World Health Assembly

Geneva, May 2020

Statement by
International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Honourable Chair, Director General, Delegates,

In the face of COVID-19, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reiterates the need for inclusive approaches and calls on countries to combat stigma and address the specific vulnerabilities of migrants while recognizing them as key stakeholders themselves, whether as part of the health workforce fighting this pandemic, or as contributors to future socioeconomic recovery.

As your committed partner on promoting the health of migrants, IOM continues to implement policy and operational measures on the human mobility dimensions of this pandemic, including migration communication campaigns, population mobility mapping, health capacity development at points-of-entry, and cross-border coordination, while ensuring continuity of care for essential services such as TB, malaria treatments and routine immunization.

Moving forward, respecting UHC principles and international solidarity, we must ensure that migrants, regardless of their legal status, have access to future therapeutics and vaccines, especially in low-resource settings.

Thank you.