



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

72nd World Health Assembly Session

Provisional Agenda Item 11.5

Documents A72/14 and EB 144/2019/REC/1, Resolution EB144.R10

COMMITTEE A

Universal Health Coverage: Preparation for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Universal Health Coverage

Geneva, May 2019

Statement by

International Organization for Migration (IOM)



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

Honorable Chair, Distinguished delegates,

UHC will not be truly universal, nor SDG target 3.8 achieved unless health services coverage and financial protection measures in all countries progressively include migrants, especially those marginalized or in situations of vulnerability. As such, IOM firmly believes that promoting the health of migrants should be an integral part of the political declaration from the High-Level Meeting and is encouraged to see the inclusion of migrants in the zero draft of the political declaration.

The High-Level Meeting on UHC sets the stage for ambitious multisectoral national policies and people-centered health systems that can respond to changing demographics and disease patterns, both influenced by population mobility. Along with the WHA resolutions on promoting health of migrants and refugees, and the forthcoming WHO Global Action Plan, these milestones should be considered also in connection with the SDG target 10.7 on facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration, as well as the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), for national migration policies to duly consider the health aspects of well-managed migration.

Improving health outcomes for migrants can be achieved by emphasizing whole-of-society and whole-of-government actions, and the involvement of migrants, including health workers, as co-developers of health services.