

The Islamic Republic of Iran has experienced first-hand the impacts of the mass influx of millions of refugees and foreign citizens for more the last four decades. Our endeavors to afford services have exceeded far beyond our fair share of international responsibilities.

This is evident in our efforts in supporting the wide range of health needs of refugees and foreign citizens, despite the tremendous burden of reemergence diseases. Diseases that have long been eradicated such as Tuberculosis and Poliomyelitis, are straining our national health system.

Undertaking a wide range of efforts is a testament to the above-mentioned approach. These efforts include: providing quality, free and universal access to PHC services such as the nationwide vaccination against Covid-19 regardless of legal status, insurance coverage for 240 thousand of vulnerable refugees, 2,063,438 foreigners are now benefiting from countrywide immunization scheme targeting Polio, Measles and rubella, Moreover, 651,591 refugees and migrants being screened for Tuberculosis and other diseases.

Despite the gravity of the situation and the government efforts, the international support only covers less than 6% of the costs occurring. Moreover, the Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCM) have exacerbated the situation, as they forced us to spend our limited resources to meet other internal priorities. The imposition of unilateral coercive measures, have seriously impeded the full enjoyment of the human rights, including the access to food, medicines, vaccines and medical treatment, among other essential resources.

We kindly call upon the international community and all stakeholders that are active in the field of refugees and migrants, to provide appropriate and adequate support to host countries, and encourage Member States to share the responsibility and burden in facilitating as well as providing support in order to identify health challenges and needs of foreigners and host communities.

Finally, I restate that we believe in equitable responsibility sharing for humanitarian actions as also pointed out in the Rabat Declaration. I hope that this conference could help most to properly find ways and means for addressing migration and refugees related issues in a more comprehensive and sustainable manner.