



**Permanent Mission of the
Arab Republic of Egypt
to the United Nations**

**البعثة الدائمة لجمهورية مصر العربية
لدى الأمم المتحدة**

**Statement of H.E. Ambassador Osama Abdelkhalek,
PR of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the UN**

**Briefing on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and
Regular Migration: Report of the Secretary-General**

February 16th, 2022

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

(no pre-established list of speakers)

General Assembly Hall

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Thank you Mr. President,

Egypt aligns itself with the statement made by Ecuador on behalf of the GCM champion countries and wishes to add the following remarks in its national capacity. I thank the Secretary-General for his report and remarks and thank the PGA for holding this briefing. I also welcome the presence of Mr. Antonio Vitorino, Director-General of IOM in this meeting.

Mr. President,

As a country of origin, transit and destination, Egypt has adopted a comprehensive approach in addressing migratory flows and has actively engaged in international deliberations on enhancing migration governance. Egypt continues to host more than 6 million migrants and refugees from over 58 countries and adopts a policy that ensures the respect of their human rights and their access to basic services on equal footing with Egyptian citizens. This aims to guarantee their inclusion in the society and to ensure that no one is left behind.

As such, migrants are included in Egypt's National Healthcare Program, the 100 Million Healthy Lives campaign for the early detection and free treatment of Hepatitis C and other non-communicable diseases and we continue to provide migrants with access to protective health equipment and food services during the pandemic, in addition to including migrants in our national program for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Our longstanding cooperation with the UN on migration has been expanding. In November 2021, Egypt and the UN launched a Joint Platform for Migrants and Refugees in Egypt in order to enhance the services provided to migrants and refugees. The platform will assist in assessing their needs, in addition to mobilizing the required resources.

Mr. President,

In 2019, Egypt established a national committee to follow-up the implementation of the GCM in a whole-of-government-approach. We also participated in the regional Arab and African reviews and presented our voluntary national reviews. We continue to address migration through a holistic approach that is linked to Agenda 2030 and is in connection with Egypt's Vision 2030 to achieve sustainable development.

We look forward to the IMRF in May, which will serve as a platform to discuss progress on the implementation of the GCM. Egypt was glad to join other Champion countries in sending a joint letter to your Office to express readiness to engage constructively to forge an ambitious Progress Declaration. I would like to seize this occasion to congratulate Bangladesh and Luxembourg for their appointment as co-facilitators of the consultations on the Progress Declaration and express to them our full support.

Mr. President,

As we examine the challenges facing the GCM, we notice the effects of the continuation of conflicts and political crises, in addition to deteriorating economic conditions. It is of importance to promote the peaceful settlement of conflicts and to address the root causes of migration, particularly through attaining sustainable development, combatting poverty and promoting youth employment. We welcome the report's reference to the need to enhance pathways for regular migration and urge the commitment to enhancing this goal.

Moreover, as the host country of COP27, we recognize the report's important reference to the effects climate change and environmental degradation have as adverse drivers of migration. Indeed, the amplifying effects of rising sea levels, desertification and water scarcity foreshadow an unsettling future. We look forward to the deliberations on their linkages on migration during the IMRF.

The IMRF represents an opportunity to enhance collective action towards enhancing the implementation of the GCM and affirming our resolve to effectively address the root causes of migration to ensure that it becomes a choice, not an inevitability. You can count on Egypt's support during the upcoming preparations.

I thank you.