



**The Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt  
To the United Nations Office & International Organizations in Geneva**

**STATEMENT OF EGYPT**

**DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR SAMEH SHOUKRY**

**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF EGYPT**

**AT THE NINETY-SECOND SESSION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)  
COUNCIL**

**(GENEVA, 28 NOVEMBER – 1 DECEMBER 2006)**

**Mr. Chairman,**

**Allow me to congratulate the members of the Bureau as well as express our gratitude to H.E. Ambassador Masood KHAN of Pakistan and the members of his bureau for their excellent work during the past year. I would also like to convey our appreciation to Mr. Brunson McKINLEY the Director General for the manner in which he has been guiding the work of IOM.**

**Egypt fully aligns itself with the statement made by Morocco on behalf of the African Group. We welcome Nepal and the Republic of Montenegro as new members of the Organization. The new members will certainly contribute to strengthening cooperation on migration issue , and will be able to capitalize on the Organization's expertise. Allow me to also welcome Qatar Charity as an observer.**

**Mr. Chairman,**

**The High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development which took place in New York last September demonstrated the rise of the issue of international migration to the top of the global policy agenda. The High-level Dialogue presented a unique opportunity to identify ways and means to maximize the developmental benefits of international migration and to reduce its negative impacts. As we consider it important to continue the global dialogue on international migration and development, we see value in the United Nations Secretary General's proposal to establish a Global Forum as a follow-up to the High-level Dialogue and as a venue to discuss issues related to international migration and development in a systematic and comprehensive way. If established through a transparent and comprehensive consultative process within the multilateral framework, the proposed Forum should draw on the expertise and experience of the member organizations**

**of the Global Migration Group and in, particular , the International Organization for Migration.**

**Mr. Chairman,**

**The focus of this year’s International Dialogue on Migration on the theme “Partnerships in migration –Engaging Business and Civil Society” is a relevant topic. It provides a continuation of the discussions which took place during last year’s International Dialogue on Migration on the theme “Towards Policy Coherence on Migration” which reflected a need to involve non-governmental actors in the migration policy dialogue. The invitation of civil society and private sector representatives by the U.N. General Assembly to participate in the preparations and proceedings of the High-level Dialogue was an expression of the important role that non-governmental stakeholders can play in maximizing the developmental benefits of international migration and in reducing its negative impacts. The second meeting of the IOM Director General’s Business Advisory Board held in Cairo in May 2006 acknowledged the private sector’s role in international migration management, and identified major areas of focus, such as labour migration, circular migration and links with countries of origin, remittances, and integration.**

**Mr. Chairman,**

**The important ideas expressed by H.E. the Ambassador of Mexico as former Chairman of the Council in CRP. 18 entitled “IOM : Current and future trends on international migration: Towards a new culture on migration”, constitute a good basis for discussions on IOM’s strategy. Egypt welcomes renewed efforts to update the Organization’s strategy. We are of the view that the consultations to update IOM’s strategy should be based on seeking agreement on a single document comprising all three elements covered by**

**CRP. 18 i.e. strategy, institutional framework, and programme and budget.**

**We appreciate the Administration's efforts to address the issue of outstanding contributions to the Administrative part of the Budget while maintaining sound financial management of the Organization. It is our view that any suggestions to withdraw the Organization's services or close its offices in developing countries with outstanding contributions should be rejected as this would be penalizing the countries that are mostly in need of such services.**

**Let me conclude by reiterating Egypt's interest in continuing to actively participate in deliberations and discussions with respect to IOM's policies and activities.**

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman.**

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