

**MC/2330**

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**HUNDREDTH SESSION**

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**APPLICATION BY THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC)  
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

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FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

1. In a letter dated 13 June 2011, a copy of which is appended as Annex I, the Secretary General of the East African Community (EAC) made a formal application for the EAC to be accorded observer status at meetings of the IOM Council. The Director General's reply thereto, dated 29 June 2011, is appended as Annex II. An appropriate item will be included on the provisional agenda of the Hundredth Session of the Council.
2. This matter falls under rule 10 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council which provides that the Council may admit, upon their application, international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, concerned with migration, refugees or human resources as observers at its meetings.
3. An appropriate draft resolution will be submitted to the Council when this matter comes up for decision.

Annex I

**LETTER DATED 13 JUNE 2011 FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE  
EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC) TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the contacts so far established between the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the East African Community

IOM's programmes and activities in the field of migration are of great interest to the East African Community (EAC) because:-

- a) the East African Community undertakes to forge and maintain relations and co-operative arrangements with other regional and international organizations that are interested in EAC's objectives;
- b) the East African Community needs to establish synergy and collaboration with regional and international organizations that are engaged in:-
  - (i) the management of refugees, a fundamental offshoot of EAC's programmes in regional peace and security; and
  - (ii) the movement of persons which process will be enhanced with the establishment and consolidation of the EAC Common Market.

The East African Community therefore wishes to establish closer relationships with IOM. In this regard, the East African Community is desirous of an observer status at IOM and requests you to bring this matter to the IOM Council for consideration.

[Complimentary ending]

Annex II

**LETTER DATED 29 JUNE 2011 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION TO  
THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC)**

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter with reference SGN/4/10 dated 13 June 2011, informing me that IOM's programmes and activities in the field of migration are of great interest to the Secretariat of the East African Community (EAC) and that you wish to establish a closer relationship with IOM. The growing cooperation between the two organizations, as demonstrated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on 5 June 2006 between EAC and IOM, as well as IOM's active engagement with the EAC in the implementation of the Common Market Protocol and the free movement of persons, labour, right of establishment and right of residence, augurs well for our future collaboration.

I have taken note of your desire to seek observer status in the International Organization for Migration. In this regard, I shall take the necessary action for inscription of your organization's request on the agenda of the next regular session of the IOM Council, to be held from 5 to 7 December 2011. A document formally presenting the application of the East African Community will be distributed to all IOM Member States and observers in due course. You shall receive a copy of this document, together with further details and procedural information concerning the Council session, at a later stage.

It gives me great pleasure to receive your organization's request for observer status. Allow me therefore to express our deep satisfaction at the prospect of a closer relationship developing between IOM and the East African Community.

[Complimentary ending]