

38th Session of the HRC Geneva, 19th June 2018 Item 2 Speaker: Giuditta GUALANDI

38th SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL ITEM 2 YOUTH, MIGRATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Oral statement submitted by IIMA – Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice

Thank you Mr. President,

IIMA would like to thank the High Commissioner for his service in these past four years.

IIMA welcomes the Report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on "Addressing human rights protection gaps in the context of migration [...]resulting from the adverse effects of climate change.

We are concerned about young people's crossing borders due to climate change as they easily fall victims to exploitation, human trafficking, discrimination in labor market, and recruitment by criminal organizations. If children are considered the future and young people the present, States must ensure the protection, the promotion, and the enjoyment of the rights of young people.

On the other hand, young people, when empowered, are the first agents of change for effective climate action.

For these reasons, IIMA calls on the Governments and other relevant stakeholders to:

- adopt measures to mitigate climate change with the participation of youth in decision-making processes;
- facilitate the integration of climate change-related migrants in host communities;
- regularize their legal status and their access to labor markets;
- Provide technical and vocational training to more youth migrants for better integration in society.

Thank you Mr. President.