

## GHANA (IOM)

My delegation would like to align itself with the statement made by Nigeria on behalf of the African Group and to congratulate the Chairman and other members of the Bureau on their election.

We listened with keen interest to the presentation of the Director General yesterday as he outlined the activities of the organisation, the challenges and his vision for the future.

We welcome the approach of the Director-General to strengthen Member States' ownership of the organisation, including by holding regular consultations with us in an effort to gain a better understanding of our needs and interests. We could not agree with him more on his three priority areas of states' ownership, partnership with other international organisations and staff professionalism. All three parties are important for achieving the aims of the organisation and we would encourage him to continue in his commitment to engage with these parties.

It is quite clear that many of the phenomena that are defining the contemporary world, particularly globalisation, have implications for migration management and inter-state co-operation on migration. We belong to the school of thought that believes that migration, when properly managed, would benefit all parties, and that much of the action required to address migration issues will be effective only through increased dialogue and strengthened co-operation. And even though our interests may differ, depending on whether we are countries of origin, transit or destination, certain fundamental principles need to be respected by all parties.

H.E. - Serbia Torka - Pakistan to lead  
Ukraine  
Ghana

In this regard, we are encouraged by the acknowledgement yesterday during the presentation on the World Migration Report that migrants should not be commodified, and are happy to note that the international community is appreciating more and more the need to respect the human rights of migrants in all categories <sup>irrespective of their status.</sup> i.e. whether in a regular or irregular situation.)

We believe that increased dialogue and co-operation around the world – and not tighter immigration policies – will enable us manage migration flows in a mutually beneficial way. Therefore, we consider useful the IOM global dialogue and the approach to strengthen co-operation with other international organisations and regional consultative processes. IOM should assist the regional processes to build capacity to manage migration in a way that enhances the migration-development nexus. It should also support national efforts to incorporate migration policies in ~~their~~ growth and poverty reduction strategies in an effort to enhance development strategies.

In this light, we support the Director-General's efforts to strengthen the competence and commitment of IOM staff to deliver on the strategies which we adopt together. In a rapidly evolving world, it is important for IOM to position itself appropriately to be both relevant and effective. We share the view that some of the objectives we seek cannot be achieved unless we equip the organisation with the tools it needs.

We therefore look forward to reaching a more stable and predictable form of funding for the organisation's activities, and reiterate the call for the establishment of the MRF and capacity building centre for Africa.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, I would like to commend the Deputy Director-General for her untiring efforts and invaluable contribution over the last nine years to the success of the IOM, and pledge our full support to the Director-General in his vision for carrying the organisation forward.