Session1:

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, as well as the National Committee for Counter Trafficking in persons, NCCT; I would like to express our gratitude to the United Nations Network on Migration in supporting the constructive engagement in the field of migration and encourage Cambodia to apply as a champion country, in the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).

First of all I would like to introduce the National Committee for Counter Trafficking in persons that, it is a national mechanism, comprising 21 ministries and five special units as members, led by a Deputy Prime Minister, in present, Samdech Krolahome Sar Kheng, Minister of the Ministry of Interior. This entity, have its structure covers at sub-national level, and reach to the international arena. NCCT also extends its collaboration to all stakeholders and partners who engage in counter trafficking in persons and this committee has been appointed by the Prime Minister to lead the implementation of the GCM given its inter-ministerial representation.

Using this mechanism, Cambodia has strong efforts to achieve our commitment in close collaboration with the existing National UN Migration in Cambodia that consist of several UN agencies which was established in February 2020. The RGC and the National UN Migration Network are in the process of preparing for the National Implementation Plan.

On Support to Guidance Materials and other tools of the GCM, Cambodia is very much supporting the guidance materials of GCM, because it is very important for us to use as a guidance principle. We will review in- depth the guidance material and will revert back to the Network with our constructive feedback.

In this regard, I have the pleasure to convey that Cambodia has selected two priority objectives among 23 GCM’s objectives set, these are: the Objective one: ‘collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies’; and the Objective twenty three: ‘strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration’. Beside that the other relevant objective is also combined to enhance the implementation, such as the objective related to Border management ( objective 11). These selections have been consent by relevant ministries and stakeholders, and also approved by the Prime Minister. The consultation on the implementation plan has also done and will review it by compromising with the new pattern of covid 19 phenomenon.

During Covid-19 crisis, the context of migration is more attracted to follow up the change of socio economic dimension and to create new normal life for all, both migrants and the community host. Since late of 2019, due to the measure of closing country borders of many countries, where there are a huge number of migrants, such as Thailand and other countries, the Royal Government of Cambodia, set up very successful measures to protect and prevent Covid-19 pandemic throughout the country, especially to protect the spread of Covid-19 among 150 thousand migrants who are returning during this period and its host community successfully and to enable them to access to health and social services, with a strong collaboration between the Government officials at all levels, civil society, International organizations and UN Migration Network. On the other hand, the Government also tried its best to mitigate mid- and long-term impact of Covid-19 on most vulnerable migrants, particularly, women/ women-headed households, through provision of individual economic reintegration package which is specifically designed for successful reintegration of migration.

To respond the health concern, the Ministry of Health, in Collaboration with NCCT under support of IOM, has develop a Migrant Health Policy, as a national tool to be implement and it will be launched by April this year.

We look forward to continued engagement with the spirit of win-win cooperation for safe, orderly and regular migration process that embraces full respect of human rights of migrants; and we will learn more experiences and lessons learnt from all countries.