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Closing remarks

by

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**United Nations Under-Secretary-General
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at

**the Second Regional Review of the Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe,
Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) for the UNECE region,**

Geneva, 11 March 2024

Excellencies, distinguished co-chairs, dear colleagues,

We are coming to the end of this Regional Review – a day of short but intense discussions that have offered useful insights into a complex issue with multiple ramifications.

I am very pleased that the fruitful cooperation between the IOM and UNECE has made the successful organization of this event possible. This is another example of how the UN regional system pools its strengths to better serve its member States. This event was a visible manifestation of these joint efforts – but the work goes on through the year. And later this week, at the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, you will see again what we are able to deliver together.

I am very grateful to all who played a role in the preparation of this event- the teams of both entities who have worked tirelessly to make it a success.

And of course, our multilingual dialogue could not have taken place without the support – and the patience – of our interpreters, technicians and other colleagues at UNOG.

Please allow me to conclude with a final reflection. A commitment to sustainable development is grounded on the reaffirmation of our common humanity to face the world's challenges, on the understanding that our future is shared.

Migration flows are often fuelled by hardship and adversity. But they are also driven by the hope that a better future awaits us. As we confront the obstacles we face to create more inclusive, prosperous and environmentally sustainable societies, let us not forget our common humanity. And that hope will always be

mightier than fear.

A hope fuelled by the power of our convictions and our determination to act together in pursuit of a better world.

Thank you for your attention.
