



Mission Permanente  
République de l'Angola  
Genève

**IOM COUNCIL**  
NINETY- FOURTH SESSION  
Geneva, 27 – 30 November 2007

STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR  
Arcanjo M. do Nascimento



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**OIM Council**  
Geneva, 27-30 November 2007

Mr. President

Allow me to congratulate you on your election to steer the proceedings of this Council. I would also like to express the commitment of my delegation to the success of this Session of the Council of the OIM.

Moreover, I would like to seize the occasion to welcome the new Member States, the Republic of Burundi and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and to assure them of Angola's full cooperation.

Mr. President,

The mobility of production factors, caused by the opening of the borders, elimination and reduction of distances has caused the emergence of new life modes. Transnational companies which detain know-how and use of modern technology, cross more than ever national borders in search of profits characterized by low remunerations that generate unemployment and unstable work.

Parallel to this market liberalization which endangers labor security, other factors such as internal conflicts in some developing countries, political and economic instability and the discrimination issue per se with its adverse costs resulting in the weakness of economies, stimulate the migration at an international level, reflected on the increasing cross-border movements of people, with particular concern to the African continent.

Mr. President,

Labor migration when effectively managed can become a catalyst for economic growth and for the development and sustainability of dynamic economies.

However, to that context and through the international community, there is need to exist a strong cooperation basis in addressing the issue and a firm



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commitment to the conventions and recommendations asserted to guarantee condign working conditions, respect for human rights, reduction of inequalities in access to work, improvement of opportunities between skilled and semi – skilled manpower and the fight against illegal migration.

We believe that the strategy of the OIM adopted in June of 2007, with a view to broader and representative global cover will provide new and improved initiatives for cooperation between Governments and international bodies, hence making it possible for countries of origin and destination to appropriately address the migration phenomenon in a manner propitious to their development and stability needs.

Mr. President,

The fight against illegal immigration must deserve special attention from OIM, since beyond contributing in general for the human traffic and for the increase of transnational organized crime networks, it may proof to be a threat to the economic and social stability of preferential destination States of immigration.

International attention yielded to the illegal cross-border movement from Africa to Europe has underestimated the dimension of immigration within the continent itself, a phenomenon that in my country has reached a scope that raise serious concerns.

As a result, after Angola's pacification and parallel to the challenges posed by the national reconstruction process and efforts on the improvement of the population's life conditions, deteriorated by decades of war, the government sees itself confronted with flows of illegal immigrants, which, unless tackled with rigorous measures, might put in danger the national economy and the society welfare.

Angola, in the framework of its politics of recovery and development, is open to all those willing to contribute with their experience, knowledge and devotion.

In that perspective, it has recently reformulated its migration policy which among others sets a flexible criteria for entry and permanent settle in the



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country, in a way to draw honest citizens and to rebuke those choosing not to acquiesce to laws.

Thank you