

**EIGHTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL**

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**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FOUR HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIRST MEETING**

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
on Monday, 2 December 2002, at 10.20 a.m.

Acting Chairman: H.E. Mr. P. KARIYAWASAM (Sri Lanka)

Chairperson: H.E. Ms. A. MOHAMED (Kenya)

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Agenda item 1

OPENING OF THE SESSION AND  
CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES AND OBSERVERS

1. The ACTING CHAIRMAN declared open the Eighty-fourth Session of the Council and informed the Council that the credentials of the representatives of Member States and observers were in order.

Agenda item 2

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

2. The ACTING CHAIRMAN invited the Council to nominate candidates for the office of Chairperson.

3. Mr. GHONEIM (Egypt), seconded by Ms. HOCHSTETTER (Guatemala), speaking on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group, GRULAC, nominated Ms. A. Mohamed (Kenya) as Chairperson.

4. Ms. A. Mohamed (Kenya) was unanimously elected Chairperson.

5. The ACTING CHAIRMAN said that it had been an honour for him to hold the chair of the IOM Council for the past year when he had had a privileged view of the Organization's ideals and activities. IOM's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations during that year had given him ample opportunity to review the Organization's past and glimpse its future. Its role in the past as a lean and efficient organization with a capacity for rapid response and successful handling of migration requirements had been widely appreciated and supported by the international community. While such capacities should be maintained there was also a need now to address emerging challenges relating to the multifaceted issues connected with migration. There was no doubt that globalization of trade was making the 21<sup>st</sup> century an era of mass migration, not only at regional but at global level. Statistics reflected the situation clearly. Over 170 million people in the world, almost half of them women, were on the move, leaving their places of birth and citizenship. As a result, complex linkages between migration and labour, demography, social welfare, humanitarian assistance, environment, development and international and internal security were becoming increasingly evident and a cause of concern. In that context, the Organization needed to enhance its capacity to meet the needs of Member States and of the international community in relation to current migration issues. IOM should be forward-looking and blend the core competencies that had served it well in the past with the requirements of the present. In his view, it should encompass both regional activities and global issues.

6. He thanked the Member States of IOM for the cooperation extended to him during his year of office, the Director General, the Deputy Director General and staff of IOM for their assistance during the year. He congratulated his colleague Ambassador Amina Mohamed of Kenya on her election and wished her every success.

7. Ms. A. MOHAMED took the chair.
8. She invited the Council to proceed to the election of a First and a Second Vice-Chairperson and a Rapporteur.
9. Mr. LEWALTER (Germany), seconded by Mr. FUTRAKUL (Thailand), nominated Mr. J. Karklins (Latvia) as First Vice-Chairperson.
10. Mr. J. Karklins (Latvia) was unanimously elected First Vice-Chairperson.
11. Mr. LEWALTER (Germany), seconded by Mr. FUTRAKUL (Thailand), nominated Mr. G. Albin (Mexico) as Second Vice-Chairperson.
12. Mr. G. Albin (Mexico) was unanimously elected Second Vice-Chairperson.
13. Mr. LEWALTER (Germany), seconded by Mr. FUTRAKUL (Thailand), nominated Mr. K. Tomita (Japan) as Rapporteur.
14. Mr. K. Tomita (Japan) was unanimously elected Rapporteur.
15. The CHAIRPERSON thanked the members of the Council for electing her to the Chair. It was an honour for her country and for her personally to have been elected as Chairperson of the Council and was especially gratifying because Kenya was the first African State to be a Member of IOM. She congratulated the two Vice-Chairpersons and the Rapporteur on their well-deserved election. She also paid tribute to the outgoing Chairman for the excellent manner in which he had guided the work of the previous session, which had marked the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the International Organization for Migration.
16. The current session would provide the Council with an excellent opportunity to serve as a forum for international migration policy dialogue with a specific focus on three workshop themes relating to different aspects of migration management. Human migration was neither new nor was it all negative. On the contrary, for many developed and developing Members, the arrival of visitors on their shores had begun as early as the 14<sup>th</sup> century and had often contributed in a direct way to their development, heritage, culture and national character. That trend had continued in all countries and migration today was generally regarded as an essential, inevitable and potentially beneficial component of the economic and social life of every State and region. There was an emerging consensus that governments could and should aim at managing migration through multidimensional, inter-ministerial and inter-agency cooperation, in order to address its current challenges effectively. In that connection she commended IOM on the "Managing Migration" diagram which would provide a thought-provoking basis for discussion.
17. With regard to IOM's approach to the future, all Members should recall its mandate as a service organization whose primary goal was to help governments to address the challenges of orderly, safe and humane migration. She was sure that Members would agree that efforts should be directed towards the achievement of that goal and was convinced that those efforts would be enriched by the presence of the new Member States of Nigeria, Cambodia, Zimbabwe, Kazakhstan and Rwanda, the new observer State of Burundi, and the new observer organizations

of Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International. IOM's continued expansion would give it a more universal character reflecting its growing importance in the world today. She hoped that a fruitful exchange of views could be held on IOM's future status with regard to the United Nations.

Agenda item 3

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA  
(MC/2078/Rev.3)

18. The CHAIRPERSON said that, in the absence of any objections, she would take it that the Council wished to adopt the revised provisional agenda (MC/2078/Rev.3).

19. The agenda was adopted.

Agenda item 4

NEW MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS

(a) Applications for membership in the Organization

- (i) Application by the Federal Republic of Nigeria for membership in the Organization  
(MC/2084, MC/L/1029)
- (ii) Application by the Kingdom of Cambodia for membership in the Organization  
(MC/2087, MC/L/1030)
- (iii) Application by the Republic of Zimbabwe for membership in the Organization  
(MC/2089, MC/L/1031)
- (iv) Application by the Republic of Kazakhstan for membership in the Organization  
(MC/2090, MC/L/1032)
- (v) Application by the Rwandese Republic for membership in the Organization  
(MC/2092, MC/L/1033)

20. The CHAIRPERSON invited the Council to consider the draft resolutions concerning the applications for membership contained in documents MC/L/1029, MC/L/1030, MC/L/1031, MC/L/1032 and MC/L/1033.

21. The draft resolutions on the admission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (MC/L/1029), the Kingdom of Cambodia (MC/L/1030), the Republic of Zimbabwe (MC/L/1031), the Republic of Kazakhstan (MC/L/1032) and the Rwandese Republic (MC/L/1033) as Members of the Organization were adopted by acclamation.

(b) Applications for representation by an observer

- (i) Application by the Republic of Burundi for representation by an observer  
(MC/2094, MC/L/1034)
- (ii) Application by Human Rights Watch for representation by an observer  
(MC/2091, MC/L/1035)
- (iii) Application by Amnesty International for representation by an observer  
(MC/2093, MC/L/1036)

22. The CHAIRPERSON invited the Council to consider the applications for representation by an observer by the Republic of Burundi, Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International.

23. The Republic of Burundi, Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International were granted observer status at meetings of the Council in accordance with the terms of draft resolutions MC/L/1034, MC/L/1035 and MC/L/1036.

24. The CHAIRPERSON then invited the representatives of Members and observers to make statements.

25. Mr. AYEWOH (Federal Republic of Nigeria) expressed his Government's thanks to the Member States of IOM for their unanimous acceptance of his country as a Member of the Organization and said that the decision to apply for membership had been taken after a rational appraisal of the responsibilities, duties and obligations involved. In accepting the challenge, Nigeria believed that it could contribute positively to enhancing the goals and objectives of IOM and looked forward to taking its place in the new partnership for the mutual benefit of all. The Organization was to be commended for the manner in which it had expanded its activities over the past fifty years to keep pace with increasing globalization and technological advancement and to maintain its status as a leading intergovernmental and humanitarian organization upholding humane and orderly migration. Nigeria also believed that IOM, working in close collaboration with governments and the international community, could help to find solutions for the situations of instability arising from conflicts and poverty, which caused people to migrate.

26. Mr. LONG VISALO (Kingdom of Cambodia), after expressing his country's appreciation of its admission to membership of IOM, said that the Organization's presence in Cambodia dated back to 1992, when the management of the Khmer Expert Programme had been transferred from Bangladesh to Phnom Penh, thus sponsoring the return of 100 Cambodian professionals from various parts of the world to participate in the reconstruction of the country during that transitional period. Although Cambodia had only just become a Member of IOM, its close collaboration with the Organization had been growing over the years and six of IOM's seven service areas were currently covered in Cambodia. The collaboration had thus been long and rewarding, and Cambodia's new status of full membership would enable it to intensify its participation in migration-related dialogues with the rest of the international community and would facilitate and sustain continued collaboration with IOM on a broader range of activities.

27. Ms. MUTETWA (Republic of Zimbabwe) said that her country greatly appreciated its acceptance to membership of IOM and pledged to discharge its obligations under the Constitution. Her Government fully shared IOM's core values with regard to the principle of free movement of persons and looked forward to exchanging views and experiences with other Member States and relevant international organizations. Zimbabwe's cooperation with IOM dated back to 1980, when her country had been granted observer status, and to 1984, when IOM had opened an office in Harare. Thanks to those relations, 467 professionals in the diaspora had been helped to return and to be integrated in Zimbabwean society under the Return of Qualified African Nationals programme. The Government had received technical and financial assistance for conducting the 22<sup>nd</sup> farm workers' survey in 2001/2 and IOM had supported Zimbabwe financially in hosting the 2002 meeting of Ministers of Labour and Social Partners. Her Government looked forward to future collaboration with IOM, especially within the framework of the Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA) programme, designed to mitigate the brain drain that had ravaged developing countries.

28. Mr. DANENOV (Republic of Kazakhstan), after expressing his country's thanks for its acceptance to membership of IOM, said that Kazakhstan continued to experience outflows of migrants, with the main migration flows directed towards Russia, Germany, Ukraine and Israel, the historic homelands of most of the persons concerned. With regard to immigration, his country gave priority to the return of ethnic Kazakhs: since 1992, some 180,000 had come back from Mongolia, Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, China, Russia, Uzbekistan and other Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries. It should be noted that Kazakhstan's political and economic stability attracted migrants from other countries of the region, some of whom tried to enter by irregular means. Moreover, its geographical and geopolitical situation made it attractive to irregular migration with the result that it was increasingly serving as a "transit corridor" for foreigners coming from countries with less stable political and social situations with a view to gaining illegal entrance into CIS and European countries. Those and other problems could be solved only through close inter-State collaboration and assistance from international organizations. His Government greatly appreciated the activities of the IOM Office in Kazakhstan, which was currently coordinating a programme of integration and legal assistance for repatriated Kazakhs. IOM had also helped to organize the return of migrants in an irregular situation and was preparing a pilot project to provide technical assistance for Kazakh frontier guards and immigration police. In conclusion, the Government and Parliament of Kazakhstan were adopting political and economic measures, with the corresponding legal instruments, to ensure that migratory processes were conducted in a civilized manner. In particular, the Law on Population Migration had been in force since December 1997.

29. Ms. RUGWABIZA (Rwandese Republic) said that her Government very much appreciated the country's admission to membership of IOM, since the recent history of its people's many migrations illustrated how migration management conducted with respect for the rights and dignity of migrants could serve the cause of the sustained development and consequently the stability of a country. During the genocide of 1994, in addition to the destruction of the country's main infrastructures and its entire social and economic fabric, one million Rwandans had been exterminated, with educated and qualified persons constituting a priority target. Several million Rwandans had been displaced, inside and outside the country, thus creating humanitarian emergencies and leaving an enormous shortage of qualified staff in the public and private sectors. In 1994, the Government had therefore launched a fervent appeal to all qualified

persons in the Rwandan diaspora to participate in national reconstruction and had made the return of refugees one of its priorities. Accordingly, in 1994 IOM had facilitated the return of 1.2 million Rwandans from neighbouring countries.

30. At present, eight years later, Rwanda's concerns related to migrants' integration, as part of the national strategy for the development of human resources. After IOM's assistance during the emergency phase, Rwanda hoped that the Organization would become a key partner in its development by facilitating selective migration and providing assistance in the key sectors of education, health and scientific and technical research, particularly through such innovative programmes as MIDA. For the time being, however, the expected results were subject to certain constraints, as the success of those activities depended on regular evaluations, an appropriate communication strategy and frequent consultations with all partners, with a view to making necessary adjustments in the event of possible shortcomings. In that context, Belgium was to be thanked for its support in connection with the Great Lakes region. In conclusion, Rwanda wished to invite other Member States and regional organizations to support the MIDA programme and thus help to promote achievement of the common goal of placing migration at the service of development.

31. Ms. BIHOTORI (Observer for Burundi) said that her country was grateful to the Council for admitting it to observer status at IOM meetings. Burundi already benefited from IOM services under the MIDA project and its Government committed itself to complying fully with the provisions of the IOM Constitution relating to observer status. In conclusion, she congratulated the countries which had been admitted to membership, particularly Burundi's neighbouring country, Rwanda.

32. Ms. FREIH (Observer for Human Rights Watch) expressed her organization's thanks to the Council and IOM for their support and acceptance of its application for observer status. Since 1978, Human Rights Watch had been dedicated to protecting and monitoring the human rights of people throughout the world, including migrants, internally displaced persons and refugees. Thus, during 2002 her organization's publications had included reports on migrants and asylum-seekers in Spain's Canary Islands, internally displaced persons in Turkey and refugees in Kenya, Uganda, Pakistan, North Korea, Thailand, Indonesia and Australia. On the basis of such research and monitoring work, Human Rights Watch called upon governments and intergovernmental organizations to act in accordance with international human rights law. Her organization was particularly interested in IOM's policies and activities concerning internally displaced persons, emergency and post-conflict situations and trafficking issues and looked forward to cooperating with IOM in meeting those challenges in the future.

33. Ms. OBEROI (Observer for Amnesty International), after thanking the Council for accepting her organization's application for observer status, said that Amnesty International had a long-standing commitment to upholding and defending international standards of human rights, including those of asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons, refugees, migrants and other categories of non-citizens. In the recent past, it had followed migration issues with increased attention and looked forward to enhancing its cooperation with IOM in order to strengthen protection of the human rights of migrants and to place migrants themselves at the centre of the debate on migration management.



34. The DIRECTOR GENERAL, congratulating the Chairperson and the other officers on their election, pointed out that Ms. Mohamed was the first woman to preside over the IOM Council. He also thanked Ambassador Kariyawasam, who had directed IOM's work so ably during the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. He was most grateful to Mr. Kariyawasam personally and also for his contribution to the Organization in terms of new dimensions and new ideas. He then welcomed the new Members and observers; their presence would strengthen IOM in many ways. The presence of Nigeria as an important West African country would reinforce IOM's work, particularly the regional migration dialogue for Western Africa (MIDWA) which was beginning well. IOM would continue and expand its collaboration with the Kingdom of Cambodia, which had been a partner of the Organization for some time. Zimbabwe had benefited in the past from IOM's work and through sustained cooperation the migration problems currently facing the country could gradually be resolved. The Republic of Kazakhstan, one of the world's largest countries in the middle of the Eurasian landmass, was involved in many aspects of migration and IOM was pleased to welcome it as another new Asian Member complementing the Organization's increasingly global map. Rwanda, emerging from a period of great distress, now looked towards migration management as one of the key tools in its development and IOM was very pleased with the new relationship, which would assist in accomplishing those goals together. The Republic of Burundi had taken the first step by becoming an observer but had already been closely involved with IOM in the successful MIDA experiment, the development and co-development scheme that the Organization was trying hard to establish and which he thought held great promise for Africa. Burundi was in the forefront and the fact that it was represented in IOM meant a great deal.

35. Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, by their presence and interest, were showing how important the rights of migrants, as well as sensible migration management, were to the world. IOM was very glad to have them as observers. The partnership that was being developed with non-governmental organizations, whether small ones in the countries it worked in, or the large international non-governmental organizations like Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, gave another dimension to IOM's work.

#### Agenda item 5

#### OPENING STATEMENTS BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL (MICEM/7/2002, MICEM/8/2002)

36. The DIRECTOR GENERAL delivered the statement reproduced as Annex I to this summary record.

37. The DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL delivered the statement reproduced as Annex II to this summary record.

Agenda item 6INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION POLICY DIALOGUE  
(MC/INF/253, MC/INF/255, MC/INF/256, MC/INF/257)

38. The CHAIRPERSON invited the Administration to give an introductory presentation to the international migration policy dialogue.

39. Mr. APPAVE (Administration), making a multimedia presentation on migratory trends and migration policy, said that at the Eighty-second Session of the Council in November 2001, Member States had adopted Resolution No. 1055 (LXXXII) resolving to strengthen the role of the Council as a forum for migration policy dialogue. During consultations held at regular intervals in 2002, Member States had identified the concept of partnership as the unifying theme both for the discussion in plenary on aspects of managed migration and for the three workshops to be held the following day in order to provide opportunities for a dispassionate survey of the nature of contemporary migration and the exploration of avenues for common endeavour towards the development of effective policy strategies. The presentation relied on material assembled by a large number of IOM colleagues and a smaller number of external contributors during the preparation of the second edition of the *World Migration Report* to be published early in 2003 and of which participants had been given an advance trilingual copy. Migration specialists widely held the view that the end of the twentieth century coincided with considerable change in migratory behaviour. There was much debate as to whether the factors contributing to that change were political; infrastructural (for instance, the availability of cheap means of intercontinental transport); technological (the rapid evolution of real-time communication systems); social (the emergence of international family networks and transnational identities); economic (disparities between developed and developing countries); or even legal or administrative (through much clearer definitions of legal entitlements and procedures). Focus on those factors, however, should not overshadow the fundamental reality that contemporary international migration had a dynamic of its own, with both positive and negative aspects. The challenge for the international community was to manage it effectively, cooperatively and comprehensively.

40. As an introduction to the debate, he highlighted three aspects: global migration trends in statistical terms, regional trends and concerns and specific policy patterns. According to the most recent available statistical data, about one in 35 persons in the world was a migrant. That gave a figure of around 175 million migrants in the world, which might seem high, but accounted for only 2.9 per cent of the world's population and meant that the vast majority of people still resided in their country of birth. On the other hand, if all migrants were placed in one country they would constitute the world's fifth largest population, after China, India, the United States of America and Indonesia. Studies showed clearly that the world migrant population had doubled since 1975, although in percentage terms numbers had remained fairly constant.

41. Migrants were very widely distributed in all regions of the world. In Asia there were 49.7 million migrants, or 1.4 per cent of the population of the region; in Africa there were 16.2 million migrants, or 2.1 per cent of the population; in Europe there were 56.1 million migrants, or 7.7 per cent of the population; in Latin America and the Caribbean there were 5.9 million migrants, or 1.1 per cent of the population; in North America there were 40.8 million migrants, or about 13 per cent of the population; and in Oceania there were 5.8 million migrants,

or 19.1 per cent of the population. Distribution figures in themselves, however, did not show how migration was experienced and managed around the world; the *World Migration Report* drew attention to some interesting features characterizing certain broad migratory spaces around the world, bearing in mind that there were as many overlaps and common features as there were differences among them.

42. Regional trends showed that Africa was a region of great migratory complexity, with several distinct subregions. Given the diversity of situations in different areas, it was difficult to generalize, but there were some issues of particular concern for governments such as internal displacement; cross-border issues in relation to ethnic and linguistic affiliations; labour migration for which management of remittances was a priority; migration and health; and migration and development. Asia could also be divided into several subregions and labour migration was one dominant policy preoccupation, with flows both within the region, essentially in search of employment opportunities, and out of the region by job-seekers looking to the Gulf countries, Europe and beyond. In addition, the issue of refugee and asylum-seeker flows and their management remained important.

43. The migratory landscape of Western Europe was dominated by one of the boldest policy experiments in the field, the broad objective of the creation and implementation of common migration and asylum policies within a treaty-based zone of free movement for European Union citizens. While the focus of attention over the past 15 years or so had been on asylum, which remained a key concern, more recently the policy debate had broadened to include topics such as population ageing, labour market needs and family reunion provisions. The planned enlargement of the European Union posed challenges of harmonization in that field, and towards the centre and the east of Europe, new migration challenges were emerging as regions of transit were also becoming regions of destination.

44. Turning to Latin America and the Caribbean, he said that the region displayed great complexity and was a migratory patchwork of areas of population stability and others of active migration. The large refugee displacements of the seventies had given way to intricate cross-directional patterns of migration heavily influenced by changing economic conditions. Emigration towards the North American continent remained a feature. Again, the relationship between migration and development had long been a priority policy concern for governments and featured high on the list of topics that were addressed in the numerous migration-focused consultative processes in the region.

45. Finally, the United States of America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand constituted an unusual migratory space in that, historically, those countries had seen migration as an instrument for economic development and nation building and had a comprehensive approach to migration management with particular emphasis on selection of skills, complemented by humanitarian programmes. Their political imperative was to demonstrate to their communities that migration inflows were planned and managed effectively. In all, there was no part of the world where migration was not of major political interest.

46. He recalled that the IOM round table held in June 2002 had drawn attention to the emergence of regional consultative processes, and focused on their structural features which they covered. A recent survey of documents emerging from those regional circles had produced

instructive results that underlined great convergence in key policy concerns leading to heightened interest in the identification of common understandings in the field of international migration, although there was not yet any comprehensive international policy framework on the matter. It was being discussed in many forums such as the IOM Council, the Berne Initiative launched by the Swiss Government in 2001 to provide a space for governments to explore their concerns, identify their understandings and contribute to the development of an international framework, and the Hague Process which had recently produced the Declaration on the Future of Refugee and Migration Policy.

47. He wished to draw attention to a number of global policy trends and challenges. First, there was the gradual disappearance of traditional distinctions between countries of origin, transit and destination which were increasingly confronted by similar problems requiring similar solutions. It was appropriate to say in that sense that all countries were countries of migration since they were all affected by migratory flows. Secondly, migratory behaviour was tending to move away from migration in the narrow sense, towards mobility. The former referred to movement from point to point with static outcomes, whereas the latter referred to international mobility across the world, including circular movements and itineraries following complex paths. Thirdly, there was a growing need to establish links with numerous other related policy areas, but without seeing them as substitutes for effective migration management policies. Fourthly, there was a need to manage migratory movement in all its manifestations through a comprehensive approach. Isolated elements did not provide the answers but must be brought together in a concerted approach. Fifthly, there was a need to develop effective cooperative partnerships among all stakeholders, at both national and international levels, involving government departments, non-governmental organizations, employers, community organizations, intergovernmental agencies and relationships between governments, regional and international organizations, and international non-governmental organizations. Finally, there was a need to reach better understanding of migration patterns and trends, for which more accurate and reliable data were needed. In conclusion, migration management tended to be fundamentally a prerogative of sovereign States; in parallel, however, there was growing recognition that individual States could manage their migratory situations only through cooperation at national, regional and international levels.

48. Finally, he placed before the meeting a number of questions designed to stimulate debate: in what way was contemporary international migration changing and how did the international community have to change its policy approaches in response? How could the ability to connect different elements of migration policy into a coherent whole be improved? How could meaningful linkage be established with other relevant policy fields and how could cooperation be improved and effective partnerships developed among relevant stakeholders? In addition to those points, he was sure that participants would raise their own questions. He emphasized that IOM wished to hear them, as well as any proposed answers.

49. The CHAIRPERSON thanked Mr. Appave for his interesting presentation and opened the floor to comments.

50. Mr. HUGHES (Australia), after congratulating Mr. Appave on his excellent presentation summing up some of the conceptual and organizational challenges ahead, said that Australia was one of a small number of countries involved in managed migration for some time: for over 50 years, it had operated a large-scale managed migration programme and celebrated the

diversity of skills, languages, cultures and backgrounds of its people which contributed flexibility and creativity and improved the productivity of the country's economy. Almost 25 per cent of the population of 19 million were born overseas and six million new settlers, of whom 600,000 had entered on humanitarian grounds, had arrived in Australia since 1945. The objective of the managed migration system was to maximize Australia's well-being as well as making an international contribution, in terms of four key goals, to economic, social, environmental and humanitarian issues. Within the country managed migration meant balancing business, trade union, environmental and non-government interests in order to achieve a positive contribution in delivering Australia's migration programme and to ensure that the future was economically, socially and demographically sustainable. To that end, an annual migration and humanitarian programme for permanent entry to Australia had been established, as well as temporary entry programmes that regulated the mobility referred to by Mr. Appave. For permanent migrants there was a wide range of integration services and the right to apply for citizenship after a relatively short period of time.

51. He considered that the benefits from a managed migration programme included the involvement of relevant stakeholders. Each year, Australia determined its immigration policy by setting planning levels for each component of the managed migration programmes. That involved widespread consultation with stakeholders including State and Territory governments in the federal system, business, environmental, community, religious, welfare and migrant community groups, as well as individual members of the public. While decision-making processes concerned only the Federal Government, all agencies in the federal system were ultimately involved in setting parameters relating to family and health care, employment and business affairs, international relations, trade, education and training policy. Current migration programmes provided for over 100,000 new places a year, in addition to a refugee and humanitarian intake of 12,000 places. The latter was particularly important as it was a major contribution to the resolution of international crises. Over a period of 50 years, the managed migration programme had produced significant economic, social and demographic benefits by building a skilled labour force in a multicultural society with trade, social and cultural links throughout the world, and by ensuring the future size and composition of the population. Additionally, a flow of short-term skilled workers passed through Australia for cultural, educational or other temporary purposes.

52. It was important to remember that effective management of migration was dependent on effective border management and controls which were vital to achieving community support and ensuring the credibility of the managed migration system. He welcomed the increased international emphasis on studying managed migration on a global scale; that was a particularly important relatively new development in which IOM could play a key role. Australia was therefore pleased to contribute to the funding of the *World Migration Report*.

53. Mr. KARIYAWASAM (Sri Lanka) expressed his appreciation to Mr. Appave for his excellent presentation and to the Administration for the documentation provided. Referring to Graph 1.1 in the advance copy of *World Migration 2003*, he considered that the projection of 2.6 per cent migrants for 2050 was small, given the facilities available for mobility and world trends, and requested clarification on the matter.

54. Mr. RIMKŪNAS (Lithuania), welcoming the new Members and observers, said that the increased membership reflected the appreciation of the international community for the Organization's work. Welcoming the ongoing international dialogue on migration policy, he described some aspects of migration management in his country which had adopted a migration control programme and undertaken a range of associated legislative, administrative and organizational measures to ensure a coherent framework and to address various migration-related problems. Recent projects carried out with partners from European Union countries, especially the Nordic countries, covered aspects of asylum and refugee management, protection of migrants' rights and voluntary return. In achieving those tasks, Lithuania valued IOM's support, especially in connection with joint projects covering areas of particular concern: trafficking of women and children, as well as integration of the immigrant community through training and self-employment.

55. According to IOM, over 2,000 people (mostly girls and young women) from the Baltic area fell victim to trafficking every year and Lithuania was making consolidated efforts to address the problem at national level through a wide-ranging programme approved by the Parliament in 2002. The programme was funded by the State and also had provision to attract funds from private and international donors and to involve a wide range of actors. On that score, Lithuania strongly supported IOM's experience in facilitating close cooperation between European Union Member States and nearby countries: the Final Declaration of the European Conference on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, held jointly by IOM, the European Commission and the European Parliament in Brussels in September 2002, emphasized the need for a comprehensive European policy on human trafficking in countries of origin, transit and destination. He considered, furthermore, that there was also a need to address the root causes of such trafficking.

56. Mr. HUSSAIN (Pakistan) thanked IOM for initiating the dialogue on migration policy and, in particular, for the presentation made. There were two facets to migration management in Pakistan: first, for over two decades, Pakistan had had direct experience of managing almost three million refugees uprooted as a result of conflict, war and drought. The second facet related to Pakistani migrants who left their country to seek better economic opportunities and to improve their skills. Experience showed that there was a need to focus broadly on two important elements. One was conflict prevention, as a very important factor in halting international migration through enforcement of international law by a rule-based international system and also the respect for rule of law in national affairs. The second element was consideration of the root causes of migration and the possible creation of an international environment that can bring economic opportunities to the doorstep of those leaving their homeland. There were few encouraging signs in that area, however, and progress within the World Trade Organization (WTO) was very slow. Moreover, countries that had the benefit of economic development had not lived up to their commitment of providing orderly, official development assistance in accordance with internationally agreed standards. In addition, debt relief initiatives were moving slowly. Similarly, direct foreign investment in countries was not at a level that was likely to help to contain the flow of migrants from their countries of origin to other countries. He believed that comprehensive solutions could be achieved only by addressing those issues and by focusing on the administrative and legal aspects of migration. He therefore urged that IOM should reflect on those issues in its future reports and give advice on those matters which were of particular concern to the developing countries.

57. Mr. DEMBRI (Algeria), after thanking the IOM Administration, and in particular the Director General and Deputy Director General, and welcoming the new Members and observers to the Organization, congratulated Mr. Appave on his presentation which provided particularly important statistics. He endorsed the conclusion reached by Mr. Appave, that migratory flows should be managed in a context of cooperation; in that regard, Algeria disagreed with solutions based on increased police border controls, as it considered that human society was a single family and that throughout history people had always moved around. On one specific point, he wondered why the presentation had referred to problems between 1965 and 2002 only. The choice of 1965 as a starting date seemed random. The two world wars, the economic boom of the 1960s, East-West tensions and decolonization had all generated migration before that time. New problems were now arising due to globalization, as the resulting free flow circulation of capital and goods was not always accompanied by the third essential factor – the free flow of persons in a context of international cooperation. It was not IOM's task to prevent such freedom of movement by setting up border controls but rather to study with the whole human community how migratory flows should reflect solidarity in relations between people. In that respect, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families should serve as a reference for an international dialogue to be established on the basis of mutual respect and the common interest of everyone. He believed that those aspects should be shown clearly, otherwise statistics given without reference could do little other than reflect catastrophe scenarios. The statistics given by Mr. Appave were very clear and showed elements of stability which he believed were extremely important. When people left their homes they should do so not in search of some imagined prosperity but rather on the basis of established cooperation which ensured the welfare and development of all concerned.

58. Ms. STENGAARD (Denmark) thanked Mr. Appave for his very interesting presentation. Denmark strongly supported the IOM Council as a forum for migration policy debate and she expressed her pleasure that integration was one of three selected themes to be explored in the workshops. Integration remained a major challenge and it had become clear that substantial strengthening of integration policies for migrants residing legally in member countries was required. Lack of successful integration caused problems and, in order to initiate a broad discussion on that very important issue, the Danish Presidency of the European Union had organized a conference on successful integration in the labour market, held in July 2002 in Copenhagen and attended by representatives from European Union Member States and candidate countries, from regional and local authorities, social partners, non-governmental organizations and the European Commission. The conference had brought closer a vision of a successful integration policy allowing ethnic minorities to take an active part in working and social life on equal terms with the rest of the population. A remaining key issue was the improvement of migration policies based on equal rights, obligations and opportunities, while respecting cultural diversity and common values. Moreover, coordinated efforts were required to facilitate and initiate contact among a network of authorities responsible for integration issues in the Member States.

59. Regarding comprehensive and solution-oriented approaches to the problem of irregular migration, she emphasized that combating illegal immigration and strengthening border control was one of the Danish Presidency's main priorities. Progress was being made towards a comprehensive plan to combat illegal immigration and trafficking of human beings in the European Union; firstly, a common database would prove a valuable asset in community efforts

to promote orderly migration; secondly, the conclusion of readmission agreements with certain countries, together with the adoption of a common return programme and strengthening of cooperation between the European Union and major countries of transit and origin, concerning the control of irregular migratory flows, would provide a more effective set of tools to combat irregular immigration. In her view, that could be achieved only within the framework of a comprehensive strategy backed up by adequate financial and technical assistance, negotiation of readmission agreements, and information campaigns. Denmark would continue to support and participate in the joint policy dialogue in the hope that it would draw attention to some of the best models and best practices concerning migration management.

60. Mr. LUGRIS (Uruguay) expressed appreciation for Mr. Appave's presentation and the documents which had been distributed. He emphasized the need to increase internal coordination at national level and cooperation at regional and international levels so as to improve management of migration. To that end, he welcomed the measures described in the documents regarding progress made in the MERCOSUR countries and at the South American Conference on International Migration in regard to regional coordination in that part of the world. Regarding internal national cooperation and coordination, the IOM Office in Montevideo was carrying out excellent work and would also be very valuable in the regional MERCOSUR integration process since the MERCOSUR administrative headquarters was also in Montevideo. At international level, Uruguay supported IOM's work, particularly the international dialogue on migration, and expected to maintain active participation during the current session. Uruguay considered that the work was going in the right direction and, as a country which had already ratified the International Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, stressed the importance of the human rights' factor in IOM's work. His country owed its own identity as a nation to international migration and welcomed the fact that the international community was taking up fundamental issues related to the very essence of human development, past and present.

61. Mr. APPAVE (Administration), thanking speakers for their positive reactions to his presentation, welcomed the fact that emphasis was placed on cooperation. Clearly population movements were on the increase and he expressed his appreciation for those speakers who had begun to identify their best practices. In response to the question raised by the representative of Sri Lanka in relation to some of the figures given in the World Migration Report, he explained that the projection for the year 2050 averaged out trends in the past by means of a computer projection; he agreed, however, that there was a strong argument for believing that the increase would be sharper than suggested by the statistical curve.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.



Annex I

STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

Distinguished delegates, dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

1. Your presence here today is strong evidence of the growing importance of migration questions around the world. Our new Members and observers make the same point. We have before us an intense and important debate over three days. Inside and outside this hall, policy-makers and opinion-makers will be following our deliberations closely.
2. In my remarks this morning I intend to concentrate on three themes:
  - the scope and nature of migration management,
  - IOM's approach to the future, and
  - international institutional arrangements.
3. Underpinning consideration of all three themes are two fundamental propositions:
  - the idea that migration is an essential, inevitable and potentially beneficial component of the economic and social life of every State and every region; and
  - the emerging consensus that governments can and must manage migration through international cooperation and policy approaches that address all facets of this complex phenomenon.

**The scope and nature of migration management**

4. All of you will have seen by now the diagram entitled "Managing Migration", which the IOM Administration prepared as a kind of road map for the general debate. It identifies four main areas of migration policy as well as the cross-cutting activities that apply to all our work.
5. The four main areas are **migration and development**, **facilitated migration** (more and more often for work), **migration control** and **forced migration**. These four areas also correspond to four communities of actors, both within societies and governments and internationally. These are, roughly speaking, specialists in development; labour market management and globalization; law enforcement; and humanitarian action.
6. The "Managing Migration" diagram is meant to be thought provoking, not definitive. All of you could produce a better, clearer, more comprehensive version. The value of the diagram is to demonstrate how complex and interconnected migration management really is and how many areas of modern life and public policy it touches.

7. Some of the entries in the diagram point to traditional IOM activities like resettlement, cultural orientation, rescue of stranded migrants or return of qualified nationals. Others represent newer programmes, like counter-trafficking, remittance management, integration of returning combatants and international recruitment of workers.

8. A related observation: we have seen that “one-box” approaches to migration management do not work. Control measures do not address the causes of migration. Development assistance alone can promote unintended loss of precious human resources. Migration for work programmes can have unforeseen social consequences. Humanitarian imperatives cannot substitute for migration policy. This is why IOM has always advocated an inter-ministerial approach to migration policy within governments.

9. One last point about the diagram: next to every single item on it you could write in an IOM programme or project – some big, some small, some old, some new, some traditional, some experimental – designed to address a need, a problem or an opportunity brought to us by a Member government or other partner.

### **IOM’s approach to the future**

10. That brings me to my second theme, IOM's approach to the future.

11. In the years to come, IOM needs to blend **continuity and change**. We have always been a service organization, helping governments with the challenges of orderly migration and proud of our responsiveness, flexibility, creativity and pragmatism. That must not change even as the different forms of IOM assistance develop rapidly in our post-Cold War, globalized world.

12. Our tradition of **activity-based funding** is another great strength. Because we design and carry out programmes and projects to measure – coordinating intensively with all our partners at every stage – we enjoy the certainty that our work is relevant. Over the years, IOM has been able to follow the evolution of real needs, expanding, adapting, retooling and avoiding hackneyed responses.

13. IOM has succeeded by adopting an **“inductive”, grass-roots approach** to migration management. Through our projects, we bring new ideas to the test, accumulate real-world experience, identify talent and make ourselves a repository of effective practice, the basis of good policy.

14. Successful projects can and should lead to **consolidated programmes**. These are the activities for which IOM will be the point of reference and preferred partner and for which we can design our recruiting and develop our staff. Less successful projects will tell us what to refine or abandon.

15. IOM should not seek to become a custodian of migration doctrine. Instead we should act as a catalyst for positive change, helping governments identify challenges and working together to find practical, humane and effective solutions.

16. **Regional processes** are fundamental to IOM's approach. The catalogue of established regional initiatives for migration management is impressive and covers more and more of the globe. This year South America, West Africa and the Mediterranean Five-Plus-Five joined the list. The Bali Conference should soon lead to better cooperation in Asia in countering trafficking and smuggling. Good progress has been made with the League of Arab States, in the Black Sea region, in the Caribbean and among Asian countries with large national labour programmes.

17. Avoiding doctrine is not the same as shirking **policy debate**. With the strong support of our member states, the IOM Council has become a forum for international discussion of migration trends and responses. We shall reinforce this positive development as we seek to shape the consensus on migration policy that has begun to form.

18. For the elements of a **global consensus** are at hand. In the year 2002, it is no longer controversial to view migration as a core element of global social and economic change. Countries of origin, transit and destination broadly agree on the analysis of causes, especially as most countries are themselves all three. All want to put in place migration policies that will satisfy economic and development needs, accommodate the inevitable growth of social diversity, enhance respect for migrants and provide them regular jobs and decent working conditions.

19. Some of you have expressed concerns over the growth of IOM's **membership**, perhaps fearing the introduction of political quarrels that could divide the Organization. This seems to me unlikely, both in the light of the analytic and policy consensus to which I have referred and because of the pragmatic, results-oriented approach for which IOM is known. In fact, in the decade of rapid expansion, political disputes have not broken out inside IOM.

20. The new Members and observers, big and small, come to IOM out of realistic and sincere interest. In the early days of IOM, only a relatively few countries dealt with migration and the flows were relatively simple. Now migration flows are universal, multidirectional and complex. We are all in the same boat.

21. There are practical reasons to welcome new Members as well. IOM's support for regional arrangements is greatly enhanced if all participants are IOM Member States. The Five-Plus-Five would not exist had Maghreb countries not joined IOM. Puebla is stronger for Mexico's IOM membership. When Brazil joins us, the new South American process will profit greatly. African membership made possible regional dialogues on that continent and opened the door to creative efforts in the area of development and "co-development". China's observership is significant already; membership would resonate throughout Asia and beyond. We need additional Asian Member States, the representatives of one half of humankind. The more nations of the Middle East and South-West Asia we have in IOM (and several are showing strong interest), the better able we shall become to deal with a host of important and complicated migration questions.

22. For all of these reasons, we should not be afraid of the growth of IOM. Broader membership brings new opportunities for solutions. Thanks to our Regional Offices, we have the structure in place to support expansion with moderate rises in core funding, as we have shown in recent years. The development of our Regional Mission in Manila into an alternative administrative support base will save money and serve the entire Organization. IOMers are now attuned, as never before, to "**the challenges of growth**". I am confident that we are on the right track.

### **International institutional arrangements**

23. Let us now turn to the third theme, international institutional relationships, a subject that has acquired prominence lately in New York and Geneva, and takes the form, for the purposes of the IOM Council, of this question: Should IOM change its relationship to the United Nations system?

24. Let me say at the start that **the IOM Administration is not campaigning either for or against a change**. IOM has done well by our independence and can continue to prosper as we are. Alternatively, under the right arrangements – ones that preserve our Constitution, our individuality and our special characteristics – I believe we could also prosper as part of the United Nations system.

25. It all comes down to weighing the **advantages and disadvantages**. Of course, this question is fundamentally one for the Council, not the Administration. Nevertheless, because several Members have asked for the views of the Administration, I shall try to provide some thoughts.

26. Recent consideration of IOM-UN issues can be said to start with the Report of the Secretary General to the General Assembly dated 9 September 2002 and entitled “***Strengthening the United Nations: an agenda for further change***” (UN document A/57/387). In a chapter called “Doing What Matters”, Secretary General Kofi Annan identified migration as one of a small number of big issues deserving greater attention by the United Nations. Others are development, energy, conflict prevention, terrorism and international crime.

27. We see therefore that the UN is conscious of a gap in coverage and is looking for ways to fill the gap. What are the options? Creating a new UN agency for migration is problematic and would doubtless be strongly resisted by existing agencies and many governments. UN coordination mechanisms have serious limitations as well. That leads back to IOM.

28. At present, IOM has the advantage of a well-developed set of ties with the UN, its programmes and agencies. These ties are summarized in the paper entitled “IOM-UN Relationship”, which was circulated with my letter of October 25. Within this framework we have been operating acceptably, treated by many as if we were a UN specialized agency, while retaining our freedom of action and our own character.

29. From the IOM Administration's perspective, as I said just now, **the status quo is sustainable**. Independence from the UN permits us to operate a light and flexible management structure and avoid bureaucratic entanglements. We can sometimes operate where the UN system is constrained. Some governments may welcome the existence of an alternative that can deliver expeditiously to their satisfaction.

30. Nevertheless, there are **disadvantages to outsider status**. IOM has to work harder to gain acceptance and recognition, to raise funds, to join inter-agency planning processes and assessment missions, and to acquire the international legal status that comes automatically to UN agencies. Decisions taken by the UN affect us heavily, but we have no voice in their formulation. Moreover, the international community has trouble understanding an international organization that is not part of the international system of governance.

31. Let us remember that UN status comes in many varieties. Specialized agencies under the Economic and Social Committee – like WIPO, ILO or WHO – have succeeded in preserving their individual characteristics and broad freedom of action. There exists another form of association, less closely defined, that of “related agency”.

32. I plan to meet the Secretary General on December 9 to see how he views his options. I shall be listening carefully to our debate at Council for your guidance, including regarding what I should say to him.

33. In any case, whether you decide to ask the Administration to explore joining the UN system or not, IOM will continue to build closer cooperation – “**strategic alliances**” – with agencies and programmes of the UN.

34. UNHCR and IOM will shortly sign a joint letter on assisted voluntary return, the first of a series of agreements to define our respective roles in such subjects as assistance to the internally displaced and technical cooperation in asylum and migration.

35. Similar discussions will be held in the future with WTO and ILO on cooperation in migration for work and with the World Bank, UNDP and UNCTAD on migration and development. Our work with WHO and UNAIDS on migrant health is well developed already and will expand.

### **Conclusion**

36. We shall devote the rest of today and all of tomorrow to a migration policy dialogue focused on the theme of partnership in management. The general debate thereafter will provide an opportunity for discussion of IOM's relationship with the UN system.

37. All these topics require consistent follow-through. As we discuss and debate the issues, let us also give thought to a mechanism whereby the Member States of IOM can carry on a policy discussion with one another and the Administration on a more continuous basis than one Council a year allows.

38. In concluding these brief remarks, let me express my hope that IOM will continue as a dynamic, growing organization, attuned to the needs of migrants and governments and fully able to help our partners adjust to the new realities of migration in a changing world. All of us at IOM are grateful for the support and encouragement you have given us. We pledge you our energy, our ideas and our sense of dedication, whatever the future brings. Thank you for your attention.

Annex II

STATEMENT BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Ladies, gentlemen, distinguished delegates,

1. The IOM Council is always a privileged occasion for exchanges between Member States, and for dialogue with the Administration, and I am highly gratified by your presence here for the next three days and by the contacts that I will be able to have with you.
2. The Director-General has just outlined to you three issues of crucial importance to the future of the Organization. Naturally, I strongly endorse what has been said and will therefore not dwell on those issues. For my part, I would simply like to share with you some thoughts arising from my observations over the past year.
3. **I should like first of all to highlight a paradox:** Even though migration is central to the concerns of many countries, only exceptionally does it form a specific agenda item at international discussions on globalization and its impacts. It seems to me that the duty of IOM is to strive to secure the broadest possible acceptance of the idea that well-managed migration can be beneficial to the international community and that migration cannot be approached only from the perspective of the problems that it entails.
4. Indeed, it is clear that **movements of human beings are a basic fact of our globalized world** and should be the subject of discussions based on common interest. The developed countries cannot be attracting qualified migrants to their territories and to the economic sectors with shortfalls without being fully aware of the problems being generated by these departures for developing countries. On the other hand, the countries affected by this exodus have not always taken the domestic measures needed for genuine development. In 1968 the United Nations was already drawing the international community's attention to the need to consider both aspects of the problem, though one has the feeling that no real progress has been made since then.
5. The Monterrey Consensus, although strongly focused on the means whereby development aid can be rendered more effective, makes no mention of migration, although **financial transfers from migrants** to their country of origin represent considerable sums – in excess of public aid in some cases. Making use of such remittances under arrangements that provide incentives and security could be a powerful driver of development, in conjunction with foreign direct investment and the support of foreign sources of funding. This is the message that we conveyed to participants at the Conference, as well as in all bilateral talks held on that occasion.
6. Shortly thereafter, at the Annual World Bank Conference on the Economics of Development and in the ECOSOC framework, IOM clearly promoted the idea that **migration cannot be sidelined when analysing the economic performance of various countries, or social development**. This message was shared not only with the representatives of member countries of these two bodies, but also with other international organizations, and I shall revert to this subject in connection with partnerships that IOM could develop.

7. This **institutional line of action** was pursued at the last Summit of Heads of State and of Government of ACP States at Nadi, Fiji. In four paragraphs that had been the subject of arduous discussions, the Final Declaration mentions the concerns of all these countries over the measures being taken by most developed countries, in particular countries of the European Union with regard to migration. It was the first time that these matters were being so clearly addressed at this level, in close connection with capacity-building issues and the need for specific support to the social sectors.

8. Lastly, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, IOM put forward its understanding of the linkages between migration and sustainable development by recalling the need for an endogenous approach that would mobilize the national community in each country, including the members of the diaspora, though preserving their dual status.

9. Once again, I would like to underscore the need to consider such linkages, as **migration issues are cross-cutting and universal**. This is undoubtedly one of the reasons for the questioning mentioned by the Director-General. Despite the initial difficulties, gender-related, and on another plane, environmental issues, have gradually placed their imprint on all development cooperation approaches, and now receive special attention in operational programmes. This should be thrust of our joint endeavours, so that migration can be taken into account in a systematic and coordinated manner.

10. **A balanced approach must be simultaneously vigilant and humane**, and must embody all the complex parameters of migration movements.

11. This brings me to the second point I wished to raise before you, which is that **human capital flows are having a considerable impact on development prospects**. Most countries believe that the enhanced management of these flows is indispensable to improved macro-economic performances at the various levels, namely the national, regional and international levels. It is common knowledge that the countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America are suffering more from the consequences of human capital flows than the industrialized countries.

12. Our common challenge is to find a holistic and comprehensive method of human resource management. **What should be done to ensure better retention of qualified professionals in their own countries?**

13. What should be done to ensure that countries of origin and host countries alike benefit from the skills of qualified professionals in the diasporas, both quantitatively and qualitatively?

14. How can the diasporas be more closely involved in developing their countries?

15. Undoubtedly by improving wage systems, conditions of work and the applicable regulations, while recognizing the role and the specific contribution of qualified professionals as players in social and economic development.

16. More efficient international cooperation calls for capital movements from industrialized countries toward developing countries. It is imperative to strike **a balance between the demand for human capital flows** from Africa, Asia and Latin America toward the rich countries, **and foreign direct investment**.

17. Qualified migrants are indeed in a position to support the development of their country of origin by **transferring their skills** (using formulas that do not entail renunciation of their acquired rights), and it would be paradoxical for developed countries not to participate in programmes of this kind. After all, **the imbalance between the wage and social conditions that they are able to offer to the elites, and the reality in developing and transition countries is the primary cause of migration movements involving these categories of persons.**

18. This imbalance is the main factor underlying the brain drain, and as I just said, one cannot simultaneously hold the developing countries to account for their problems of economic takeoff and bad governance, while consciously luring away their best human resources by means of statutory and financial incentives.

19. With the support of development agencies, greater impetus should be given to national and regional poverty reduction and conflict prevention strategies so as to offer real incentives to qualified professionals from Africa, Asia and Latin America to return and become integrated in their country of origin just after completing their studies in industrialized countries. Such measures would be conducive to macro-economic stability and the reduction of investment-related risks thanks to improved economic management.

20. Up to now, **the tendency has been to divorce human capital from global trends in resource flows.** Regrettably, the general discussion is focused on capital flight rather than flows of human capital from non-industrial to industrial countries, and this is surely where IOM has a key role to play in terms of disseminating information and promoting discussions with the entities concerned.

21. This brings me to the third aspect of my statement, namely **partnerships** with all the entities concerned by this problem. Of course, IOM is already working in close conjunction with some natural partners in the field. Although I cannot name them all, I would nevertheless like to mention the United Nations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the International Labour Office, with which we hold regular consultations, as the Director-General has informed you.

22. The work of many NGOs also commands respect and we must certainly continue and step up the cooperation that we have started with many representatives of civil society, based on respect for our respective identities. As an intergovernmental organization, we must ensure that our action reflects the main lines laid down by our Council, but we have everything to gain by instituting a facility for regular coordination with the NGOs active in this sector.

23. That would make for information sharing as well as the settlement of any differences by means of dialogue. In effect, we would like to avoid the reoccurrence of recent acts of vandalism carried out against some of our offices by groups which prefer other modes of action. This aspect of our strategy of opening up to the outside seems to me to be very important for the months ahead.

24. We have also developed the regional dialogues, whose importance emerges clearly in the regulation of information and the sharing of practices, though utilizing existing structures.



25. I shall not be going into these processes again, except to point out the desirability of having a non-binding forum for coordination when a region is hit by a serious crisis, as is the case in West Africa today. The possibility for dialogue does exist, proof of which is the participation of high-level experts from all the countries of the Economic Community of West African States in the first jointly organized IOM/ECOWAS workshop.

26. This regional-level action is very important, and we are striving to enhance this component in all our initiatives and programmes. Accordingly, among other things, a framework agreement is now ready for signature with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and with the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States (CEN-SAD).

27. The existence of these instruments broadens our scope for action and lends credibility to our initiatives, especially in those regions where we are still not very well known, except through our “historical” activities. This means above all being consistent with ourselves and, in fulfilling our mandate, striving towards the greatest possible degree of adherence to the main guidelines set by our Member States, in which concerted action and the sharing of information and practices are constants.

28. We also need to work with credible technical partners and **to incorporate our thinking into more global action plans.** This is the primary justification, for example, of our partnership with the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) or with the Development Research Institute (DRI), which provide us with their expertise under joint projects. We also wish to play our part in continental processes such as NEPAD or regional ones such as MERCOSUR and ASEAN, mindful of the significance of migration flows in the economies of Latin America, Asia or Africa.

29. Personally, I am a strong believer in the **pooling of skills and respect for the terms of reference of each player.** Accordingly, the Ministers of Health meeting in Harare have just entrusted WHO and IOM with devising and making available to them the most precise possible census of qualified health personnel practicing either in another country in the region or in a developed country. WHO is obviously responsible for steering this task, whose final outcome is clearly intended to foster better public-health policy performances in this region, while IOM contributes its expertise in approaching the diaspora and gathering this type of data amongst the migrants concerned.

30. The more efficient and better known these partnerships – of which I have cited only a few examples – the greater will be IOM’s gain in credibility with regard to its policy of rational diversification launched some years ago.

31. I shall end by recalling the absolute necessity of collaboration and dialogue at all times with our Member States, whether about institutional matters such as the future of the organization, or more operational ones such as devising programmes for intervention in our spheres of competence.

32. **Only the appropriate adaptation by national political authorities and the technical or administrative bodies concerned can guarantee the satisfactory implementation of the various projects.** There have been instances in the past when insufficient information exchange has led to misunderstanding. This has been the case in particular when budgetary constraints

arising from insufficient or tardy funding have made it necessary to contemplate measures as extreme as suspending activities or even closing a national office.

33. The recent discussion in the Subcommittee on Budget and Finance (SCBF) was ample proof of the difficulties bound up with budget decisions and the “project-oriented” nature of most field posts makes such adjustments inevitable in certain circumstances. My profound conviction is that the closure of an office, even if due to financial constraints, holds implications that far outstrip such constraints and I would urge that **holding solutions** be examined in conjunction with the country concerned in order to avoid such an extreme, which is always damaging to future cooperation.

34. It is obviously much easier to mobilize funding from the international community in emergency situations than for supporting a long-term development process, given both the recurrent financial outlays and the time lag needed in order to gauge impact. This is the true merit of the team working on the “migration and development” aspect of IOM activities and whose efforts I take this opportunity to commend.

35. IOM has resolutely embarked on the path of **strengthening its advisory and expertise capabilities vis-à-vis member States**, and I believe that it is important to show our determination to stand by the developing and transition countries.

36. **The continuation of the 1035 Facility is in accordance with this**, and I am gratified by the attention that it is receiving from most of you. I am convinced that we will be proceeding as you would wish by involving the countries concerned even more closely from the outset in determining the projects selected as well as in the process of ratifying them. I would further like to suggest that we also look at the currently existing funding limits, which I believe are undoubtedly too restrictive in relation to the priorities of States.

37. This whole question will be examined at the time of the evaluation scheduled for 2003 after two years of implementation and on the principle of which we have agreed at previous meetings.

38. Given the solidarity demonstrated on a daily basis by the existence of this Facility, I feel compelled to recall the **need** for our Member States to pay their assigned contributions, which also constitute a key element of it. Within the framework of this binding obligation however, we must endeavour to find solutions best suited to the situation of countries that have fallen behind in their payments.

39. The concern with the sound management of the organization is not incompatible with a responsible examination of the possible options, and should not lead to a situation in which accession becomes tied to economic prosperity, at the risk of considerably limiting the universal mission of IOM.

40. I should like to conclude by underscoring just how much it means to me to work alongside the Director-General and with the various departments of IOM in furthering the cause of this organization and in enhancing its international credibility in its fields of endeavor. Undoubtedly, we still have some way to go, especially in the sphere of external communication, but we are also working on this together with you.