

الجمهورية الجزائرية الديمقراطية الشعبية

RÉPUBLIQUE ALGÉRIENNE DÉMOCRATIQUE ET POPULAIRE

MISSION PERMANENTE
AUPRÈS DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES
ET DES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES
EN SUISSE



البعثة الدائمة
 لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة
والمنظمات الدولية بسويسرا

90th COUNCIL SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION

(Geneva: 29 NOV. -2 DEC. 2005)

**Algeria's Intervention
For the IOM African Group**

Geneva, 1st December 2005

Mister President,

I would like first of all, in the name of the African group, and in the name of my delegation, to express to you my warm congratulations for your election to the presidency of the present Council session. We congratulate also the members of the Bureau. And finally our congratulations go to the exiting President of the Council.

We also would like to thank M. Brunson McKinley, General Director of the IOM, and Mrs. Ndioro Ndiaye, Under-General-Director, for their guidance inspired by this Organisation.

We rejoice ourselves at the new memberships to this dynamic Institution. We salute particularly the membership of three brother countries that are the Cameroon, the Togo, and Ghana. These countries are strongly affected by the migration phenomenon and will be able to benefit from the IOM's experience in the subject.

We congratulate ourselves for the theme chosen for the present Council session and which carries on the research of a political coherence in the migratory field. The report of the Global Commission on international Migration, that was made public last October, the 5th, has also underlined the necessity for the States to reach, through their policies, a greater coherence in the migratory area.

The African continent, not only within its States, but also through the regional Organisations that represent it, is already aware of the urgent necessity to establish coherent migration policies at the national, regional and international level. For few years already, the migration question has been regularly figuring in the agenda of the directing organs of the African Union.

The African group would like to emphasize that the migratory question was integrated by several African countries in their national strategies to reduce poverty.

At the regional level, except the fact that our continent counts quite a number of regional consulting process on the migratory issues that interests the under-regions of Africa, the Conference of the Head of States and Governments, which took place during the African Union Summit, at Maputo in July 2003 has added a new clause of the Constituent Law of the African Union related to the "full participation of the African Diaspora for the construction of the African Union". A Special Unit related to the migratory issues has also been created within the African Union.

Our group is also glad to announce that the Labour and Social Affairs Commission of the African Union has adopted last April a strategic framework for an integrated policy regarding migration in Africa. This strategic framework constitutes a whole of directives to guide the Member States of the African Union in the implementation of coherent migratory policies both in the national and regional level.

Our group would like to point out finally that the New Partnership for the Development of Africa, most commonly known as NEPAD, as a strategy that praises the development of the continent, tackles the migratory issues affecting our regions through the section related to the valorisation of the human resources.

On the global level, our group estimates that the factors most likely to improve the coherence of the policies in the migratory field would be the ratification and the implementation of pertinent Conventions of the United Nations System. We think in particular of the United Nations Conventions related to the protection of human rights, including the United Nations Convention on the protection of rights of all the migrant workers and of the members of their family.

Allow me now, Mister the President, to bring on the administrative and budgetary issues the Organisation is interested in.

Regarding the issues on the IOM strategy, the African group believes that because of the importance of this question and its implications, it should be agreed to deepen the consideration on the subject. In this framework, we would like to congratulate S.E. the Ambassador of Mexico, in his quality of exiting President of the Council, for having opened the question's reflection. We think the document he elaborated constitutes a good starting point. We are particularly in favour of the elaboration of a more global approach of the issues concerning the phenomenon of the migration. We believe that the IOM constitutes a good forum to bring on such discussions. We also are in favour of a new culture of migration, of which the central aspect would be the migrant. This notion although deserves to be taken deeper and we hope for it to happen in the next few months.

We are in favour also of the establishment of new links between the administration of the IOM and the Member States, which would translate by a greater interaction. We think in particular that the Organisation should give more time to the content of the question regarding the migration. The Organisation should also make sure that the overlap between the meetings of these directing organs be avoided.

We right now bring our support to the proposition made by the Ambassador of Mexico, concerning the use of the new State Members' contributions for the

reinforcement of the Organisation administrative part of the budget. This proposition seems very pertinent to us since the principle of zero nominal growth is respected without having the Organisation deprived of profit from the additional contributions of the new Member States.

Our group encourages the IOM to harmonize its action framework with the one of the United Nations system and to promote its cooperation with the UN agencies and other international organisations.

Concerning the assigned contributions left due to the administrative part of the budget, the African group wishes to remind that initiatives have been taken from several African countries to reach a payment of their arrears of contributions *vis-à-vis* of the Organisation.

Our group wishes also to remind that Africa is currently confronted to serious challenges in the management of migration which needs a reinforcement of the bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation.

Our group believes finally that it is essential to avoid the sanctioning of the countries that already face enormous economic and financial difficulties. We thus call upon the member states of IOM to avoid considering any radical measure that is likely to have an effect contrary to the supposed one.

Regarding the programme and budget for the year 2006, our group supports the creation of a "Migration and Development" Unit within the management service of migrations. The link that exists between the migration and the development has always been emphasized by the Organisation. This is the reason why it is logical for such a Unit to appear within the Administration.

The African group strongly supports the creation of an Stranded Migrant Facility, which comes at the right time given the growing development of the number of distressed migrants. This reality is pointed out not only in the Report of the Global Commission on International Migration but also in the last Report of the IOM on the migration in the world. We would like then to congratulate the IOM, which has the merit to bring concrete responses to the new challenges that come up in the field of migration. We believe that the creation of the Stranded Migrant Facility will make it possible to respond to urgent situations.

Our group believes that the terms of appeal and of use of the Fund must, no matter what, guarantee a certain flexibility to answer in a quick and transparent manner to the needs and unexpected.

Furthermore, the African group is delighted about a good management of the 1035 Fund where the principle of equitable geographic distribution of the funds put to the disposal of the Fund 1035 is fully respected.

Our group is delighted also with the creation of a website of the Fund 1035 which provides the Member States with multiple information on the management of the Funds. We are convinced that the creation of this website will allow a better use of this Fund.

The African group calls upon the donor countries to show greater interest to the Fund 1035. In the case where these countries would have reserves for the creation of projects, the donations could eventually take the form of affected contributions for the financing of priority projects.

Furthermore, the African group takes this opportunity to remind that the ministerial Conference of the Less Advanced countries is planned the 9 and 10 February 2006 in Benin. This Conference will be about the transfer of the migrants fund and will be the opportunity to study the solutions that must facilitate and guarantee the Fund transfer in a rapid and secure manner, and at reasonable cost as well as those that must contribute to guide them more toward productive investments. A part of this Conference should be financed thanks to the Funds 1035.

The African group wishes also to remind that it fully supports the process of delocalisation led by the IOM. Because of its developing structure, the IOM has always shown, since its creation, a capacity to adapt itself to the challenges of the migratory sphere. In a mind of effectiveness, we thus support the creation of an Administrative Centre in the Western Hemisphere.

The question of Human Resources of the Organisation should require however a greater attention from the Administration's part. The African group encourages a recruitment of nationals, originated from the Members States of the IOM. Our group invites also the Administration to apply the principle of equitable geographic distribution, principle that guides the whole organisation toward a universal vocation. We hope finally that women will not be wronged in the process of recruitment by the Organisation.

The African group hopes finally that the principle of the equitable geographic representation, proportionally to the importance of the regional groups, will be respected at the nomination of the new members of the next Executive Committee of the Organisation. We encourage the new President of the Council to pursue the path drawn at the designation of the members of the Executive Committee for the year 2004-2005, on the occasion of the Council of November 2003.

I thank you.