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NINETY-NINTH SESSION

**REPORT ON THE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Geneva
25 June 2010

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REPORT ON THE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The Executive Committee convened for its Hundred and seventh Session at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Friday, 25 June 2010. One meeting was held. The session was opened by the outgoing Chairperson, H.E. Mr. A.M. Do Nascimento (Angola).
2. The session was attended by representatives of the following members of the Executive Committee: * Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Congo, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Nepal, the Netherlands, Panama, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America.
3. In addition, the following Member States were represented by observers: * Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Finland, Gabon, Honduras, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES AND OBSERVERS

4. The Executive Committee took note that the Director General had examined the credentials of the representatives of and observers for Member States and found them to be in order.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

5. H.E. Ms. Angélica Navarro (Plurinational State of Bolivia) and H.E. Ms. E. Nee-Whang (Ghana) were elected Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson respectively, by acclamation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

6. The Executive Committee adopted the agenda set out in document MC/EX/702.

* See Final List of Participants (MC/EX/707).

STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

7. The Director General presented an overview of IOM's operations in 2009 (available at www.iom.int). The global financial crisis had hit migrants and their families hard, resulting in declining job opportunities, rising unemployment and a 6 per cent decrease in remittances. Migration had become a global megatrend brought about by a fall in population in the North and a surge thereof in the South. Climate change had caused dramatic upheavals worldwide, further spurring migration. There were some 1 billion migrants in the world, including 214 million international migrants and 740 million internal migrants, many of which were internally displaced persons.

8. Other trends included new migration destinations, a focus on migrants' rights and new migration schemes such as integration, circular migration and temporary migration.

9. Two countries, Namibia and Trinidad and Tobago, had joined the Organization in 2009 and two States had already submitted applications for membership in 2010, namely Lesotho and the Central African Republic.

10. IOM expenditure stood at more than USD 1 billion, 96 per cent of which had been spent on projects, and 4 per cent under the Administrative Part of the Budget. The Organization had the lightest bureaucracy and the smallest budget in Geneva, despite expanding membership and operations. The number of projects had nearly quadrupled since 1990, to over 2,300 in 2009. In terms of expenditure, projects in Latin America and the Caribbean ranked highest, followed by Asia and Oceania, and Europe, whereas the largest number of projects had been carried out in Europe, Africa and Asia. The bulk of operational expenditure lay in movement, emergency and post-crisis migration management, and in regulating migration.

11. The Organization was supported worldwide by a staff of more than 7,250 people at 450 offices, up from 430 in 2008. Although women represented 43 per cent of total staff, not enough women occupied mid- and high-level positions, and efforts should be made to remediate that situation.

12. Technical cooperation had expanded during 2009, with governments aiming to build capacity in their efforts to manage migration. This included the operation of the African Capacity-building Centre in Moshi, United Republic of Tanzania, border management projects and identity management.

13. Another growth area was migration management services. IOM assisted 35,000 returnees per year, and demand was growing. Labour migration and facilitated migration activities were expanding as well, with some 250,000 health assessments carried out in 2009.

14. Migration policy and research was another important area. Some 49 publications had been produced in 2009. The *World Migration Report 2010* would be available at the Ninety-ninth Session of the Council in autumn, with future issues to be published once a year in English, French and Spanish. Another upcoming publication was a Migration Profile on Colombia. He invited participants to read the *Migration Initiatives Appeal 2010*, copies of which would be handed out at the meeting.

15. The 1035 Facility, with USD 6 million at its disposal, had supported 50 projects in 62 countries.

16. One of the greatest challenges before the Director General lay in informing the public. With so much misinformation and ignorance about migrants, it was the Organization's duty to set the record straight. Another challenge was the need to position IOM among the leaders in migration. Opportunities to adopt a leading role included the annual Global Forum on Migration and Development and the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, which would take place at the sixty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2013 and would discuss the achievements of the Global Forum.

17. On 22 June 2010 letters had been sent by the Chairperson of the Council to 67 Member States asking them to ratify the 1998 constitutional amendments.

18. In conclusion, the Organization had grown steadily throughout 2009, despite the global financial crisis. The Administration was committed to working closely with Member States to ensure that IOM would continue to be properly equipped, funded and positioned to serve their needs.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE YEAR 2009

19. The Chairperson drew attention to documents MC/2294 (Report of the Director General on the Work of the Organization for the Year 2009) and MC/EX/L/179, the relevant draft resolution.

20. Several members of the Executive Committee and one observer recognized the importance of the Report of the Director General and praised him for his leadership and excellent work in the light of the protracted economic crisis. It was even more commendable against a backdrop of shrinking budgets and growing workloads. Notwithstanding, two members said that they had received the lengthy report only two days before the meeting, making it impossible to review it with the desired thoroughness. They requested that in future the Report should be issued in a timely manner.

21. The delegation of Italy announced that its Government had restarted the process of ratifying the Organization's constitutional amendments.

22. The Philippines said that it attached special importance to its relationship with IOM. It had many lessons to learn and remained open to a constructive dialogue, sharing a common interest with the Administration to promote a balanced portrayal of migration.

23. The Director General thanked the delegations for their support and apologized for the late delivery of the French and Spanish versions of the Report. Its length had posed a problem for translation, for which resources were limited, hence the delay. Efforts would be made to ensure that delegations would receive such reports well in advance of scheduled meetings. With those considerations in mind, the *World Migration Report 2010*, for example, had been shortened to allow time for translation and made more user-friendly.

24. The Executive Committee took note of the members' comments and adopted Resolution No. 125 on the Report of the Director General on the Work of the Organization for the Year 2009 (MC/2294).

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

25. The Executive Committee had before it the Financial Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2009 (MC/2293), the relevant section of the Report of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance on the Sixth Session (MC/EX/705), the Report of the External Auditors on the Accounts of IOM for the Financial Year 2009 (CRP/30) and the draft resolution on the Financial Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2009 (MC/EX/L/180).

26. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Administration had informed the Member States at the Standing Committee's Sixth Session that combined expenditure under the Administrative and Operational Parts of the Budget had amounted to USD 1.027 billion in 2009, or slightly more than in 2008. In line with the Member States' decision, USD 1 million of additional Discretionary Income had been placed in the Discretionary Income reserve.

27. The Administration had drawn attention to the three contingent liabilities outlined in the Financial Statements: income tax liability in respect of IOM staff living in France, co-funding for projects financed by the European Commission, and the bank account that held funds for one of the projects administered by IOM on behalf of the Government of Guatemala and which had been frozen as a result of a court ruling.

28. A representative of the External Auditors (Office of the Auditor General of Norway) had informed the Standing Committee that, in the External Auditors' opinion, the Financial Statements presented a true and fair view of the Organization's resources and expenditures.

29. The Standing Committee had recommended that the Executive Committee approve the Financial Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2009.

30. The Executive Committee adopted Resolution No. 126 on the Financial Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2009.

REVISION OF THE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2010

31. The Executive Committee had before it the Revision of the Programme and Budget for 2010 (MC/EX/703), the Programme and Budget for 2010 (MC/2281 and MC/2281/Amdt.1), the relevant section of the Report of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance on the Sixth Session (MC/EX/705) and the draft resolution on the Revision of the Programme and Budget for 2010 (MC/EX/L/181).

32. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Administration had informed the Member States that the Administrative Part of the Budget remained unchanged at CHF 39,388,000. The Administration had identified savings of CHF 406,000 in order to reduce planned expenditure to that amount.

33. The Operational Part of the Budget had risen by USD 254.8 million to USD 896.4 million, increasing the likelihood that the Discretionary Income target of USD 41 million would be met.

34. Having examined document MC/EX/703 in detail, the Standing Committee had recommended that the Executive Committee approve the Revision of the Programme and Budget for 2010.

35. The Executive Committee adopted Resolution No. 127 of 25 June 2010 on the Revision of the Programme and Budget for 2010.

ASSESSMENT SCALE FOR 2011

36. The Executive Committee considered the adjustment of the IOM assessment scale for 2011 proposed in document MC/EX/704 and the relevant section of the Report of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance on the Sixth Session (MC/EX/705).

37. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Standing Committee had been informed that the assessment scale for 2011 had been fully equated to the United Nations assessment scale. The adoption of a new assessment scale in the United Nations had resulted in changes to the assessment rates of IOM Member States.

38. The Standing Committee had recommended that the Executive Committee adopt the scale of assessment for the 2011 Administrative Part of the Budget shown in column 3 of the annex to document MC/EX/704, and that the Executive Committee review the matter of the assessment scale for 2012 in May 2011.

39. One representative, pointing to the financial constraints under which IOM operated, said that it was incumbent on the Member States to ensure that the Administrative Part of the Budget was properly funded; he therefore had no difficulty in accepting the slight increase in the amount of his country's assessed contribution. In other organizations, members sometimes delayed payment of their assessed contributions on what he considered to be flimsy grounds, especially in cases where they benefited from the services of the organization concerned in amounts that far exceeded the small contribution due.

40. The Executive Committee approved the IOM assessment scale for 2011 as described above and invited the governing bodies to review the assessment scale for 2012 in the spring of 2011.

REPORT ON OTHER ITEMS ARISING FROM THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMMES AND FINANCE

41. The Executive Committee continued to examine the Report of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance on the Sixth Session (MC/EX/705).

Outstanding contributions to the Administrative Part of the Budget

42. The Executive Committee had before it the Status Report on Outstanding Contributions to the Administrative Part of the Budget (SCPF/42).

43. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Standing Committee had been informed that some Member States had made payments towards their arrears, but that a

significant number remained subject to Article 4 of the Constitution. The Standing Committee had taken note of the situation and of the efforts made by some States to pay their outstanding contributions and had urged all those in arrears to make every effort to pay as soon as possible or to negotiate a repayment plan with the Administration.

44. The Administration added that, since the Standing Committee's Sixth Session, 12 Member States had made payments: Belgium, Chile, Finland, Ghana, Italy, Kenya, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Poland and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Halfway through the year, roughly CHF 22 million remained outstanding for 2010, or half of the total amount. This was a matter of serious concern. Nineteen Member States remained subject to Article 4 of the Constitution, and 11 Member States had negotiated and were implementing repayment plans. Member States in arrears were urged to work with the Administration with a view to finding a solution.

45. The Director General pointed out that the repayment plans were straightforward and flexible. Repayments could be spun out over up to 15 years and could be made in local currency, in which case they would be used locally. A further advantage for Member States concluding a repayment plan and paying the first instalment, as well as the current year's assessment, was that they became eligible for funding under Line 2 of the 1035 Facility. He would continue to work with the Director of the Department of Resources Management on arrears and would report on developments to the Ninety-ninth Session of the Council in November 2010. At that time he also hoped to present the Member States with additional information on cost savings at Headquarters and in the Field.

46. The Executive Committee took note of document SCPF/42 and endorsed the Standing Committee's conclusions.

Support for developing Member States and Member States with economy in transition – 1035 Facility

47. The Executive Committee had before it the reports on support for developing Member States and Member States with economy in transition (SCPF/40 and SCPF/41).

48. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Administration had highlighted that, as in previous years, it had made every effort to manage the 1035 Facility in an equitable manner across the different geographical regions. Several representatives had underscored the usefulness of 1035 Facility projects, which were carried out using existing implementing criteria and guidelines. They had thanked the Member States that had made voluntary contributions to the Facility and encouraged others to follow suit.

49. The Standing Committee had taken note of documents SCPF/40 and SCPF/41.

50. The Executive Committee took note of documents SCPF/40 and SCPF/41.

Exchange of views on items proposed by the membership

51. The Rapporteur of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance reported on the three subjects the Standing Committee had discussed under this agenda item.

Management of human resources

52. The Administration had recognized that IOM staff members were its greatest asset. In document SCPF/43/Rev.1 (Management of human resources in IOM), it had highlighted its efforts to identify and motivate competent staff. A staff satisfaction survey had nevertheless shown that those efforts were not always perceived as being successful, and the Administration had pledged to find solutions for the concerns raised.

53. The Director General had welcomed the positive suggestions made by the membership and said that the Administration would strive to meet the objectives of career development, gender balance and equitable geographical representation among the Organization's staff.

Project development

54. The Administration had introduced document SCPF/44 (Project development procedures in IOM) and informed the Standing Committee that projects were developed mainly by IOM Field Offices, in response to identified needs and working in close consultation with the governments concerned, migrants and donors within the framework of the IOM Constitution, Council resolutions and Strategy. A number of delegations had expressed concern on various points, including the potential impact of the structural reform process on project development procedures. The Administration had reassured them that every effort would be made to maintain the quality of project development.

Stranded migrants

55. The Administration had introduced document SCPF/45/Rev.1 (IOM's assistance to stranded migrants), which explained that the Humanitarian Assistance to Stranded Migrants mechanism and the Global Assistance Fund were the only sources of funding IOM could draw on to provide assistance to stranded migrants, a core activity under both the Constitution and the Strategy. The funds were used to cover the costs of transporting stranded migrants to their countries of origin and to come to the aid of trafficking victims and migrants vulnerable to being trafficked. The Member States had expressed strong support for both mechanisms and had been urged to contribute resources to them.

56. The Standing Committee had taken note of the three presentations by the Administration and of the observations by the Member States.

57. The Executive Committee took note of documents SCPF/43/Rev.1, SCPF/44 and SCPF/45/Rev.1, and of the Standing Committee's deliberations.

IOM budget reform

58. The Executive Committee had before it documents IC/2010/3 (Budget reform to address funding of the core structure), IC/2010/4 (Budget reform to address funding of the core structure – Resolutions and documents governing the budget structure and process) and SCPF/47 (Responses to questions from a group of Member States on IOM budget reform).

59. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that, in line with ongoing discussions to address the problem of core structure funding and taking into account the various views expressed on the issue, the Standing Committee had decided at its Sixth Session to establish a

working group, open to interested Member States, under the chairmanship of the Standing Committee Chairperson or his designated representative. The Administration had been invited to lend support to the working group's deliberations.

60. Since then, the Member States had been invited to attend the working group's first meeting, on Monday, 28 June.

61. The representative of the United States commended the Standing Committee's Chairperson for his leadership on the issue and said that his delegation looked forward to playing an active part in the working group's deliberations with a view to finding solutions.

62. The Executive Committee took note of documents IC/2010/3, IC/2010/4 and SCPF/47 and endorsed the Standing Committee's decision.

Structure reform

63. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Administration had provided a progress report on the implementation of the structure reform process and outlined the next steps to be taken. Some delegations had indicated that the Member States should play a more active part in the reform process through regular consultations.

64. The Standing Committee had taken note of the Executive summary of the structural reform implementation plan (SCPF/48).

65. The Executive Committee took note of document SCPF/48.

DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

66. Pursuant to Council Resolution No. 972 of 26 November 1997, the Executive Committee would not meet in November 2010. The next session would take place in Geneva in June 2011.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

67. The Chairperson thanked the participants for their contributions, expressing special appreciation to the Meetings Secretariat and the interpreters.