



RUSSIAN FEDERATION

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STATEMENT

BY

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**100th SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

Geneva, 7 December 2011

Dear Mr. Chairman,
Dear Mr. Director General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to greet the participants of the 100th session of the IOM on behalf of the delegation of the Russian Federation and taking this opportunity I'm pleased to congratulate with 60th Anniversary of the International Organisation for Migration.

Challenges of international migration nowadays take one of the leading places in the agenda of world policy.

Migration processes are important for all states as they are an initial part of society's life, influence economy, demography, sociology, policy and legislature.

In my opinion, economic, social and cultural benefits from international migration are obvious.

But there is a problem connected with forming of mutual relations between migrants and hosting community.

It's very important for purposes of decreasing such risks as intolerance, xenophobia and discrimination that migrants knew and observe laws, traditions and habits of hosting society.

Raising this problem with reference to Russia, I will notice that today we also face these challenges.

An essential flow of migrants come to Russia in a visa-free regime and mainly are citizens of member-countries of Commonwealth of Independent States. However the resource of common language space which was formed in USSR for today is already exhausted and young generation in stated countries particularly does not know Russian.

Migrants who haven't pass predeparture training and orientation usually face tangle situation on a territory of another state, which could give Diaspora a source for a mediation between employer and those migrants. As a result such migrants are less protected.

Issues of integration and adaptation are enforced and become more influence in specified circumstances.

We consider that activity on stated direction, first of all, should be focused on providing full scale support to migrants, in studying language of hoisting country, basic principles of migration legislation, cultural traditions and rules of behavior accepted in our society.

We consider that one of inherent parts of successful adaptation of labor migrants is effective system of their organized employment, e.i. arrival of a foreign citizen to the Russian Federation on a concrete workplace with knowing in advance job conditions.

At the same time we continue our work on liberalization of the migration legislation of the Russian Federation aimed on attraction of specific categories of foreign citizens, first of all, highly qualified specialists for whom we provide sizable benefits in entering procedures, process of employment and tax regime.

I would like to draw Your attention to one more, upraising and actual problem.

Recently, we noticed that in a process of preparation of migration country reports, analytical documents, publications in mass-media, experts use various approached and methodologies in estimation quantity of migrants in host countries, which in many cases alter scales of real migration and understanding of migration situation in general.

Incorrect estimation and altering in statistical data may conduct to strengthening of xenophobic moods in a society, sophistication of processes of adaptation and integration of migrants and lead to social tension. There upon we consider that it's necessary to develop basic approaches on unification of national and international indicators and parameters in migration.

And now I would like to describe in brief cooperation between Russia and IOM.

In Russia we highly appreciate the activity of IOM aimed at streamlining and humanization of measures regulating the migration, development of international cooperation in the sphere of migration, rendering assistance in looking for practical solutions of migration challenges, preparation of guidelines regarding the issues of migration policy. And, of course, at rendering humanitarian help to migrants that are in need of it, including refugees and internally displaced persons.

We would like to make special mention of the work conducted by IOM this year in “humanitarian crisis” in the region of North Africa (Libya, Tunisia, Egypt).

Russian authorities competent in the sphere of migration are actively cooperating with the Bureau of IOM in Russia. Several of our joint projects that gave us considerable practical benefit have been already successfully implemented. We are in process of further implementation of new ones.

In conclusion, I would like to say that we really appreciate the possibilities appearing within the frame of our cooperation with IOM, considered by us as one of the main partners in the sphere of international cooperation in the area of migration, having considerable potential and universally recognized authority.

Thank you very much for giving me the floor and for your kind attention!