



79th World Health Assembly

Agenda Item 12.3: Communicable diseases

Committee A

Geneva, May 2026

Statement by

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Population mobility continues to create gaps in reaching zero-dose and missed communities along migration pathways. Tuberculosis, including drug-resistant TB, requires continuous, coordinated care across borders, while persistent polio transmission in border areas reflects immunity gaps among mobile populations. These challenges are most acute in fragile and underserved settings, where interruptions in vaccination, delayed TB diagnosis and weak referral systems undermine national efforts. Mobility is a driver and determinant of missed vaccination and interrupted TB care.

IOM supports over 130 countries to deliver mobility-sensitive health interventions. We urge Member States and WHO to better reflect the health needs of migrants, displaced populations and border communities in the implementation of the Immunization Agenda 2030 and in current and future TB strategies. IOM remains committed to supporting practical, country-led solutions in high-mobility settings.

Thank you.