

## Block 1

**Ensuring voluntary, safe, regular and responsible migration**

**Dear Chairman,  
Distinguished heads and representatives of delegations,**

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the implementation of the GCM in four thematic areas, which allows all of us today to see the efforts of States to achieve specific goals.

Within the framework of ensuring the voluntary, orderly and legal nature of migration, Turkmenistan attaches an important role, first of all, to the simplicity and predictability of migration procedures, thereby simplifying access to legal migration channels and reducing the adverse impact of various factors on migration, creating conditions for decent work and fair employment of workers, while recognizing the qualifications of migrants and investing in further skills development.

**Certainty and accessibility of migration procedures** in the country is achieved by simplifying entry/exit procedures, transit, visa procedures, documentation and protection of migrants at all stages of migration. Simplification of migration procedures is ensured, inter alia, through the use of electronic technologies, in particular by submitting online applications for visas, work permits, registration, registration of passports and other identity documents. as well as feedback through electronic notifications to migrants about the readiness of procedures or documents.

Particular attention is paid to **timely information** about migration procedures, the rights and obligations of migrants and legislative innovations in the context of simplifying access to legal migration channels and increasing their flexibility. Normative legal acts of Turkmenistan are subject to, inter alia, posting. on the electronic websites of state authorized bodies. Timely information is also provided directly by employees authorized bodies, educational institutions, representatives of the media, in accordance with the powers vested in them, as well as in information resource centers and during other public events under local executive authorities.

Turkmenistan, pursuing a policy aimed at eliminating all types of inequalities, **invests** in national, regional and international programmes aimed primarily at improving the social and economic well-being of the country's population, including vulnerable groups, thereby minimizing the adverse impact of various forces and factors on migration and migrants. This is also facilitated by investment Turkmenistan in the development of human capital in the field of education, vocational training and skills development, entrepreneurship, ensuring productive employment, including in the private sector, in order to prevent the outflow of specialists from the country.

**The** country's achievements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement and

the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, contribute to reducing the negative impact on migration. Sustainable Development between the Government of Turkmenistan and the UN for 2021-2025, the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation with the UN in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Turkmenistan.

In accordance with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for 2015-2030, Turkmenistan is implementing a set of national measures aimed at disaster risk reduction, development of national emergency management mechanisms, raising awareness and preparedness of the population as a result of natural and man-made emergencies.

Within the framework of cooperation with the United Nations, especially with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration, and others, the experience of international evacuation, registration and accommodation of the population is being introduced, and the experience of other countries in providing international humanitarian assistance is being studied. The Law of Turkmenistan "On International Humanitarian Assistance in Emergency Situations" adopted on August 22, 2020 significantly expands the capabilities of the national mechanism for disaster risk reduction at the international level.

Turkmenistan has also implemented a number of measures to intensify cooperation between the countries of the region in order to improve the environmental and socio-economic situation in the Aral Sea basin and adaptation measures for the construction of Lake Altyn Asyr in the Karakum Desert. The country initiated the development of the Regional Environmental Programme for Sustainable Development in Central Asia (RPSDM), which will contribute to the achievement by the countries of the region of their obligations under the environmental SDGs and UN environmental conventions, the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement and the introduction of the principles of the "green" economy.

With a view to the sustainable development of the country, structural reforms are envisaged at the local and national levels to **ensure a decent life within the country for the population**, including migrants and displaced persons, which are based on financial support (credit), the creation of new decent jobs, a further increase in the minimum wage, the provision of productive employment, including in the private sector, and the stimulation of the development of small and medium-sized entrepreneurship, increasing women's economic activity and protecting children, which will reduce vulnerability and risks, and provide social guarantees.

As part of preventing the outflow of young specialists, on March 2, 2018, the Government of Turkmenistan approved the Program for Improving the Employment System of Young Specialists and the Plan for its Implementation, and on June 14, 2019, *the Program for the Adaptation of Youth to the Labor Market was adopted.*

Separate bilateral agreements provide for the liberalization and simplification of the visa regime in order to simplify labor mobility, provide educational opportunities for citizens of the Parties. An example of this is the Agreement between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Republic of

Azerbaijan on the simplification of the visa regime for participants in international transportation through the territory of Turkmenistan and the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 22.11.2018, as well as the exemption from visa requirements for holders of United Nations laissez-passers dated 28.02.2021.

**Streamlining labour mobility and development** The infrastructure for the organized attraction of foreign labour is one of the measures to protect the rights of migrant workers and to regulate migration. The selection of personnel through the study of the national labor market, the identification of the necessary specialties, the formation of requests to attract foreign migrants is carried out with the involvement of the relevant state bodies, executive authorities and the private sector. Exceptions to the established quotas for the employment of foreign nationals and maximum assistance to employers in attracting such specialists are applied for the selection of highly qualified personnel from among migrant workers, as well as the non-application of quotas for migrant workers who find themselves in a vulnerable situation as a result of sudden natural disasters or other emergencies.

**In order to promote fair and ethical employment of workers and ensure conditions for decent work**, Turkmenistan has ratified eight constituent conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the norms of which are implemented in sectoral legislative blocks.

Turkmenistan guarantees migrant workers a wide range of rights, in particular: the right to equal conditions of work, pay and rest with citizens of Turkmenistan, equality in matters of social security, the right to emergency medical care, equal access of children to education, to cultural identity, non-discriminatory access to the justice system, protection of family unity, equal opportunities for women and men in employment; free choice of profession, the right to consular protection, the right to the transfer of earnings, the protection of identity documents and the protection of employment contracts.

State guarantees of the fair and ethical nature of the hiring of personnel are regulated by the Law of Turkmenistan "On Employment of the Population" and other regulatory legal acts, in particular, a mechanism for the work of state and non-state agencies of employment services in the provision of services for the employment of citizens.

**In order to increase the level of knowledge and skills** on the procedures for identifying persons in mixed migratory flows, including unaccompanied children, victims of trafficking in persons and others, and thereby achieve orderly and safe migration, Turkmenistan provides systematic training for specialists of State bodies who, by the nature of their activities, come into contact with alleged victims of trafficking in persons and migrants in vulnerable situations. Refugees. Systematic training includes training programs, seminars, webinars, trainings for employees of authorized state bodies, including the prosecutor's office and the judicial system, internal affairs bodies, border, migration, customs authorities, as well as teachers/lecturers of educational institutions, specialists of health, education, social protection bodies and other state bodies and public associations, with their involvement in the mechanism of redirecting persons to public authorities. Mixed

migratory flows, taking into account gender and children's interests, in order to provide them with the necessary support and advice.

The development of skills and qualifications is also provided to migrants entering Turkmenistan and members of their families, along with automatic recognition of their skills in order to protect their labour rights at all levels of qualification, as well as to optimize opportunities in the labour market and occupy decent jobs. In addition, foreign citizens in Turkmenistan have the right to receive education in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Turkmenistan. The authorized body of executive power in the field of education carries out international cooperation in the field of education through a system of analysis and forecasting of modern world processes in the field of education and upbringing of youth and training of professional personnel. At the same time, educational institutions of Turkmenistan establish direct contacts with foreign institutions implementing various educational programs for the training of professional personnel. For the same purpose, educational institutions (branches) of foreign states operate in the territory of Turkmenistan.

As part of improving the quality of educational services, a digital platform has been created on the basis of the National Concept for the Development of the Digital Education System in Turkmenistan. At the same time, special attention is paid to the early development of children and the development of children in the physical, social and mental spheres.

**Dear participants!**

Summing up, I would like to focus your attention not only on the measures taken to ensure orderly and safe migration, but also on Turkmenistan's desire to make maximum progress in achieving the goals of the GCM.

**Thank you for your attention!**