

114ª Sessão do Conselho da OIM

Segmento de Alto Nível

Intervenção do Brasil

**Sr. Augusto de Arruda Botelho, Secretário Nacional de
Justiça**

Mister Chair,

Mrs. Director-General,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour to be here today and to address this Council on behalf of the Brazilian government.

Let me start by congratulating the new Director-General Amy Pope for her election at a critical moment for human displacement. My government has confidence in her leadership and is ready to contribute to the success of her mandate.

I would like to express my appreciation for IOM's work in Brazil. Your office in Brasilia has become an essential partner of the government, and especially of the Minister of Justice and Public Security, in the implementation of several programs and initiatives in favor of migrants, especially within the framework of Operation Welcome.

Mister chair,

Brazil firmly believes migration can generate economic, social and cultural benefits for societies. We are proud to be a country built by migrants. Men and women from all continents brought to Brazil their culture, values, expertise, and knowledge, enriching our culture and bringing dynamism to many sectors.

We are convinced that migration is not a threat, but rather an opportunity. While we recognize the legitimate concerns of hosting countries and communities, no challenge can justify managing migration outside the framework of international human rights law. Brazil is particularly concerned with the increasing trend to criminalize migrants, as well as reports of abuse in detention procedures and expulsions.

We reiterate once more our commitment to the promotion of the human rights of all migrants, regardless of migratory status and we put our words into action: Brazil's Migration Law, adopted in 2017, is based on the principle of equal treatment and opportunity, without any kind of discrimination.

In this vein, I would like to highlight Brazil's return to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, a commitment President Lula made during the transition phase of his Administration.

I would also like to mention the progress already made in this first year, such as the regulations for granting temporary visas and residence permits to citizens of the members of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP).

Also important to mention Brazil's participation in the Quito Process.

As National Secretary of Justice, I am responsible for Brazil's migration policy and in the first days of my administration I was given a task: to build the National Policy on Migration, Refugees and Statelessness.

In an unprecedented move, for months we brought together 13 government ministries, more than 200 civil society organizations, international bodies dealing with the issue and leading academic experts to build this policy. More than 1,400 written contributions were submitted, which have now been analyzed and compiled into the first text of a new national policy that will soon be presented to everyone.

Mister chair, ladies and gentleman,

The theme of this session - the climate impact on human mobility - is of greatest importance.

Deeply committed to the fight against climate change, Brazil has offered to host the COP-30 in the Amazonian city of Belém, in 2025.

Brazil shares IOM's concern with the climate impact on human mobility. In response, our Migration Law has provided a legal basis for granting humanitarian visas to individuals affected by natural disasters. This policy has benefited nations such as Haiti since 2012, with more than 90,000 visas granted to this day.

However, we consider that projections on the so-called "climate mobility" must take into account that climate interacts

with social, political, and economic drivers when it comes to migration.

The IPCC considers climate-related migration patterns difficult to predict: how and when climate change leads to increased migration remains poorly understood. Push factors driving migration may include a combination of trends and events including poverty and unemployment, limited livelihood opportunities and decent work deficits, relative deprivation, persecution and discrimination, violent conflict, natural disasters, and famine. Some of these factors can be exacerbated by climate change, but different communities facing similar environmental pressures on livelihoods do not necessarily adopt the same migration patterns.

Climate change should not, however, take precedence over known more relevant and immediate causes of migration, such as inequalities between and within countries, socio-economic exclusion, poverty, political instability and armed conflict.

If, on the one hand, it is recognized that the effects of climate change are serious and deserve the attention of the international community, on the other hand, there is concern about the possible hollowing out of the migration agenda and the consequent redirection of scarce international resources to programs and projects with limited practical impact on national migration responses.

Mister Chair,

I finalize by saying Brazil is concerned about the continued deaths and recruitment of migrants by coyotes, who risk their lives in dangerous crossings such as the Darién Gap.

We believe that the global response must be coordinated with international support for national responses to the reception and integration of migrants in developing countries.

We must put all our efforts to an improved dialogue on the need to provide adequate protection for the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, with an end - a definitive end - to the criminalization of migration.

Thank you!