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NINETY-SEVENTH (SPECIAL) SESSION

APPLICATION BY THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORGANIZATION

**APPLICATION BY THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORGANIZATION**

1. In a letter dated 1 April 2009, the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago applied for membership in the International Organization for Migration. A copy of the letter and of the Director General's reply, dated 19 May 2009, are annexed.
2. In accordance with Article 2 (b) of the Constitution, the Council is required to make a decision regarding the application of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for membership and the rate of its contribution to the administrative requirements of the Organization, which the Director General recommends should be assessed at 0.0290 per cent of the total contributions required from Member States to the Administrative Part of the Budget.
3. An appropriate draft resolution will be submitted to the Council for consideration.

Annex I

**LETTER DATED 1 APRIL 2009 FROM THE
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the relationship established between the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago has participated in several IOM activities as a non-member State since April 2005. In June 2006, the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago agreed to a *Technical Cooperation Plan* which facilitated the conduct of several training programmes and initiatives proposed by the IOM in an effort to strengthen the professional capacity of government officials who deal with migration matters. The parties also concluded an Agreement concerning the *Legal Status of the International Organization for Migration in Trinidad and Tobago* which resulted in the establishment of an IOM office in Port of Spain in December 2006. This office was closed in September 2008 following the completion of the abovementioned work programme.

The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago has benefited substantially as a non-member from the close relationship established with the IOM, since affiliation with the Organization has contributed significantly to the enhancement of the national migration management system of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Consequently, in an effort to continue and further strengthen the partnership forged between the parties, I have the further honour to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago now applies for membership in your Organization in accordance with the provisions of Article 2, paragraph (b) of the Constitution of the IOM.

The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago also accepts the Constitution of the IOM with the amendments of November 24, 1998 made therein, as well as the obligations resulting from membership in the Organization, and therefore further requests that this application for membership be considered during the Special Session of the IOM Council scheduled for June 24 to 25, 2009.

The Regional Representative of the IOM for North America and the Caribbean has informed that the assessment rate for Trinidad and Tobago would be 0.0290 per cent of the Organization's 2009 administrative budget. Should the application for membership be accepted, the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago undertakes to satisfy its contribution prorated from the period of admission.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter of great importance to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

[Complimentary ending]

Annex II

**LETTER DATED 19 MAY 2009 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION
TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 1 April 2009 in which you inform me that the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago wishes to become a Member of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in accordance with Article 2, paragraph (b), of the Constitution.

I note that your Government accepts the Constitution of IOM, in accordance with its constitutional processes, as well as the obligations resulting from membership, and that it undertakes to make a financial contribution to the administrative requirements of the Organization, the rate of which will be agreed upon by the IOM Council and your Government.

I am confident that your Government's application will be received with satisfaction by the Member States of IOM and would like to express my deep gratification at this further strengthening of the already close and cordial relationship between Trinidad and Tobago and IOM.

I take pleasure in informing you that the Ninety-seventh (Special) Session of the Council, at which your Government's application will be submitted to the Member States of IOM for approval, will be held in Geneva, from 29 to 30 June 2009.

A document formally presenting your Government's application for membership will be distributed to all Member States. You will receive a copy of it, together with further details concerning the Council session and the procedure for consideration of your country's application.

[Complimentary ending]