

Check against Delivery

**Statement by the Nepalese Delegation at the 106th Session of the IOM
Council
Geneva, 27 November 2015**

**Mr. Chairperson
Mr. Director-General
Excellences
Distinguished Delegates**

At the outset, allow me to congratulate you on your assumption of the chairmanship of this important Council. I also congratulate other elected members of the bureau. My delegation assures you of our full support for successful completion of this Council. We are confident that under your wise leadership, this session will come to a successful conclusion.

We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members of the IOM.

My delegation also expresses its sincere appreciation to the able leadership provided by the Director-General in serving this Organization. I thank the Director-General for his comprehensive report to the Session.

Mr. Chairperson,

Migration is an inherent human drive for change and development, which transcends geographical, cultural and civilizational barriers. At present, 250 million people in the world are migrants, and this increasing trend of migration is both a matter of interest and concern for all. In the rapidly globalizing and interdependent world, the push and pull factors of migration are complex and ramified. It is therefore important to ensure that migration is orderly, humane and managed.

Mr. Chairperson,

In the context of Nepal, a growing trend of migration for employment has been observed over the years. About 3.5 million Nepalese workers are working in the labour markets of various destination countries. Remittances sent back by these migrants have become the backbone of the Nepalese economy, accounting for almost 29 % of the GDP. We want to ensure that the problems associated with

labour migration are minimized with enhanced cooperation of the sending, destination and transit countries, and the remittances from foreign employment brings higher development impacts on the life of people and the nation.

The recent promulgation of a new inclusive constitution, which firmly established a federal democratic republic system of governance with secular values, has heralded an era of enduring peace, political stability and enhanced socio-economic development in Nepal. As an LDC, LLDC and a country emerging from conflict, Nepal looks forward to increased partnership and cooperation from all sides to achieve the cherished development objectives peacefully in line with the 2030 global sustainable development agenda.

Mr. Chairperson,

We have an excellent cooperative working relationship with the IOM in various related areas. We appreciate the support received from IOM in the immediate rescue and relief operations in the aftermath of the devastating earthquakes that hit Nepal in April and May this year. My delegation also likes to thank IOM, along with UNHCR and the core group of eight countries for successfully carrying out third country resettlement of the Bhutanese refugees sheltered in Nepal. The humanitarian part of IOM's assistance during the times of complex emergencies and crisis in various parts of the world is much valued. We feel that its capacity to respond to emergencies and contribute more quickly and meaningfully in the rescue and repatriation of migrants in crisis must be strengthened.

Mr. Chairperson,

In the present context, migration has become an essential component of economic and social development. So there is a need of addressing and managing these issues effectively in order to grasp the opportunities, enhance the benefits and minimize the risks associated with migration.

To conclude, we wish to reiterate the Government of Nepal's commitment to work closely with IOM in its efforts towards orderly and humane management of international migration.

I thank you all for your kind attention!