

EXPLANATION OF POSITION AFTER THE VOTE BY DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SINGAPORE MARK SEAH ON THE ADOPTION OF THE PROGRESS DECLARATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION REVIEW FORUM, GENERAL ASSEMBLY HALL, 7 JUNE 2022

Mr President,

Singapore affirms the rights of migrants to travel safely through legal pathways, without being exploited by traffickers and smugglers, and we will continue to participate constructively in these efforts. We believe that every country has the sovereign right to determine the conditions under which migrants may enter, reside and take up employment in its territory, in accordance with its national laws and international obligations. We also believe that all States have the sovereign right to decide whether and how to implement the operating principles and the policy options listed under the objectives of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

2 Singapore's view is that while the Progress Declaration is a commendable effort, it does not achieve the balance necessary to satisfy our concerns. Singapore therefore is not in a position to reaffirm the Compact in its entirety, and reserves its position on paragraphs 2 and 59 of the Progress Declaration.

3 We have nevertheless joined consensus on the resolution in the spirit of international cooperation. I refer you to the Explanation of Position delivered at the adoption of the Progress Declaration by the International Migration Review Forum for the full details of Singapore's position on the matter.

4 I thank you, Mr President.

.....