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High Level Segment on Regular Migration Pathways: A Global Call for Action

UK Statement

**The Rt Hon Anneliese Dodds MP, Minister of State for Development
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

[STARTS]

Thank you, Director General Pope, for convening this discussion.

We know how stark the geopolitical backdrop is.

And rising global uncertainty is resulting in increasing numbers of people on the move.

These trends mean it is more important than ever to tackle the deadly business models of organised migration crime and this organisation is central to this effort.

The UK's commitment to multilateralism has never been stronger.

We will work hand-in-hand with IOM to make migration safer, orderly and regular.

Why? Because it opens up great opportunities.

We know our partners around the world share our goal of growing their economies...

...and tapping into the skills and talents of 280 million migrants globally can help achieve that goal.

That is why the UK's vision of engaging with partners to address the root causes of irregular migration...

...can help those who would otherwise be forced to leave their homes.

Migration, managed fairly, makes tremendous contributions to our economies.

And as progress against the Sustainable Development Goals have slowed down, ...

...it can act as a powerful driver of development, supporting positive outcomes in line with the Global Compact for Migration.

That is why the UK is taking steps to unleash its potential.

We fund programmes in East Africa and the Horn of Africa to make migration within the region safer and more productive.

We are also trialling a new one-year project aimed at driving down remittance costs between the UK and Kenya.

These initiatives will boost growth, and I am delighted to say that the IOM has played a significant role in both programmes.

But we need to go further.

One way to do that is by investing more in collecting quality data on the results of upstream migration programming.

This will help us understand the impact, what works what does not work, of these interventions and tailor our interventions accordingly.

Back home, the UK has a long history of helping those most in need of protection.

Like creating bespoke routes for people from Ukraine, Hong Kong and Afghanistan.

Going ahead, we plan to double down on our efforts to address root causes of irregular migration...

...and offer resettlement in line with the UK's capacity to welcome and integrate refugees.

Friends, no matter how difficult the challenges, together, we must continue to engage...

...across countries and organisations...

...to promote safe regular and orderly migration for the benefit of all.

[ENDS]