

Meeting 461
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SPEECH
OF H.E. MR. DUMITRU CROITOR, AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA TO THE UN OFFICE IN GENEVA

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the Moldovan delegation, I would like to express my gratitude to the Secretariat for the excellent organization of the 88th IOM Council works and for the prepared informative materials.

Since 2003, when the Republic of Moldova joined the IOM, it managed to organize a fruitful activity with regard to the issue of migration. In cooperation and with the support of IOM have been implemented a number of projects: in August-September 2003 was elaborated and carried out a comprehensive study regarding migration assesment in Moldova, in March 2004 as well as with the support of EU and USA was launched a project for a better border management, at the beginning of the summer this year for a better information of migrants and potential migrants a web-site was launched.

The issue of migration is always on the top of the agenda of the Moldovan authorities. The Republic of Moldova is considered by many as a country of origin, which is not exactly so. Many migrants regard our country as a country of transit or even destination.

The transparency of Eastern borders of the Republic of Moldova, namely alongside of the transdnestrian perimeter, and which are not controlled by the oficial Moldovan authorities, unfortunately, became like a "gate" through which the biggest flow of migrants are coming to or passing through.

Nevertheless, the efforts made by the Moldovan authorities are not sufficient to reduce this flow without both logistical and financial assistance of the international community. It is imperative participation of all international actors. We consider that in order to accomplish this, as a first step, it is necessary to conduct a survey which will make an assesment of the number of migrants coming from Moldova. This will allow to make a thorough analisys of migrational flows and give the possibility to exchange data with the countries involved in migrational process.

Another issue that we consider to be important is – the health of migrants. Because of the increased flow of uncontrolled migration and human trafficking it is important to take into account the health of migrants who could have a serious impact on social and demografic levels. And with the foreseen joining of our neighbouring countries to the EU in 2007, we expect an intensification of migrational flow with all consequences that might arise.

In order to settle this issue, we consider that it must be provided counselling and assistance services to migrants with regard to their physical and psychological health. The aim of these services would be meeting of the migrants specific needs, who in most cases do not have access to health care services being abroad. The main beneficiaries of these services should be undocumented migrants, victims of trafficking and migrant workers.

Also, it should be mentioned that migration doesn't affect just the adult people. Those who are looking for new better places and "commence a long and full of dangers journey" leave at home their families. Children are especially affected by this "family splits". To prevent and to diminish this impact it is necessary to create psychological and social assistance, which would give the possibility to build the awareness of children with regard to the issue of migration, especially human trafficking.

In this context an item that we see as an important one – continuous training of governmental officers dealing with the issue of migration. Organization of different workshops, seminars as well as accomplishing of new projects in the area of better informing of migrants and facilitation of their voluntary return to their homelands, which, in our opinion, will considerably diminish the migration flow of Moldovan, as well as other citizens.

Finally, I would like to express our appreciation to the International Organization for Migration for the excellent cooperation established with the Republic of Moldova, and we are committed to continue this collaboration further on.

Thank you for your kind attention.