

**Statement by the delegation of Brazil
at the 92nd Session of the Council of the IOM
Geneva, 30 November 2006.**

Madam Chair, distinguished delegates,

Brazil supports the statement made by the distinguished representative of Argentina on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Countries.

At the outset, I wish to congratulate Ambassador Najat AL-HAJJAJI and the other members of the Bureau on their election to conduct the works of this session of the Council.

I thank Ambassador Masood Khan for his work as President of the 90th Council.

Allow me to extend a warm welcome to the new Members, Republic of Montenegro and Nepal, as well as to the new observer, the Qatar Charity.

International migration has gained visibility and relevance this year. There is growing awareness that international migration is a global issue and an integral element of development. It is an issue that affects us all.

Recent developments, particularly the High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, the Iberoamerican Conference of Montevideo, as well as a number of other regional initiatives seem to be generating a new paradigm on migration.

This new paradigm should provide an integrated, holistic approach to migration, consider the push & pull factors, as well as its diversified outcomes. This new approach should take into account the interests of all countries

involved with the issue. But, first and foremost, it should focus on the rights and the well-being of the migrants themselves.

Brazil hopes that those important initiatives will also mark the beginning of a serious global cooperation on this vital issue.

We believe a first and important step was taken with the establishment of the Global Forum on Migration. This new Forum should be understood as the outcome of the common interest of many States in addressing the relationship between migration and development and their determination to pursue a global dialogue on this issue.

We hope the new Forum will address the issue of migration under a balanced, comprehensive, long-term approach.

We also recognize the crucial role of the Global Migration Group (GMG) as a “steering mechanism” to overview the implementation of the existing normative framework on international migration.

We understand that the GMG will constitute a useful means to enhance coordination and coherence among agencies. We hope that proper channels for reporting are established in order to keep the States informed of developments within the GMG.

Albeit those significant institutional developments, we believe that the complex, multi-faceted nature of international migration requires a more concrete and long-term multilateral approach for migration.

Madam Chair,

This year, the International Dialogue on Migration has been focused on Partnership in Migration: Engaging Business and Civil Society. The panels held

during the first two days of the Council meeting, contributed to enriching discussion on this very important topic. We thank all those who brought contributions for a fruitful reflexion.

The need for more engaging stakeholders, in particular NGOs and the private sector, is key to strengthening global socio-economic development and to fully exploring the benefits of migration. Dialogue and co-operation is paramount in this regard.

We all know that building partnerships is a complex task. Indeed, most issues at stake cut across different policy areas and involve diversified interests.

However, cooperation and partnership can contribute to a better understanding of the cross-cutting and multididisciplinaty aspects of migration, making it a more effective tool for development.

Madam Chair,

With regard to the discussion on the Strategy of the IOM, I would like to first welcome the consultations undertook by the former President of the Council, Ambassador Khan.

I would like also to reiterate that the discussion of the Strategy of the IOM is, for our delegation, above all, a debate on the future of the IOM in this new global scenario.

We are of opinion that the IOM can play a decisive role in promoting this new paradigm or this comprehensive approach to migration. It should be centered on providing capacity to developing countries; on ensuring respect for the human rights of migrants, irrespectively of their legal status; and on having migrants at the center of migration policies and debates.

Such an approach has to go beyond the management of migration – which is an important, but should not be the central element for tackling all aspects of such a broad and diversified phenomenon.

The strategy document of the IOM deserves full and continued discussion. I reassure you the willingness of my delegation to work closely with IOM in this regard.

Thank you”.