



79th World Health Assembly

**Agenda Item 12.8: Report of the Expert Advisory Group on the WHO
Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health
Personnel**

Committee A

Geneva, May 2026

Statement by

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Honorable Chair, Director-General and Distinguished Delegates,

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) recognizes that the growing mobility of health workers reflects increasing interdependence across health systems, alongside persistent global workforce shortages.

In line with the WHO Global Code of Practice and ongoing discussions following the Expert Advisory Group's report, IOM supports the development of regular labour mobility pathways that promote safe, ethical and well-managed migration. These approaches help balance the protection of migrant health workers with the sustainability of health systems in both origin and destination countries and are consistent with commitments under the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and its review through the International Migration Review Forum.

In this context, IOM highlights the importance of strengthening ethical recruitment while safeguarding health systems in countries of origin, including through the development of bilateral labour mobility pathways that support mutual benefit, skills partnerships and skills recognition, aligned with IOM's role in facilitating regular mobility pathways. IOM recognizes the importance of mobility governance approaches that align labour mobility with national workforce planning priorities and stands ready to support Member States in advancing these efforts through practical, corridor-based approaches.

Thank you.