

MISSION PERMANENTE
DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU YÉMEN
GENÈVE



الوفد الدائم للجمهورية اليمنية
لدى المقر الأوروبي للأمم المتحدة
جنيف

Statement of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Yemen

On the

96th Session of the IOM Council
2-5 December 2008

Delivered by
Minister Plenipotentiary
Mr. Fadul Ali AL-MAGHAFI

Geneva, 3rd December 2008.

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

I would like to congratulate you for being elected as Chairman of the IOM Council , and to express our full support throughout your presidency.

We also welcome the new observers to the IOM namely The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and The State of Qatar.

Mr. Chairman,

As you may be aware my country historically has been characterized as a large provider of labor force and permanent migrants. According to the 2004 census, approximately 1.7 million Yemenis lived abroad most of them in the brotherly neighboring countries.

Yemen represents an origin source of labor as well as transit and destination labor for other countries. Because of these facts our government prioritizes with great importance immigration issues, and studies closely their economic, social and cultural impact on the both sending and receiving countries.

Yemen has established an independent Ministry dealing with Yemeni expatriates, which oversees issues related to Yemenis abroad In addition to an independent Ministry for labor that deals with labor issues particularly, and training programs in general in an effort to enable them smoothly integrate into labor market in destination countries, that would meet the need of the recipient countries. Therefore, IOM needs to support capacity building for member states, including Yemen, in respect to immigration issues.

IOM may also support different projects and programs either currently existing or under way so that to build awareness of immigrants in their respective destination and to transfer them to

effective elements to assist recipient countries, as well as their respective countries of origin.

We call upon IOM to focus on supporting LDCs throughout different projects and programs.

Mr. Chairman,

Through you, I would like to equally welcome Ambassador Swing on his election as IOM Director General, and I pledge my delegations' full cooperation and support to his efforts, including his excellent first report presented to the council as well as the issuance of the new edition of the world migration 2008.

Mean time, I would like to commend the successes IOM achieved including the expansion of its membership and the projects provided by IOM.

Mr. Chairman,

At the end of my speech, in the name of our Yemeni delegation, I would like to confirm our support to the different issues including Abu-Dhabi dialogue.

We look forward to seeing responsive outcomes of these important sessions.

Thank you.