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29 July 2008**

NINETY-SIXTH SESSION

**APPLICATION BY THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

* Reason for revision: change of session number and date

**APPLICATION BY THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

1. In a letter dated 10 December 2007, a copy of which is appended as Annex I, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia made a formal application for his country to be accorded observer status at meetings of the IOM Council. The Director General's reply, dated 17 December 2007, is appended as Annex II. An appropriate item will be included in the provisional agenda of the Ninety-sixth Session of the Council.
2. This matter falls under rule 10 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council which provides that the Council may admit, upon their application, non-member States as observers at its meetings.
3. An appropriate draft resolution will be submitted to the Council when this matter comes up for decision.

Annex I

**LETTER DATED 10 DECEMBER 2007 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

Sir,

I have pleasure in expressing to you our appreciation of the major role that the International Organization for Migration is playing in monitoring migration-related issues at the international level. I also wish to refer to the excellent relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and your Organization.

With a view to further enhancing those relations and cooperation with your Organization, I am transmitting to you the desire of my country's Government for admission to membership, with observer status, of the International Organization for Migration. I trust that you will take the necessary measures to complete the procedure for admission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to membership of your Organization with observer status.

[Formal close]

Annex II

**LETTER DATED 17 DECEMBER 2007 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION
TO THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 10 December 2007, informing me of the desire of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to seek observer status in the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In this regard, I shall take the necessary action for inscription of your Government's request on the agenda of the next session of the IOM Council, to be held in 2008. A document formally presenting the application of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will be distributed to all IOM Member States and Observers in due course.

It gave me great pleasure to receive your Government's request for observer status, as well as your appreciation of the major role IOM is playing in migration-related issues at the international level. Allow me therefore to express our deep satisfaction at the prospect of a closer relationship developing between IOM and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

[Formal close]