

**Permanent Mission of India
Geneva**

**Hundredth Session of the IOM Council, and 60th Anniversary Celebrations
5-7 December 2011; Room XVII, Palais des Nations**

Statement by India

Mr. Chairperson, Director-General,

We thank the Director-General for his comprehensive Report on Migration, and extend our felicitations to IOM on its activities related to the celebrations of the Organization's 60th Anniversary 2011. IOM's role and discharge of responsibilities in cooperation with States, in facilitating Migration Management, has been pivotal to ensure the safety and security of millions of migrants over the world over a span of 60 years. We felicitate the seminal efforts led by DG, IOM in evacuating migrants, during the crisis in Libya and reiterate our commitment for continued cooperation on migration issues with IOM.

2. We laud the production of the newly formatted Programme and Budget Document for 2012, with more elaborate explanatory notes, related to IOM's strategic focus in the context of migration. We are also appreciative of the new streamlined structure of the four Departments of International Cooperation and Partnerships, Migration Management, Operation and Emergency and Resource Management.

3. It is encouraging to note that the budget structure of IOM has been rationalized, according to established international practices. While we appreciate IOM's prompt and positive response to the External Auditor's Report, we urge IOM to implement IPSAS standards as soon as possible, with inclusion of security posts as an integral part of budgeting and resource planning, for rationalizing the budget, as recommended by the External Auditor.

4. Against the backdrop of the Global Economic Crisis, we are concerned to note that the increasing anti-migrant sentiment, also finds reflection in IOM's activities with 25% of IOM's projects focusing on regulating migration and only 5% devoted to Migration and Development. While we express our appreciation to IOM for its efficient facilitation of Emergency and Post Crisis Migration Management, and urge it to strengthen its dialogue with donor States, in favour of implementation of more projects on Migration and Development.

5. With regard to the Resolution just adopted on the Establishment of a Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism, as the Mechanism envisages obtaining contributions from the private sector and individuals, apart from voluntary contributions from Member States, we recommend that the next meeting of the Working Group on Budget Reform in May 2012 consider establishing Terms of Reference for eligible private sector and the individuals concerned, to ensure conformity with established UN practices. We would also appreciate information ensuring that the mandate of the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund is not duplicated in any manner preferably incorporated in the Report from the Director-General vide Sub Article 6 of the Resolution, confirming this aspect. We look forward to further discussions in the Working Group on Budget Reform, on establishing an exit schedule for the Mechanism once it is being implemented in an emergency, clearly defining the Mechanism's engagements in terms of schedule and funding, to ensure the fund's proper and correct utilization.

6. We look forward to the Report of the Drafting Group to review the existing budget resolutions for further productive discussions on this subject. To this end, while noting recommendations from some States to negotiate agreements for funding from private sector actors, we urge caution to ensure that such funding should not adversely impact upon the core mandate and projects of IOM.

7. In conclusion, Mr. Chairperson, India welcomes the launch of World Migration Report 2011 and reiterates its commitment to continue its engagement with IOM and other States for the strengthening of the linkages in migration.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

5 December 2011