

**State by H.E. Ambassador Ms. Saja MAJALI,  
Permanent Representative of Jordan  
In the General Debate – 108<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOM Council  
Geneva, 1st December 2017**

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Madam Chairperson,

Director General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Firstly, I wish to join others in expressing my delegation's appreciation to our outgoing Chairperson, Ambassador John Quinn of Australia for all his efforts and to congratulate and express support to our newly elected Chairperson, Ambassador Marta Mauras from Chile, as well as the other members of the bureau, the two Vice-Chairpersons (Ambassadors of Ethiopia and Denmark) and our Rapporteur (Ambassador of the Philippines).

We are confident that under the leadership and guidance of our Chairperson and the bureau, we will achieve good results in our current and future work and undertakings.

I would also like to welcome the admission of the Republic of Cuba and of the Cook Islands as Members of the Organization, as well as Kuwait and all other agencies and organizations that have been invited as observers.

Madam Chairperson,

My delegation has listened carefully to the Director General's presentation of what he had described as a personal status report to the 108th Session of the IOM Council. His setting of the scene as it is and for the future, and the global developments, he described with 8 level three system wide and internal humanitarian emergencies, only go to demonstrate how important and how much needed is the role of the IOM.

My delegation thanks the Director General for his comprehensive report and for his wise leadership, and salutes all 10,000 IOM staff scattered in 77 countries and in more than 440 places in the world including those in our region. A particular thanks also goes to the IOM office in Amman.

Mr. Chairperson,

Jordan took part in the thematic consultations that had taken place to date on the migration compact and is looking forward to the upcoming inter-governmental negotiating process. Jordan thanks IOM for its support for the process and reiterates its position on issues discussed as reflected in the national statements delivered during these meetings. On the follow up to a Global Compact, it is important to note that the outcome and any mechanism that is arrived at remain voluntary and are only in line with Member states respective assumed international obligations. Hence, any role for IOM in this regard should duly take this in mind and be according to IOM's Constitution.

Madam Chairperson,

It is unfortunate that the humanitarian situation in our region continues to deteriorate as a result of crisis and conflicts engendering large displacements, and with no solution seeming to be near or on the horizon.

This is why, Jordan welcomes IOM's continued presence and role in the Middle East. Its assistance and activities and services to countries like Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic, Libya and Yemen are not only welcomed but are also a required necessity.

My delegation also welcomes IOM's renewed focus on the internally displaced, before, during and after crises including, IOM's large scale community stabilization and post-crisis transition and recovery programs in many countries, including in Iraq, and its assistance to the internally displaced persons especially in Syria, Iraq, Libya and Yemen.

Madam Chairperson,

Resettlement is vital for protection and durable solutions. Therefore, IOM's continued support for countries in this area remains to be of high importance, including for my country. As is also, IOM's continued assistance to refugees and

migrants with programmes against tuberculosis and malaria remain important including in my country.

Madam Chairperson,

IOM has been assisting Jordan for many years now. First to deal with the ramification of the Iraqi crisis, and now for the past seven years with the Syrian crises.

The support of the international community including IOM has been instrumental in helping Jordan address the relating challenges of the influx and stay of Syrians. Jordan appreciates this assistance.

For example, IOM has assisted in many important areas. It continues to help us in resettling refugees out of Jordan.

IOM also continues to provide essential HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria services to Syrian refugees in Jordan, and its health assessment team in Amman has provided over 36,000 pre-departure health assessments for refugees (95%) and visa applicants (5%)

IOM has also provided students with transportation to their schools.

IOM continues to assist in capacity-building for Jordanian Border Authorities to support and to contribute to the efforts of the Government of Jordan to strengthen the border management system to enhance adequate humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees. It also assists the Government in reinforcing the security of operations at borders, and enhancing safe, orderly and regular migration, within the overall response to the Syrian refugee crisis.

Finally, Mr. Chairperson, we thank H.E. the Director General Ambassador Swig and the IOM for all the support and look forward for partnership and collaboration.