, if the global community fails to meet its climate change mitigation goals by 2050, it may push up to 160 million more women and girls into poverty and food insecurity may affect up to 240 million more women and girls.

Recognizing the reality, Mongolia hosted the World Women's Forum under the theme "Towards Green Future", culminating in the adoption of the "Ulaanbaatar Declaration: Towards a Sustainable Future" last August. The declaration calls upon nations worldwide to champion women's participation and leadership in combating climate change. Taking this opportunity, I would like to extend our gratitude to the first female Director General of the IOM, Ms. Amy Pope, for her active participation and inspiring statement at the World Women's Forum.

Moreover, Mongolia is putting forward an initiative to establish a "Global Coalition on Sustainable Rangelands and Pastoralists for the Future" at a time when climate change is accelerating due to both natural forces and human actions, adversely impacting countries that rely on traditional pastoralism.

We strongly believe that Mongolia's initiatives will contribute to the collective efforts of the international community for addressing climate change and climate-induced migration. At the same time, we will continue our efforts to achieve net zero by the year 2050 to address the root causes of climate change.

In conclusion, let me reiterate Mongolia's unwavering commitment to the IOM and its important work of tackling complexities of global migration. We look forward to continued collaboration with IOM and its member states to tackle global challenges for a better world.

Thank you for your attention.