

Check against delivery.

1. Migration holds great potential for development. Migrants have traditionally contributed to labour markets, trade and investment.
2. Yet this potential can easily be lost if states do not cooperate, if human rights are not respected and if migration is not managed responsibly.
3. Sadly, we are now in a period of crisis of historic proportions.
4. More than 65 million people have been forced to flee from their homes. Millions turn to irregular channels of migration. The number of men, women and children dying on the migration route should make us all deeply concerned.
5. In this period of crisis, countries closest to ongoing conflicts have shown a heart-warming generosity by hosting millions of refugees.
6. This has naturally put enormous strains on these societies, not least on public resources and services.
7. The European Union, as you all know, has faced its own challenges, and continues to do so, in handling the over a million asylum seekers and irregular migrants entering the Union annually over the last couple of years.
8. At its peak, Sweden alone received more than 160,000 asylum seekers, by far the greatest number per capita in the European Union.
9. No one country can handle migration alone. It is an international phenomenon and it demands an international response.
10. Cooperation is needed now more than ever before.
11. The commitment

13. In terms of migration, the Global Compact offers a unique opportunity to

25. Similarly, all countries have an interest in effective labour markets that guarantee decent working conditions for their workers – whether at home or abroad.

26. While the working age population is growing in many countries in the South, many countries in the North face demographic developments that

35. We equally hope that this leading role for IOM will be reflected in the UN's broader work on migration; that the UN will draw on the full potential that IOM's entry into the family brings, and that the body will enhance its cooperation in this field.

36. This will put the United Nations