



**Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN  
Geneva**

Statement

**Fifth Special Session of the Council of International Organization of  
Migration (IOM)**

**Remarks by the Permanent Representative**  
**(31 May 2021)**

**Mr. Chairman,**

We thank the Director General Vitorino for his statement at this Special Session and associate ourselves with the statement made on behalf of the Asia and Pacific Group by Sri Lanka.

I thank the Asia and Pacific Group (APG) for reposing their trust in me to be part of the Ad Hoc Commission, along with Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

**Mr. Chair,**

As the nearly two year's long process of strengthening the senior leadership concludes, we wish to make the following points in our natural capacity: -

- i. First: the IOM membership has put in place a good practice in terms of senior appointments at international organizations. The Council and the Ad Hoc Commission have ably steered this process, with support from the Secretariat and the Consultant Firm. This model represents a success where the legislative and executive branches of this organization worked in harmony to meet the necessary technical, gender and geographical criteria. The consensus recommendations from the Ad Hoc Commission signified an important outcome of the intergovernmental oversight.
- ii. Second: we welcome both the appointments announced by the Director General, congratulate Mrs. Daniels and Mrs. Pope as the new DDGs and wish them well.

- iii. Third: we share the sense of disappointment felt in the APG for years of absence from and representation at senior leadership positions in the IOM. Going forward, a clear mechanism is needed where the established principle of equitable geographic representation is operationalized for the senior management positions. One way of doing this is to afford senior representation opportunity to the APG in the next cycle of senior leadership appointments or reappointments.
- iv. We underscore the need for a more system-wide review to make sure that all regions are equitably represented at all staff positions at the IOM.
- v. Finally, we wish to echo well deserved appreciation for outgoing DDG Ms. Laura Thompson for her dedication and service to IOM, leadership and valuable contribution. We wish her well in her future endeavours.

I thank you.

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