



International  
Labour  
Organization

[24.11.2023]

Talking Points

---

**Event:** *IOM 114th Session of the Council*

**Date:** 28 November 2023

**Venue:** CIGG

**Session topic:** Climate impact on human mobility: A global call for solutions

**Session time:** 17:12 according to list of speakers

**Title:**

**Length of speech/intervention:** 5 minutes

**Words:** 585

**Speaking Posture:** *Intervention from the floor*

**Additional Important Information:** You will attend the high-level lunch with Ms Amy Pope at Intercontinental at 13.15.

**The speech or speaking points has been prepared by:**

Sukti Dasgupta Director WORKQUALITY

Excellencies, Director-General of IOM, colleagues from UN agencies, friends from civil society,

- Thank you for this opportunity to intervene on this extremely important topic.
- Climate change is already affecting human mobility, including labour migration and mobility.
- Well-governed human mobility can ~~support~~ *work hand in hand with* adaptation to climate change and mitigation efforts, while protecting the rights of those displaced.
- Poorly-governed mobility, which fails to account for increased pressures on vulnerable populations ~~or their potential contributions~~, will lead to unsafe, disorderly and irregular movement, mal-adaptation, and rights abuses.
- Rights-based governance of human mobility in the context of climate change is therefore critical.
- Decent work, underpinned by workers' rights, as outlined in international labour standards, is central to rights-based governance.
- Just transitions away from fossil fuels towards green economies and societies are key to the future of work.

- Migrant workers who can develop and use appropriate skills in the green sector can play a central role in just transitions to green economies and societies, if their rights are protected. *At the same time, protecting labor rights for all,*
- For many people, mobility in the context of climate change *both* will look like labour migration, with people diversifying *migrant* their incomes, sending remittances and ~~contributing to~~ *& non-* strengthening <sup>the</sup> adaptive capacities of their families and communities of origin. *migrant,*
- For these people, the core values of respect for fundamental principles and rights at work, fair recruitment, and decent work will be needed for them to realise these goals. *will help build*
- For those displaced by climate change ~~impacts or involved~~ *support* in planned relocations, decent work is crucial to help rebuild their lives with dignity. *needed*
- ILO Recommendation 205 on employment and decent work for peace and resilience provides guidance, to prevent and mitigate crises, enabling recovery and building resilience, highlighting the critical role of decent work in building resilience and rebuilding after disaster. *for the climate transition,*
- In all of these efforts, social dialogue with employers' and workers' organizations is critical. These world of work actors have key insights on capacities, needs and opportunities for just transition, adaptation and relocation.

- Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,
- The ILO considers human mobility in the context of climate change a key social justice challenge.
- In response to demands from our tripartite constituents, we are developing knowledge, taking action on the ground and strengthening partnerships to help people move with dignity and in respect of their rights.
- Our constituents discussed just transitions during the 111<sup>th</sup> International Labour Conference in June. ~~In this discussion,~~ *and* ~~constituents~~ called for the development of coherent labour migration and mobility frameworks for just transitions.
- We have been working in countries with the support of the Migration Multipartner Trust Fund to support pilot projects in partnership with the IGAD Secretariat and the PIFS, ESCAP, IOM, OHCHR, UNHCR, and the Platform on Disaster Displacement in East Africa and the Pacific.
- And we are co-leads in the UN Network on Migration workstream on Climate Change, the GCM and the Paris Agreement, and participate in the UNFCCC Task Force on Displacement, strengthening complementarities between discussions in the climate change and migration processes.



- And we're ready to do more.
- We will continue to push this agenda forward, strengthening partnerships within the UN system and working with our tripartite constituents and other stakeholders to ensure that people on the move due to climate change enjoy decent work, and can contribute to adaptation and just transition. *an enabling environment for sustainable enterprises,*
- Without this critical element of social justice for people on the move, there can be no just transition. *And if the transition is not just, our efforts face greater risks.*
- Without decent work, migration cannot work for adaptation or rebuilding after catastrophic loss and damage.
- And without social dialogue, we will never understand the full extent of how migrant workers can support just transitions.

*But together, employers, workers and governments, we can address the climate challenges we face while promoting social justice and decent work.*