



77th World Health Assembly

Agenda item: 15.4 Climate Change and Health

Committee A

Geneva, May 2024

Statement by

International Organization for Migration (IOM)



Climate change, health and human mobility are closely connected. In 2022 alone, there were 32.6 million new internal displacements, the highest number ever recorded, triggered mainly by weather-related hazards, including floods, storms and droughts – more than those related to conflict and violence.

With climate change impacts and their related health threats, many communities seek better living conditions elsewhere, either as an adaptation strategy or out of necessity. This is particularly true in the least developed countries, small island developing states and low and middle economies most affected by climate change.

Prevention, preparedness and the response capacity of health systems – including infrastructure, supplies and workforce – are key aspects in mitigating the potential health risks of climate change-induced displacement and global public health.

We must act now - IOM, as the UN Migration Agency, has an imperative to act on this triple nexus of health, climate change and mobility. We call for the urgent inclusion of migration health in policies related to environmental and climate change issues and calls for dialogue to increase the resilience of health systems and communities facing adverse impacts of climate change, as a critical element for actions and collaboration.