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We, the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives, meeting at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 19 September 1981 to address the question of large movements of refugees and migrants, have adopted the following declaration:

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- 1.1 Since earliest times, humanity has been on the move. Some people move in search of new opportunities and horizons. Others move to escape conflict, persecution, terrorism or poverty. Still others do so in response to natural disasters, climate change or other environmental factors. Human movement, indeed, for a combination of these reasons.
- 1.2 We have considered today how best the international community should respond to the growing global phenomenon of large movements of refugees and migrants.
- 1.3 Refugees and migrants are distinct categories of persons whose treatment is governed by separate legal frameworks. They also face many common challenges, including in the context of large movements. The definition of large movements depends primarily on the geographical context, on a receiving State's capacity to respond and on the impact of a movement which is sudden or prolonged. It would not, for example, cover regular flows of migrants from one State to another.

'riminal groups' - even if they reach their destination, they face an uncertain reception and a precarious future'

1'9

- the challenge to world leaders is moral and humanitarian' We are determined, first and foremost, to save lives' We will combat with all the means at our disposal the abuses and exploitation suffered by countless refugees and migrants in vulnerable situations' We acknowledge a shared global responsibility [in accordance with applicable international law](#), to manage large movements of refugees and migrants in a humane, sensitive and compassionate manner' 8 particular onus and burden fall on countries of origin or







- , '# We welcome the work done by the Global Migration Group to develop principles and practical guidance on the protection of the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations within large and/or mixed movements'
- , '9 Reaffirming the importance of a strong normative framework to support migrants, we call upon States that have not done so to consider ratifying, or acceding to, the 1990 Convention on the Protection of the Rights of 800 Migrant Workers and Members of their Families' We call also on States that have not done so to consider acceding to relevant international instruments, as appropriate' We note, in addition, that migrants enjoy rights and protection under various branches of international law'
- , ': We wish to strengthen global governance for migration' We therefore warmly support and welcome the Agreement to bring the International Organization for Migration, an organization with a global leading role in the field of migration, into a closer legal and working relationship with the United Nations' We look forward to the implementation of this Agreement which will assist migrants, help member States to address migration issues and promote better coherence between migra2(s)-2.16821(i)9.28828(d)-6.93374(e)-10.8057 mres 08633( )







pathways for admission on a scale which would enable the annual resettlement needs identified (UNHCR, or at least 1% of the total refugee population, to be met'

- 4'1, We will pursue this target through measures such as the expansion of existing humanitarian admission programmes, possible temporary evaluation programmes including evaluation for medical reasons, feasible arrangements to assist family reunification, private sponsorship for individual refugees, and opportunities for refugees with particular skills, for example through private sector involvement and for education e.g. scholarships and student visas. We will increase substantially the opportunities for skills training and vocational education for refugees'
- 4'14 We commit to providing humanitarian assistance to refugees so as to ensure essential support in key life-saving sectors, e.g. food, water and sanitation, shelter'
- 4'16 We commit to providing quality primary and secondary education for all refugee children and to do so within a few months of the initial displacement. We recognise that access to education gives fundamental protection to children and youth in displacement contexts, particularly in situations of conflict and crisis'
- 4'1# We highlight also the role of tertiary education; we recognise that, in crisis situations, higher education protects a critical group of young men and women, helps to build resilience, fosters inclusion and non-discrimination and provides a foundation for the rebuilding of war-torn societies'
- 4'19 We will ensure that the health needs of refugee communities are met. We will also develop national strategies for the protection of refugees within the framework of national social safety nets. Following the positive steps taken in individual member States, we encourage host governments to open their labour markets to refugees. We will work to strengthen health

4'!! We have agreed