



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

S T A T E M E N T
by H.E. Victor Moraru
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova
at the 106th Session of the IOM Council

- General Debate -

(Geneva, 27 November 2015)

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of the Republic of Moldova aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the European Union.

We welcome the new member states and observers. With admission of the five new members, the IOM gains strength and moves closer to universality.

A universal, strong and efficient IOM is particularly needed at a time when the global migration and refugee crises need to be contained and comprehensively well-managed.

The Republic of Moldova commends Director General, William Lacy Swing, for his strong leadership and persistence in pursuing the themes of his second mandate – *continuity, coherence and change* – in order to strengthen the Organization further during a proliferation of crises that have increasingly continued to displace people.

We applaud the Organisation's extensive network of offices that made possible the providing assistance in 2014 to nearly 20 million of different types of migrants in various emergency contexts.

In providing direct assistance to persons in need, the OIM has registered one of the lowest overhead costs among international organisations, an indicator that illustrates that the Organisation is well in line with its Strategy that requires, *inter alia*, the delivery in the most efficient and effective way of tailored responses to international migration management challenges.

In this context, we also positively note the efficient way in which both the *Migration Crisis Operational Framework* and the *Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism* are being used in order to respond quickly and effectively to various humanitarian emergencies and to meeting migrants, IDPs and refugees' needs.

Mr. Chairman,

The dramatic increase in mixed migratory flows in 2015 is a global challenge that cannot be addressed by any government or organisation acting alone. It requires urgent action and close coordination amongst international actors, including IOM. A comprehensive long-term global response beyond emergency mode must prevail in tackling this crisis which may include addressing the root causes that trigger massive migrations and displacement.

We praise the Director General's powerful advocacy for saving migrants' lives, by drawing global media attention to the increasing number of migrants who die at sea or crossing deserts and mountains. We also commend the European Union, EU members and other states that have devoted considerable efforts and financial resources to save migrants' lives.

Like others, we believe that the only sustainable means to address this problem is to take action to prevent migrants from making unsafe journeys in the first place. That means "taking concrete action in the countries of origin and transit", including by providing protection and assistance in the countries and regions of concern.

Mr. Director General,

The Republic of Moldova agrees that the complex nature of the twenty-first century migration and the increased global human mobility requires a coherent, comprehensive and balanced approach to migration governance.

It is in this vein that my delegation supported the adoption by this Council of the resolution on the *IOM Migration Governance Framework* that aims, *inter alia*, to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility through planned and well-managed migration policies.

We welcome the MGF's consistency with the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, particularly with the Target 10.7 which addresses the contemporary human mobility and calls for a similar line of action.

The three important *panel discussions* held during this Council's session, while addressing specific dimensions of a "well-managed migration" – the humanitarian protection, health and migration related targets in SDGs – have also underscored the need for productive partnerships and coherent cooperative approaches.

It is in this context that we wish to acknowledge the important role played by you Mr. Director General and the IOM as a whole in creating greater understanding and cooperation on migration matters at the global and regional levels.

By seeking mutually beneficial outcomes in migration management with key stakeholders, particularly with the relevant UN agencies, funds and programmes it will be easier to translate into concrete action the agreed management migration policies and targets.

Provided its specific expertise and "comparative advantages", that is flexibility and operational capacity, the IOM remains the lead migration organization. We expect that the Council's *resolution on IOM-UN Relations*, adopted during this session, will be conducive to a forward-looking and efficient relationship between the two organizations.

Mr. Chairman,

The Republic of Moldova attaches great value to the close cooperation with the IOM. In the ten past years, the Moldovan authorities have implemented a number of migration-related reforms, including with the IOM's support. The policy focus has broadened from a perspective of migration management to recognising migration potential for development. We continue to collaborate on a number of capacity-building projects in migration management, funded particularly through the IOM Development Fund. Let me take this opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to thank the Director General and the IOM for the recent approval of a two-year project aimed at enhancing development in the Republic of Moldova through engagement with diaspora-homeland partnerships. We look-forward to continuing this excellent relationship in the future.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.