AGENDA ITEM 16 (a)
Update on policies and practices related to migration, the environment and climate change and IOM’s environmental sustainability programme

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Migration, environment and climate change: Accelerating action
Migration, Environment and Climate Change: 
from Invisibility to the Spotlight

Phase 1
“Absence”

Phase 2
“Awareness”

Phase 3
“Anchorage”

Phase 4
“Agreement”

Phase 5
“Action”?
1. The “Absence” Phase (...till 2005)
Invisibility of environmental and climate change drivers

- Focus on migration & development
- Bern Initiative and International Agenda on Migration Management (IAMM)
- Cluster system, Camp Management and Camp Coordination (CCCM) IOM lead on natural disasters
- First expert Seminar on Migration and the Environment (IOM and UNFPA), 94th IOM thematic Council paper

Turning points
- 1st Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report (1990)
Growing evidence for policy

IOM’s first publication on migration and environment dates back to 1992

Source: Atlas of Environmental Migration, 2016
II. The “Awareness” phase (from 2007 to 2010)
Isolate environmental and climate change drivers

- Efforts to frame and define terms, focus on social dimensions of climate change
- Climate Change, Environment and Migration Alliance (CCEMA)

**Turning points**

COP 16 Cancún Adaptation
paragraph 14f on “migration, displacement and planned relocation” (2010)
IOM’s key objectives on migration, environment and climate change

Help people to stay
Minimizing forced forms of migration

Help people to move
Facilitating migration in context of climate change

Help people on the move
Assisting and protect people on the move
III. The “Anchorage” Phase (from 2010 to 2015)
Embed environmental migration in policy processes

- Migration in “Loss and Damage” (COP18 Doha, COP19 Warsaw, COP 20 Lima), Samoa Pathway, SDGs, Sendai, Urban and Humanitarian Agendas (2014 -2015) feature environmental migration and displacement
  - Nansen Initiative and Protection Agenda
  - International Dialogue on Migration (IDM)
- Establishment of the MECC Division in IOM

**Turning points**
Paris Agreement on Climate Change (2015) at COP21
IV. The “Agreement” phase (2015 ...on)
Break silos at Governmental, UN and IOM levels

- Policy coherence: Task Force on Climate Displacement (TFD) under UNFCCC, UN-Migration Network, Climate change and migration in Human Rights Council Decision

- IOM hosts first meeting of the Task Force on Displacement under UNFCCC (July 2019) as follow up to COP 24 Katowice Decision 10/24

- IOM key partner with UNHCR in the Platform on Disaster and Displacement (PDD)

- Regional developments in processes and organizations

Turning points

The New York Declaration on Migrants and Refugees (2016)
The Global Compacts (2018)
V. “Action” phase (from 2019 on ...)?
Ways ahead: a key opportunity to accelerate action on migration at the UN Climate Summit, hosted by UN Secretary General September 2019
A key opportunity to integrate migration in climate action

- Multi-stakeholder coalitions to develop transformative outcomes, but no negotiated outcome
- “Social and Political Drivers” Track (led by Peru and Spain, supported by DESA, ILO, WHO)
- “Resilience and Adaptation” Track (led by Egypt and United Kingdom, supported by UNDP)
- SG summit launches new UN internal sustainability vision and strategy
IOM's contributions specific to the Summit

- **UN wide partnership**: migration and displacement in UN Climate Appeal

- Highlight significance of **regional policy dialogues and initiatives** (UN-TFHS funded Pacific project) through High Level event on Pacific SIDSs hosted by Portugal and Fiji

- **Climate change and migration in vulnerable countries** (publication UN-OHRLLS and IOM)

- **Technical and policy support** to states requesting migration and climate change inputs

- Communication
IOM strategic focus to connect policy - evidence - action

- Ambition to strengthen the organization and strategize to deliver on objectives and enhance state engagement at thematic level
- 11 MECC projects active USD 5.5 million as June 2019, 23 projects since 2013 and 5 new MECC regional thematic specialists
- MECC projects reported in *Taking Sendai forward Report (2017)* part of 84 projects reported in 71 countries (up to 140 million)
- Focus on tools, guidelines and broaden funding base
- 180 dedicated publications and reports
IOM strategic focus to enhance capacities and policy coherence

- Integrate environmental and climate dimensions in traditional areas of work (reintegration, health, trafficking, diasporas, labour, displacement data, gender etc.)
- Capacity building programme: 494 policy makers from 58 countries (as June 2019) through 18 national workshops and 6 regional ones
IOM strategic focus
to establish IOM’s Environmental Policy

- IOM is aligning with UN practices to reach climate neutrality after launching in 2017 the Environmental Sustainability Programme
- IOM joined the Environment Management Group (EMG), co-leads the Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings
- Policy under internal review, IOM directed Environmental inventories at facility level, Environmental management systems (EMS) to be established
The significance of environmental and climatic drivers impacts contemporary migration policy and practice.

How should IOM best be fit to respond to this challenge and seize the opportunity to support states, migrants and communities?
To conclude: A turning point?