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On 16 May 2023, IOM Azerbaijan and the State Migration Service (SMS) organized the seminar on “the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)” for relevant government agencies within the Regional Training Center on Migration.

The event began with the official opening session where the participants were welcomed by Ms. Amela Mujagic, Chief of Mission IOM Office in Azerbaijan, Ms. Kanako Mabuchi, Head of UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Azerbaijan, Mr. Ulvi Aliyev, Head of department at the SMS.

In her opening remarks, Ms. Amela Mujagic highlighted the importance of the seminar with the relative government agencies. She noted that the involvement of government agencies has made an important contribution to the effective coordination of migration issues.

“The implementation of the Global Compact's commitments will require concerted and cooperative action not only by governments but also, in an inclusive spirit of partnership, by the many non-state actors who have an essential role to play in good migration governance, including civil society, the private sector, unions, migrant and diaspora organizations, academia and migrants themselves, amongst others,” said Ms. Amela Mujagic.

Ms. Kanako Mabuchi, Head of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, appreciated Azerbaijan's efforts to introduce positive practices to support regular migration. “Azerbaijan was the first country in the region to join the Champion Country Initiative, and Azerbaijan is considered one of the leading countries in the implementation of GCM,” said Ms. Kanako Mabuchi.

Noting that Azerbaijan is active in the implementation of the Global Compact at both local and regional levels, Ulvi Aliyev, Head of the department at SMS, thanked IOM for its support of the Government in this field. “The country has been a strong supporter of the GCM since its inception and also step-up efforts to ensure its effective implementation in the future,” said Mr. Aliyev.

After opening speeches, participants - the representatives of state institutions were informed about the objectives and guiding principles of the GCM, priorities and work plan of UNMN Azerbaijan, GCM Reviews, GCM capacity-building mechanisms, Synergies with other summits, frameworks, Inter-state Consultation Mechanisms, priorities, vision, and GCM pledges of Azerbaijan as GCM Champion Country and consultations were held on the topics of the seminar.

It should be noted that the IOM Azerbaijan and SMS have previously held multilateral two-stage consultations to raise awareness of the Global Migration Pact. The consultations were organized for young people, students, volunteers, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations, the media, academia, and migrant communities.

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