

**Mission Permanente**

**de la République d’Angola**

**Genève**

**INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION**

“Covid-19 Crisis: Rethinking the contribution of migrants and human mobility to the achievement of sustainable development goals”

15-16 October 2020

**STATEMENT OF ANGOLA**

**15 October**

**M. Chair,**

Angola welcomes the realization of this session, at a time when States are still bearing the burden of the many social and economic consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic, at all levels.

The Covid -19 pandemic has highlighted the need for global solidarity and multilateral cooperation. It is therefore opportune to analyse the contribution of human mobility to achieving the SDG, consistently in line with the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, with a view to constructive and inclusive improvements in the governance of Global Migration.

Despite the numerous challenges that the phenomenon of migration presents, as well as the negative effects of the pandemic that the States are dealing with, Angola considers that this crisis gives us the opportunity to highlight the fragilities in the perception that migrants are not contributing to their new societies.

Inspired by the recent **IOM Continental Strategy for Africa 2020-2024**, of which we commend the efforts made to take into account the realities in Africa, Angola shares the view that some strategic areas are pertinent and should be explored with the objective to achieve SDG and sustainable solutions. For instance, we believe that Migration can contribute in a positive manner to economic and social integration of African countries through the increase in trade, particularly, under the newly adopted African Continental Free Trade Area.

**M.Chair,**

The search for a mechanism to restore dignity and worth to migrants, based on a human rights approach and also in a gender-sensitive way, is essential to provide a sustainable response to the issue of Migration.

The effective integration of migrants and also the reintegration of returnees continues to pose a significant challenge for the Angolan authorities, as migratory flows and refugees in the region have led the authorities to try, with all the means at their disposal, to carefully manage each special situation.

In order to resolve the challenges related to migration, actions to improve the conditions of migrants are still underway. One of those actions is linked to update the digital database for all refugees and asylum seekers, with a view to renewing and issuing new identity documents, with the aim of facilitating their social integration.

We know that there is still much more to be done, however, Angola stands ready to continue its collaboration to global efforts to find solutions to the various issues raised here today, in order to facilitate greater and more positive contributions of migrants in the communities they are integrated into, and in this way achieve a more prosperous future for all mankind.

**I thank you**