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Universal Health Coverage: Moving Together to Build a Healthier World

Statement by

International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Honorable Chair, Director General, Distinguished delegates,

The International Organization for Migration expresses its gratitude to WHO, governments and other partners for working alongside us to ensure that the health of migrants is integral to the landmark Political Declaration on Universal Health Coverage, which explicitly mentions migrants and recognizes key issues such as complex emergencies, international migration of health workers and climate change.

The promise to “Leave No One Behind” is fundamental to the achievement of UHC and target 3.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and requires building health systems that promote equity, reduce stigma and discrimination and remove barriers to services. As the UN Migration agency, IOM reiterates its unwavering commitment to continue working with governments and partners to enhance the health of all migrants and mobile populations.

The UHC Declaration joins the 2030 Agenda, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, two World Health Assembly resolutions that promote the health of migrants including refugees and other relevant WHO Frameworks and
Action Plans to create mutually reinforcing cooperation frameworks. As the Secretariat and Coordinator of the UN Migration Network, IOM stands ready to leverage the full potential of multisectoral cooperation, in partnership with our Member States, United Nations partners and other stakeholders, including migrants themselves, to achieve universal health coverage and the SDGs in this final decade of action.