Delegates, Dignitaries, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. It is my honor to address this esteemed gathering today as we come together to discuss a matter of utmost importance: the health of refugees and migrants. As representatives of the United Nations member states, we bear a collective responsibility to ensure the health and well-being of all individuals, regardless of their nationality or migratory status. The refugees and migrants often face several health risks due to factors such as overcrowded living conditions, insufficient economic opportunity, limited access to healthcare, malnutrition, and psychological stress. Their journey to seek safety and a better life exposes them to additional health hazards.

2. The constitution of Nepal 2015, has stressed basic health service as a constitutional right. Despite of formulating legislations, policies and strategies many people including migrants and refugees are facing many health problems. Nepal is facing with numerous health challenges in relation to migrant-workers. A significant portion population of around 3.6 million young migrant workers from Nepal are currently living in various regions, particularly in the Gulf countries. While they contribute to the country's remittances, they also face a multitude of health problems, including illnesses and fatalities. In recent years, the statistics on deaths related to foreign employment has increased an average of three to four death per day.

3. Migrants and refugees often face challenges related to infectious diseases, malnutrition, and mental health disorders, highlighting the urgent need for improved healthcare infrastructure, disease surveillance, and comprehensive support systems to address the health needs of migrants and refugees. The impact of refugees and migrant's health goes beyond the individuals themselves. It affects the stability and resilience of host communities, undermines social cohesion, and strains already fragile healthcare systems. Therefore, it is essential to prioritize and address the health needs of refugees and migrants to prevent the further spread of diseases and ensure their well-being. First, we must focus on strengthening the healthcare infrastructure and
health systems in host countries with close collaboration of humanitarian agencies, and international organizations. It is essential to mobilize resources towards enhancing disease surveillance and response mechanisms to identify, prevent, and manage outbreaks within refugee and migrant communities. Often-traumatic experiences endured by refugees and migrants, they are particularly susceptible to mental health disorders. Equally important is; to establish a robust database and monitoring system for effectively track and assess the situation.

4. Lastly, we must promote international cooperation and solidarity to address the health needs of refugees and migrants. Sharing best practices, knowledge, and resources among nations can enhance our collective response to disease outbreaks and contribute to sustainable solutions for the health challenges faced by displaced populations. By working together, we can build a more just and equitable world where everyone, regardless of their nationality & circumstances, has access to quality healthcare and lives a life of dignity.

Thank you.

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