



STATEMENT

BY

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**FEDERAL COMMISSIONER, NATIONAL COMMISSION
FOR REFUGEES, MIGRANTS AND IDPs**

DURING

**THE GENERAL DEBATE AT
THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION REVIEW
FORUM**

19TH MAY 2022

**Mr. President,
Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates.**

I would like to extend my delegation's appreciation to the President of the General Assembly for convening the First International Migration Review Forum (IMRF).

2. This first international review forum (IMRF) presents a great opportunity for a national stocktaking of our implementation of the GCM. Through the national voluntary review exercise, we were able to engage in a critical self-reflective x-ray of our national implementation process that underscored our strength, challenges, lessons learned and proffered suggestions for the way forward for better implementation.

Mr. President,

3. Nigeria's greatest strength and strategy in the implementation of the GCM come from collaboration and cooperation. Adopting the framework of the whole-of-government and the whole-of-society approach, the government has continued to build collaborations and provide for inclusive and active engagement of all relevant stakeholders including state and non-state actors from all levels as well as regional and international partners in designing and implementing migration-relevant projects and encouraging multi-stakeholder dialogues. Our major challenges include the

inaccessibility of migration data, funding, and the Covid-19 pandemic which delayed or obstructed the implementation of some of the GCM activities especially during the lockdown period.

4. As we assemble here for the first international migration review forum, with the shared purpose of cooperating to ensure that migration is safe, orderly, and regular, I enjoin all of us in our various capacities to use this opportunity to look at the global report card on the GCM implementation in order to self-assess ourselves and recognize where to make amends and work better. There must be an established list of key performance indicators for the way forward on migration issues, which should be closely monitored as pointers to track the progress.

5. Nigeria, as a country of origin, transit, and destination, is a major participant in the global migration dynamics and shares in the abounding gains and numerous challenges of migration. Nigeria's perception and response to migration have evolved from a problem to be solved, a challenging reality to be managed, to a potential to be harnessed. Our efforts in migration management achieved a major stride in 2015 with the adoption of the National Migration Policy.

Mr. President,

6. I would like to reaffirm Nigeria's commitment to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and Nigeria will continue to strengthen institutional cooperation on national

migration management. To ensure this, the government of Nigeria pledges these six points actions:

- The establishment of an inter-governmental and interoperable child-focused information management system to support evidence-based case management that is inclusive of migrant children;
- The strengthening of youth empowerment opportunities for reintegration of child migrants through initiatives like ‘Generation Unlimited’;
- Ensuring adequate budgetary allocation for Ministries, Departments and Agencies working on GCM programmes;
- Mainstreaming GCM objectives into the upcoming National Migration policy review, other relevant policies, and strategies of the government, and
- To continue to deploy the all-inclusive multi-stakeholders’ approach in all GCM implementation as evident in the IMRF preparation and the whole-of-government and whole-of-society composition of its delegation to the IMRF.

7. In conclusion, I would like to reiterate that achieving the objectives of the Global Compact on Migration lies on the coordinated, collaborative, and concerted effort of all involved at the global, regional, and national levels. To this end, my delegation would like to underscore the importance of supporting Member States through the provision of financial and technical assistance, in line with national priorities, policies action plans and strategies.

I thank you.

