



76th World Health Assembly

Theme: WHO at 75: Saving lives, driving health for all

**General Discussion under Agenda Item 3**

Geneva, May 2023

Statement by  
International Organization for Migration (IOM)



Honorable President, Director General, and Distinguished Delegates,

Being and staying healthy is a fundamental precondition for migrants to contribute as co-developers and providers of health services in countries of origin and destination, therefore advancing human development outcomes.

Around the world, IOM is promoting evidence-based and inclusive policies and programmes to ensure Universal Health Coverage does not exclude migrants, thus championing the cause of “health for all”.

At the International Migration Review Forum Progress Declaration in 2022, Member States committed to providing all migrants with safe access to basic services, regardless of their migration status, and accelerating efforts, at all levels, to integrate public health considerations into migration policies and incorporate health needs of migrants in national and local health-care services, policies and plans.

As the UN Migration Agency and the coordinator of the UN Network on Migration, IOM remains committed to working with WHO, governments and partners to improve migration health outcomes. We call to ensure the inclusion of migrants and human mobility in the political declarations during the UNGA high level meetings on Universal Health Coverage; Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response; and Tuberculosis, as well as the SDG Summit for the SDG mid-term review.

At this WHA, we encourage governments to:

Ensure that migrants are integrated in the ongoing negotiations for the new pandemic preparedness treaty and improve national capacities for promoting health security;

Strengthen migration health research and data analysis and support the development of cross-border data collection and sharing;

Recognize the role of migrants and diaspora in health policies and programmes from the planning stage, including at the local level, and with the collaboration of civil society groups and academia.

Let us remember that health is a universal right. With this conviction, let us pave the way for a healthier, more equitable world where all migrants can contribute and thrive.