

Mr. President of the General Assembly,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

It is an honor to address the General Assembly at this first International Migration Review Forum.

At the outset, let me reiterate that Portugal fully condemns Russia's aggression against Ukraine, which has had, and will continue to have, tragic impacts on people's lives, uprooting millions from their homes. Portugal expresses its deepest solidarity with the Ukrainian people and calls for an immediate end to hostilities.

Mr. President,

Portugal has actively participated since day one in the process of the Global Compact and is proud to have been recognized as a "Champion Country".

We were one of the first countries to develop a National Implementation Plan, involving sixteen Ministries and twenty-eight public services.

Three years after the launch of our Plan, 96% of all its measures are either under implementation or fully achieved. This is reflected in the updated Voluntary National Report, which we have submitted last week.

In this vein, please allow me to share some of the Plan's most relevant milestones so far:

- In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, we enabled the regularization of hundreds of thousands of migrants, and their access to free and universal vaccination.
- We signed a mobility agreement among Member States of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) and several bilateral labor mobility agreements with partner countries.
- Last year, we launched a national protocol for the prevention, detection and protection of child victims of Trafficking in Human Beings.

- Finally, we developed a consultation process with IOM on the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Global Compact.

Mr. President,

Four years after the launch of the Global Compact for Migration, Portugal continues to be fully and actively committed to its goals.

This is why we pledge to review our National Implementation Plan of the Global Compact, in line with the priorities of the Progress Declaration we will adopt tomorrow.

We will continue to build upon national policies that promote safe, orderly and regular migration. We will pursue the successful integration of migrants, providing equal opportunities for all.

We continue to believe in the role of multilateralism in migration governance, within the European Union and at the United Nations. We cannot address transnational challenges alone. Migrants are

fundamental to achieve sustainable development – we cannot leave three hundred million migrants behind if we want to achieve the 2030 [twenty-thirty] Agenda.

I thank you, Mr. President.