



IOM International Organization for Migration
OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

**IOM Statement for the Human Rights Council Intersessional Panel Discussion,
on human rights, climate change, migrants and persons displaced across international
borders**

Friday, 6 October 2017, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Room XX, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Thank you, Mr. President, your Excellencies

1. IOM welcomes the **new attention paid by the Human Rights Council to the human rights implications of international migration in the context of climate change.**
2. The human rights framework helps to put the **interests of people**, migrants as much as receiving and sending the communities, at the centre, when defining State action at both the national and the multilateral levels.
3. **Member States have requested IOM already ten years ago to make climate change and migration a priority.** IOM has a strategic work plan and capacity to analyse and address movements as a response to disasters and environmental degradation, including those associated with climate change.
4. **The Global Compact for Migration (GCM)** offers States a historic opportunity to find internationally agreed migration policy solutions based on rights; and to mirror progress made on this topic in other key initiatives such as the Paris Climate Agreement, the Task Force on Displacement of UNFCCC, the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) and the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC).

5. As the common denominator, IOM is contributing to all these processes as required by Member States. We are committed to working with States and relevant partners to enhance awareness and identify actions to address migration and climate change and impacts on human rights of migrants.
6. Human rights law can effectively guide States in designing policies that prevent displacement, protect people during displacement and allow people to move in dignity.
7. Migration, if not well managed, can have disastrous impacts on the enjoyment of the rights of both displaced persons and the concerned communities.
8. We also have to preserve our lands, oceans, water resources and air so that people have a real choice to stay or to move.