



152<sup>nd</sup> Executive Board Session of the World Health Organization

**Agenda Item 12.1**

**Strengthening WHO preparedness for and response to health emergencies**

Geneva, January 2023

Statement by

International Organization for Migration (IOM)



Honorable Chair, Director General, and Distinguished Delegates,

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) welcomes the steps taken by Member States, WHO and partners to strengthen the global health emergency preparedness, response and resilience (HEPR) architecture, specifically the commitment towards having the principles of equity, inclusivity and coherence at the center.

IOM advocates for and works at country level to promote universal health coverage in health emergencies so that all migrants have equitable access to health services. IOM's participation in the discussions around the pandemic accord center on assisting Member States to plan and implement an approach that enables human mobility within future pandemic preparedness and response.

IOM expresses its support for the three main HEPR pillars – governance, systems and financing – and commends the commitment to strengthen core capacities within the International Health Regulations through utilization and improvement of national action plans for health security as well as encouraging Universal Health Preparedness Reviews, taking into account migration as a key social determinant factor. Thank you.