



# PHILIPPINES

## HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE 114<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IOM COUNCIL

***Theme: Climate impact on human mobility: a global call for solutions***

*Delivered by: Secretary of Foreign Affairs Enrique A. Manalo*

*28 November 2023*

*Speaking time: 5-minutes maximum*

Mr. Chairperson,  
Madame Director-General,  
Excellencies, colleagues,

The Philippines thanks the IOM for convening this High-Level Segment on climate impact on human mobility.

Throughout the Philippines, we have felt, and continue to feel, the impact of global warming and extreme weather conditions, being one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change.

Besides taking a toll on human lives, livelihoods, critical infrastructure, and the economy, climate change also affects the movement of people, both within and across borders.

In this regard, climate change and natural hazards amplify existing challenges and vulnerabilities. In the Philippines, we observe that climate-related hazards have an impact on human mobility and sustainable development, particularly in coastal communities.

Developing and island nations, like the Philippines, disproportionately bear the brunt of the climate crisis - yet are the least responsible for carbon emissions. Hence, there should be enhanced international cooperation and support, in the shape of concrete and scaled up climate financing, capacity-building and technology transfer for countries most affected by climate change provided by developed countries. We hope that COP28 will produce more meaningful commitments and decisions, especially on the Loss and Damage Fund.

In a world of increasing climate-induced human mobility, the role of safe and orderly migration - with full protection of human rights of migrants - becomes

MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

14-16 Allée David-Morse, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland ● Tel: (+41) (0) 22 716 1930 ● E-mail: geneva.pm@dfa.gov.ph

even more important. For some nations, migration will become one of their main adaptation strategies if the Paris Agreement targets are not met.

As an organization at the forefront of this conversation, the IOM is in a position to amplify our call for an integrated and coordinated approach to climate change and human mobility.

We were glad to partner with the IOM in convening an Asia Pacific Ministerial Roundtable on the connections between climate, the environment, and migration on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly this year.

At the upcoming COP28 in Dubai, the Philippines will steer forward our important conversation today, through a side event led by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on *“Forging a Consensus on the Nexus between Climate Change and Migration”*.

This is part of the Philippines’ continuing commitment as a Global Compact on Migration Champion and an advocate in upholding the rights of migrants. We encourage greater attention to the challenges brought about by climate change on the migration cycle, from how it impacts on migrants and their livelihoods in both countries of origin and destination, to how it impedes their return and reintegration.

Member States, the IOM, and migration and climate change experts and stakeholders should work more closely together to gain better understanding of the interplay between climate and migration, with a view to developing global and regional solutions, including possible guidelines and good practices to enhance policies and cooperation programs.

If our goal through the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda is to leave no one behind, we must take into account those who are forced to leave their homes and countries due to climate change, which they did not cause.

Rest assured, as a responsible member and partner of the international community, the Philippines will play an active role and contribute to this very timely and much needed discussions.

Thank you. **END**