



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

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STATEMENT

BY

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**Madam Chairperson,  
The Director General for IOM,  
Deputy Director General for IOM,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

1. Allow me, first of all, to join previous speakers in extending my sincere congratulations to you and to other members of the bureau for your well deserved election to steer the work of the 92<sup>nd</sup> session of the Council of the IOM. I am confident that under your wise guidance, the deliberations of this meeting will be crowned with great success. I should also like, on behalf of my delegation to congratulate the new members to our organization who have added to our ever extending family of nations. Let me also associate my remarks with the statement made by the distinguished Representative of Morocco on behalf of the African Group.

2. **Madam Chairperson**, this Council takes place at the time when the issue of migration across international borders is being structurally linked to the issue of global development. This has been the major outcome of the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York from 14 to 15 September 2006. Existing global inequities, especially between North and South, and the inability of many developing countries to provide adequate and decent employment opportunities for their people as a result of these inequities, contribute greatly to cross-border migration flows. Migration, therefore, has a synergistic relationship with the South's development prospects. It can provide positive developmental benefits but also, if not harnessed well, may result in further developmental challenges.

3. **Madam Chairperson**, a lot has been accomplished since we met here last year in an endeavor to ensure Migration Management systems around the globe ply their rightful role in our respective government structures. Both at country, bilateral and regional levels, migration related issues have been brought to a higher plane as globalization phenomenon continues to impact on all walks of life. Thus far, in both the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to which Tanzania belongs, significant progress has been registered. For instance, in the EAC region steps are at an advanced stage to widen the membership which will soon see the Republics of Rwanda and Burundi joining the bloc. A fast track process for the realization of a federation was launched by early October 2006 within the three founding members (Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania) and it is progressing well. It is expected when finalized, this process will have tremendous impact on migration trends within the region and beyond.

4. At this juncture, let me pay tribute to the IOM leadership for its generous support to the Capacity Building Project on Migration Management for East Africa Phase I, which was successfully concluded in July 2006. Training and provision of equipment were the hallmarks of this phase evidenced by a big number of our staff members being exposed to the usage of ICT in our daily operations. For Tanzania, the towering monument of this project has been the completion of refurbishing works to buildings intended to house the Immigration Training Facility at Moshi Municipality in Kilimanjaro region, the first of its kind since our Independence in 1961. IOM contributed more than USD 140,000 to the refurbishing works which has greatly boosted our local contributions. The facility is intended for advanced Migration Management courses, which will equip the target groups with skills to manage entry points, district and regional/provincial offices as well as various departmental sections and units. Regular migration functional subjects such as document examination, profiling, patrols etc. will also be taught in a more comprehensive and interactive manner.

Similarly we will introduce foreign languages training component to equip our officers with effective communication skills to enable them to interact easily and communicate with customers who are our potential tourists, investors and entrepreneurs to boost our economy and culture. We have already submitted a request to the IOM to assist us in the startup period with at least seconding to the Institute a training specialist who together with our own officers will slowly but surely lead the institute into a centre of excellence in Migration Management Studies in East and Central Africa leading into certification recognized by our National Accreditation Authorities.

In the same token, let me also submit the Government of Tanzania`s humble request to the IOM to continue to support these efforts to the fruition, that is, the eventual launching of the Institute by early next year.

5. The normalization of security in Burundi and now in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has made it possible for the return of some of most of the refugees from refugee hosting countries, including Tanzania and it is our hope that such repatriations could be enhanced and sustained so that we can concentrate on economic migratory flows.

6. **Madam Chairperson**, I would like to inform the Council that within the SADC region, remarkable progress has been recorded with regard to facilitation of free movement of people. In this context, during the SADC Summit, held in Maseru, Lesotho in August 2006, Tanzania joined other members of the SADC region to sign the Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons in the region. This will, in effect, enhance closer cooperation and integration in the region. Modalities of implementing the protocol will be among the agenda items for the forthcoming meeting of SADC Immigration Chiefs to be held in Tanzania towards the end of January 2007. It is equally important to share with this

august body the news that in May 2006 Tanzania ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols. The Government is working towards enacting a law on Trafficking in Persons.

7. **Madam Chairperson**, the globalization phenomenon has continued to influence both state and non-state actors in all spheres of life. Trade patterns that emanate from discussions within the World Trade Organization have had negative impact on small, underdeveloped nations with the result that regional integration is an indispensable cushion to enable us absorb some of the shocks. We in the Migration Management field earn the wrath of the public when negative elements in the society like drug or human trafficking and illicit trade in arms take place in or through our nations to fuel civil wars and social disorders. In this era we can hardly be expected to manage orderly migration if we are not enabled singularly and collectively to address migration challenges. We call upon all governments and secretariats of regional integration or economic blocs to put migration issues on their priority lists.

Our experience in Africa is that migration issues and the departments in particular are marginalized when national or regional issues are discussed. Sometimes, other law enforcement organs are given pre-eminence over the migration ones. We passionately appeal to all concerned that this attitude should change now and the sooner the better. There is no way globalization related matters can be considered without alluding to movement trends which are the subject matter of Migration Management. Indeed building regional blocs without taking into account Migration Management is to put the cart before the horse.

8. **In conclusion**, Madam Chairperson, this past one year has been both interesting and challenging in the Management of Migration issues. The challenge is how to harness the experience in a manner that will effectively address the bottlenecks to smooth movement of persons, goods and services. Since we cannot re-invent the wheel of globalization, let us use this gathering to chart out ways of how we can share skills, experience and render assistance particularly to developing countries so that problems like terrorism and other cross-border crimes are nipped in through proper management of migration around the World. This way the organization will play a pivotal role in normalizing relations among nations and contribute to stability and peace in this troubled planed.

**I thank you, Madam Chairperson.**