

MISSÃO PERMANENTE DA  
REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE  
JUNTO DAS NAÇÕES UNIDAS

GENEBRA



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

TO THE UNITED NATIONS

GENEVA

**Statement by H.E. Amb. Pedro Comissário**  
**Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations**  
**Office in Geneva and other International Organizations,**  
**at the 106<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOM Council**  
**Geneva, 24 November 2015**

**Mr. President, Mr. Director General,**

My delegation wishes to congratulate you and the entire Bureau for your election to preside over the 106<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

I also congratulate Ambassador Sammie Eddico of Ghana, the outgoing President, for his outstanding achievements.

Mozambique commends warmly Ambassador William Swing, the Director-General of IOM and his team, for the remarkable work the Organization has been performing.

My delegation welcomes the new 5 member states and the 9 observer organizations that have just been admitted into IOM.

Mr. President,

This session is of particular importance. It takes place about 2 months after the adoption of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), whose target nr. 10 has been appropriately outlined as a key component to sustainable development. It aims at “facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.”

This is extremely important. As a matter of fact, over the past few months, we have been witnessing an unprecedented mixed movement of refugees and migrants, particularly to Western Europe. These developments are dramatic, both in their proportion and magnitude. They mark a paradigm shift in migration and human mobility.

It is self-evident that the scale of global displacement has not been matched by adequate international support. It is a huge crisis that is occurring at a time of dwindling funding for humanitarian operations.

We believe, however, that the matter cannot be viewed solely in terms of financial resources. As IOM member-states, we are duty bound to devise measures and change attitudes that can promote a positive role of refugees and migrants in the countries of destination. We need to address the root causes and consequences of irregular migration as, at the same time, we promote dignified, orderly, and safe migration.

Mr. President,

This session also convenes shortly before the COP 21 on Climate Changes and a few months before the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS).

My delegation is cognizant of the role IOM can play as the leading agency for the Global Cluster for displacement induced by natural disasters linked to climate change. In this regard, we encourage consultations on the eventual use of IOM's Migration Governance Framework, as a tool to track progress on the migration related targets on the SDGs, in the context of their global target No. 10.

Mozambique strongly encourages IOM to closely interact with the *Nansen Initiative* on climate changes induced transboundary displacements and migration, as we head to COP 21, in Paris.

As for the WHS, we highly appreciate the outcomes of the recent global consultations, held in Geneva. Being a people centered agency, we hold the view that IOM should have a stronger say on the matter.

Mr. President, I wish to commend the fruitful relationship between Mozambique and IOM. We thank IOM for having contemplated Mozambique in “*Developing a Roadmap to facilitate South-South Labor Mobility in Southern Africa Project*”, in the context of its Development Fund. The project will further strengthen the MoU between Mozambique and IOM on the management of the situation of migrants.

To conclude, Mr. President, my country welcomes the positive involvement of IOM in partnership arrangements to assist migrants, particularly in the context of the emerging South-South migration.

I thank you!