

# **Outcome Document of the Regional Forum on “International Cooperation in the area of Migration and Emergency Preparedness”**

**(17-18 June 2015, Ashgabat)**

The Regional Forum on “International Cooperation in the area of Migration and Emergency Preparedness”, was co-organized by the Government of Turkmenistan and IOM sub-regional coordination office for Central Asia on 17-18 June 2015 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.

The participants of the Regional Forum have congratulated the Government of Turkmenistan and its people on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the status of Neutrality, which was recognized by the UN member-states by the UN General Assembly Resolution 50/80 dated 12<sup>th</sup> of December 1995 and they recognized the adoption of the UN General Assembly Resolution on “Permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan” dated 3 June 2015 as a great achievement.

The participants have also acknowledged the increasing positive role of Turkmenistan and its commitment to strengthening peace and security in the wider region and promoting economic development as a means to boost prosperity. The active participation and the overall success of the Regional Forum on “International Cooperation in the area of Migration and Emergency Preparedness” held in Ashgabat are a clear testimony to that.

In the course of the forum, the participants have exchanged the good practices and achievements in emergency preparedness as well as identified the way forward to further enhancing international and regional cooperation in addressing migration challenges in the region.

Among other factors, that affect migration processes and lead to emergencies, the participants have stressed the importance of environmental factors.

Taking into account the needs for having in place a devoted and operational rapid response body to the risks of natural disasters, the

necessity for further developing cooperation in this area on a system basis, through the establishment of various institutions was emphasized.

In this connection, the participants have welcomed Turkmenistan's initiative to establish in Ashgabat a Regional Center for technologies related to climate change in Central Asia under the auspices of the United Nations.

The participants of the Regional Forum have acknowledged the importance of IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) recognizing the critical importance of ensuring that emergency/border authorities, as well as other relevant authorities, in close cooperation with international organizations and other international counterparts, are prepared to respond appropriately to cross-border movements arising from natural or man-made disasters fully guaranteeing the rights of vulnerable groups.

During the event, it was agreed to create a regional network of focal points in the frame of the IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework to improve emergency preparedness and response capacity of the countries.

The participants of the Regional Forum have expressed their deep gratitude and appreciation for the Government of Turkmenistan for the positive initiative and organization of the event as well as for their contribution to the enhancement of the regional and international cooperation in the area of migration and emergency preparedness. It was greatly appreciated the participation and support of representatives of Turkmenistan in the event, which demonstrates the importance the Government of Turkmenistan attaches to the matters related to migration and emergency preparedness.

The Participants of the Forum have also recognized the importance of the Regional Forum as it places a particular emphasis on humanitarian aspects of migration crisis.

In this regard, the participants shared a common vision that the Regional Forum is regarded as a preparatory event for conducting regional consultations ahead of the World Humanitarian Summit to be held In Istanbul, 26-27 May 2016.