

**IOM 114th COUNCIL
HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT**

Mr. Chairperson,
Madame Director General,
Excellencies,

As climate change and environmental problems have become one of the most challenging global crises we have to face, we believe that this high-level session is very timely.

Regardless of the development level, no country is immune from the negative effects. Climate change is causing loss of land and livelihoods, environmental degradation, food insecurity, water scarcity and impacting women, girls and vulnerable populations the most.

We need to act immediately for the climate emergency, which we are all facing in the form of environmental catastrophes.

Climate change is a risk multiplier that is threatening social and economic stability of nations. In this regard, with a holistic approach, the impact of climate change on migration shall rather be addressed within the context of Sustainable Development Agenda. As we all know, the adverse impacts of climate change and environmental degradation represent a serious threat to the achievement of the SDGs. As we aim to leave no one behind, we need comprehensive and collaborative actions. We need to break the silos to achieve our common goals.

Excellencies,

Most vulnerable people and countries should be prioritized in combatting climate change and strengthening their adaptation. They need to adapt faster and build resilience as they have no time to lose. In this regard, combating climate change is no longer a choice but a necessity for us.

Due to the ongoing political instabilities, poor governance, armed conflicts and economic hardship in the region, Türkiye has been under heavy migration pressure from her neighbors and countries of the region.

As known, Türkiye is located in the Mediterranean region, which is one of the main climate change hotspots in the world. We have been experiencing extreme weather events more frequently.

With this understanding, we gave momentum to our efforts on climate action. We doubled our greenhouse gas emission reduction target in our updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). We announced our net zero emission target for 2053 and our new green development reform. We are preparing our "Climate Law" to combat climate change more efficiently.

We are also updating the "Climate Change Action Plan, Long Term Strategy and Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan" within the context of our net zero target and green transition.

Türkiye demonstrates leadership within the scope of the Barcelona Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Zone of the Mediterranean and makes significant contributions to the protection of the Mediterranean.

We are ready to contribute more to the global efforts on addressing environmental challenges, especially climate change, loss of biodiversity and waste management on the basis of sustainable development and green transition.

In terms of waste management, Türkiye took a significant step forward by introducing the Zero Waste Project initiated by Our First Lady, H.E. Emine Erdoğan to the world by the UN Zero Waste Resolution last year.

Excellencies,

As enshrined in the GCM, if we want to be successful in our efforts, we need to work together. We need to promote international, regional and bilateral cooperation and dialogue. There is no doubt that strengthening international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration should be our aim.

Thank you.