

**Statement at the International Migration Review Forum  
by H.E. Bakhtiyor Ibragimov, Permanent Representative  
of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the United Nations**

*New York, 20 May 2022*

**Mr. President,**

**First of all, let me commend the President of the General Assembly for convening this International Migration Review Forum,** which allows us to reflect on what has been done so far and, more importantly, what has to be done better in order to fully support the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

**Mr. President,**

The promotion of the Global Compact for Migration at the national, regional, and global levels has been among the priorities of the Government of Uzbekistan.

With the population of more than 35 million, Uzbekistan is the most densely populated country in Central Asia. The yearly increase by 700 thousand of new workers creates a significant demographic pressure on labor market and the necessity of labor migration.

The Government is committed to support migrant workers' safe, orderly, and regular migration, provide them and their families with effective social services and guarantees of reliable legal protection both within the country and abroad.

In particular, the Government has introduced the new mechanism for safe and orderly migration that includes three main stages fully corresponding with the objectives of the Global Compact for Migration:

**First,** the pre-departure language and professional training of migrants which is carried out by more than 600 vocational and educational institutions and training centers.

**Second,** extending to migrant workers full legal and social assistance within the country and abroad, including medical care and health insurance, better banking services, legal protection abroad, social services to victims of violence, forced labor and discrimination.

**Third,** rendering assistance to migrant workers in their reintegration after they return home by creating special quotas for them in industries, extending business grants, social housing for those who need it.

In addition, Uzbekistan has initiated and developed an “International Code of Voluntary Obligations of States during a Pandemic”, which provides for the consolidation of minimum voluntary obligations of States, both to their citizens and foreign partners in political, social, economic and human rights spheres based on norms and principles of international law.

**Mr. President,**

The migration challenges, aggravated by the COVID-19, have seriously tested the existing mechanisms of migration governance and proved once again that achieving the objectives of the Global Compact for Migration requires close cooperation amongst States.

Therefore, we believe that this Review Forum will further guide us in successful implementation of the Global Compact and serve as an effective platform for a dialogue between Nations.

I thank you, Mr. President.