

**Speech by the Personal Envoy of the UNSG for Mozambique,**

**Mr. Mirko Manzoni**

**Sixth Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) Ministerial Conference**

28 October, 2021, Maputo

- Your Excellency, Minister Verónica Macamo Dlhovo,
- Your Excellencies, Ministers of Southern Africa;
- Dear members of the Government of Mozambique, United Nations Family, and diplomatic corps;
- Distinguished delegates; and
- Ladies and Gentlemen

I wish you all a very good morning,

1. I thank the Government and the people of the Republic of Mozambique, for hosting this important regional gathering, and I thank all of you for coming together in support of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.
2. This moment is the inspiring product of your dedicated efforts during the last four days. You are here because you recognise the importance of multilateralism to prevent suffering, and to provide cooperation strategies that will benefit all.
3. Migration has always been with us. Today, more than 80 per cent of the world's migrants move between countries in a safe and orderly fashion. African countries have a long record of keeping their borders, doors and hearts open to migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people. The Southern African Development Community's (SADC) steadfast support has been key to addressing the needs of migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people.
4. Migration dialogue is needed now, more than ever, as we seek to provide assistance, protection and sustainable solutions to record numbers of displaced people who have been forced to flee their homes as a result of conflict, violence or disaster.

Excellencies,

5. From a peace perspective, we know that violence and conflict is one of the greatest contributors to migration. Indeed, the Global Compact for Migration came about, largely, because people were fleeing violence. COVID-19 has impacted this as the closure of borders has prevented many from getting to safety. It is of great importance that we support enhancing coordination mechanisms that promote safe, orderly, and regular migration.
6. The theme for this dialogue captures a crucial but often overlooked idea: That peace is made of people, including people on the move. Mozambique has a successful story to tell and I commend the Government for its exemplary contribution to the Global Compact Migration.
7. As countries look to consolidate peace, they need to include and involve all segments of the population in the process of rebuilding communities and sustaining peace. Migrants, refugees, internally displaced people, women, young people and the most vulnerable must be involved every step of the way. Building and sustaining peace requires their voices and actions.

8. When we open the door to inclusion and participation, we take a giant step forward in conflict-prevention and peace consolidation. An anchor of peace and stability and a rallying point for every person to contribute to a better future – for themselves, and for their societies.
9. The aspiration of a peaceful Africa will no doubt depend on the determination with which African countries embrace regional cooperation.
10. Let me take this opportunity to reaffirm the UN's commitment in supporting your Governments in making a safe, orderly and regular migration, based on lasting peace and inclusive sustainable development, a reality.
11. Let us work together for a safer, peaceful and more prosperous future both for all of our societies and for the world's migrants.



