



77th World Health Assembly

Agenda Item 11.4 - Immunization Agenda 2030

Committee A

Geneva, May 2024

Statement by

International Organization for Migration (IOM)



Since its inception in 1951, the International Organization for Migration, IOM, has worked to improve immunization coverage for migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, migrants in irregular situations, and hard-to-reach populations such as internally displaced persons, and host communities across the world. Because of their displacement, marginalization, and lack of access to health services, this population is at risk for higher rates of infectious diseases, lower rates of vaccination, and undiagnosed or poorly managed medical problems.

Every year, IOM carries out vaccination activities in over 70 countries, as part of national mass vaccination campaigns or in response to outbreaks. Reaching over 3.3 million people with crucial vaccinations in 2023, IOM's vaccination efforts span several areas of focus: cold chain strengthening and introduction of new vaccines, improving vaccine coverage and equitable access for migrants and people in crisis, reaching zero-dose children in migrant communities, and strengthening national immunization systems.

In coordination with partners — national and local health authorities, WHO, UNICEF, and Gavi, among others — IOM has been a key player in global efforts to ensure that migrants and mobile populations have proper access to vaccines.

The inclusion of migrants and displaced persons in national vaccination plans, without discrimination, is essential for the achievement of the Immunization Agenda 2030.

We stand ready to continue supporting Member States, WHO and key partners to address the barriers that migrants face regarding access to vaccination services through whole-of-government and whole-of-society actions.