EXPLANATION OF VOTE BY MALAYSIA FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION REVIEW FORUM (IMRF) PROGRESS DECLARATION

FRIDAY, 20 MAY 2022

Mr. Chair,

Malaysia was engaged throughout the process in coming out with the Progress Declaration. We appreciate the efforts of the co-facilitators in producing the text presented this afternoon. We attach importance towards combatting discrimination, racism, violence, xenophobia and related intolerance, which are among the issues covered in the Progress Declaration.

- 2. While the text of the Progress Declaration is not ideal, it is the best possible compromise in view of the divergent views of Member States. As such, we have decided to join consensus on the text, given the importance of identifying key challenges, opportunities and emerging issues related to the implementation of the Global Compact.
- 3. However, Malaysia is compelled to put on record its disassociation with the phrase "multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination" in the Declaration, as it is inconsistent with our positions.
- 4. Malaysia is also of the view that the recommended actions to accelerate the implementation of the Global Compact and to strengthen international cooperation on international migration can be strongly encouraged but must remain voluntary to allow States to contribute to the best of their ability, based on its own jurisdictions, capabilities and resources, factoring in national priorities and interests.
- 5. Malaysia is also of the view that emphasis should be given towards building, maintaining and cultivating an economically and socially stable environment in countries of origin to hinder irregular migration.

I thank you.