STATEMENT BY MS.BAYARMAA NARANTUYA, HEAD OF THE DIVISION OF THE MINSITRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION OF MONGOLIA

/ON AGENDA ITEM 3 – SUSTAINABLE CITY, HUMAN MOBILITY AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION/

Mr. Chair,

Distinguished guests,

I would like to express my delegation's appreciation to the UN Secretary General for the report examining the latest trend in internal and international migration, as well as the relationship between international migration and economic development by providing considerations and recommendations for further improvements.

Since our transition to democracy in 1990, internal, as well as international, migration has been increasing. As a result, we have witnessed an increase to 65 per cent of the total population residing in urban areas, out of which 70 per cent are residing in the capital city. Due to the intense concentration of people in the capital city, air pollution and environmental degradation have been significant barriers – resulting in challenges in delivering quality state service.

Mr. Chair,

In pursuant to the Mongolia Sustainable Development Vision 2030 and the "State Policy on Population Development" adopted in 2016, the "Green provinces" and "Sustainable city" initiatives have been implemented.

Mongolia has been increasingly involved in international migration as a sending, receiving and transiting country. People are striving to work abroad seeking high earnings due to the high rates of unemployment in Mongolia.

The Government of Mongolia has been making efforts to improve the legal and regulatory environments with respect to international migration vis-à-vis the establishment of bilateral agreements with other countries to address migration in a systematic way. In this regard, I would like to inform you that the Law of Mongolia on Sending Workers Abroad and Receiving Workers and Specialists from Abroad is being revised.

Mr. Chair,

Recognizing the migration data – both internally and externally – in Mongolia, there is a need to improve the information system within this area.

Irregular Migrants – both internal as well as international – are unable to access basic social protection services at their place of residence due to fact that they are not properly registered.

In this interconnected world, countries also need to focus on ensuring the rights of the foreign nationals, multicultural families, and adopted children.

Mr. Chair,

The Government of Mongolia will continue to strive to effectively implement the objectives of the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development will make its contribution to the international efforts for safe, orderly and regular migration.

I thank you.