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101st SESSION

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ON THE 109TH SESSION**

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CONTENTS

	Page
OPENING OF THE SESSION	1
CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES AND OBSERVERS	1
ELECTION OF OFFICERS	1
ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA	1
PRESENTATION BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL	1
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE YEAR 2011	4
FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2011	4
REVISION OF THE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2012	4
ASSESSMENT SCALE FOR 2013	5
REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMMES AND FINANCE ...	5
(a) Working Group on Budget Reform	5
(b) Other items arising from the Report of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance	6
REAPPOINTMENT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR THE PERIOD 2013-2015	9
DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION	9
CLOSURE OF THE SESSION	9

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON THE 109TH SESSION

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The Executive Committee convened for its 109th Session at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Tuesday, 3 July 2012. One meeting was held. The session was opened by the outgoing Chairperson, Ms. Ellen S. Nee-Whang (Ghana).

2. The session was attended by representatives of the following members of the Executive Committee: Algeria, Angola, Belgium, Congo, Costa Rica, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, Panama, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, the United States of America, Zambia and Zimbabwe.*

3. In addition, the following Member States were represented by observers: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Haiti, the Holy See, India, Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Madagascar, Mauritius, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and Yemen.*

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. Ms. Ebru Ekeman (Turkey) and Mr. Enrico T. Fos (Philippines) 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/716.

PRESENTATION BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

7. The Director General made a slide presentation outlining the highlights of the Organization's work in 2011 (see www.iom.int). IOM had celebrated its 60th anniversary throughout the year, notably at the 100th Session of the Council in December. The objectives of the anniversary Council had been to promote greater IOM visibility, take stock of

* See Final list of participants (MC/EX/724).

migration advances and trends and bolster team-building efforts. It had been an historic event because 14 new Member States had joined the Organization. Membership was increasingly shifting away from donor nations to developing economies, with Africa alone now accounting for a third of IOM Member States.

8. One of the main subjects of discussion at the Council had been the continuing problem of anti-migrant sentiment evolving into anti-foreigner sentiment, reflected in political campaigns, border closures, stricter visa regimes, unhelpful public comments, stereotyping and failure to recognize the contribution of migrants to societies.

9. Simultaneous migration crises had emerged in 2011, notably in Libya, Côte d'Ivoire, Sudan, South Sudan and Somalia. He thanked governments in particular for their contributions to the handling of the Libyan crisis; lessons learned from dealing with that situation would be applied to the next humanitarian crisis. He also thanked Member States for agreeing to establish the USD 30 million Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism, which had received USD 3 million in contributions to date.

10. Much effort had gone into preparations for the September 2013 second United Nations High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. IOM had been asked to co-chair a working group of the Chief Executive Board with the United Nations Population Fund to prepare the agenda.

11. Turning to the Programme and Budget, he pointed out that IOM had not asked recently for any increase in the Administrative Part of the Budget and did not plan to do so in the Programme and Budget for 2013. Given the global financial crisis, it would not be credible to seek an increase in assessments for the coming year, but the result was that not all needs were met, and risks were being taken that might affect accountability, resulting in potentially undesirable outcomes in evaluations and audits. He would keep members apprised of the situation.

12. When it came to staff matters, security remained a problem, and staff members continued to be injured and killed in action. Human resource reforms were well under way, including the launch of the unified Staff Regulations in March 2011, 95 per cent adherence in the first phase of the Staff Evaluation System and some increased training opportunities. Of particular note was that he had been asked to coordinate the United Nations agencies on the major issue of combating sexual exploitation and abuse within the United Nations. Progress to date had been the establishment in every agency of a senior-level focal point and a plan of action to combat the problem.

13. The Audit Advisory Committee had met three times in 2011. A number of audits, assessments and evaluations had also been carried out. He reaffirmed his pledge to ensure a high level of transparency, sharing information so that both positive achievements and problems were reported.

14. Presenting a snapshot of operational highlights for 2011, he noted that the Department of International Cooperation and Partnerships had garnered strong support for the regional consultative processes worldwide, for the annual Geneva NGO Consultation and for the Global Migration Group. Under the Swiss Chair, support had also been strong for the Global

Forum on Migration and Development. The Department continued to produce IOM's flagship publication, the World Migration Report, and the Migration Profiles. Almost 800 persons from 60 countries had been trained in the elements of migration law, and a number of cooperation and status agreements had been signed.

15. Through the Department of Migration Management, the Organization continued to expand its work in migration health, research and assistance, and provision of immigration and visa support. It also continued to make progress in assisted voluntary return and reintegration programmes, focusing on helping migrants return with dignity and some financial assistance. Efforts were ongoing to counter trafficking and maintain the unique human trafficking database. Numerous activities were being conducted in labour migration and human development, including the deployment of thematic specialists to IOM's Regional Offices and increased labour migration training in a number of key countries, migrant pre-departure training in 56 countries and pre-departure orientation programmes for some of the traditional migration countries to facilitate arrival and integration.

16. In that connection, the IOM Development Fund had funded projects amounting to over USD 6 million in 60 Member States in 2011. Funding currently stood at USD 8.3 million, the goal being to reach USD 10 million by the 101st Session of the Council in November 2012. Member States were encouraged to make voluntary contributions to the Fund, which was the only money IOM had to support developing country projects.

17. The Department of Operations and Emergencies had been very active in 2011, in particular in Libya and North Africa, Sudan, South Sudan and the Horn of Africa. A particular problem had surfaced in Mali of repatriated workers returning to the same joblessness that had caused them to migrate to Libya in the first place, and the situation in Somalia had prompted IOM to open a Country Office in Mogadishu in February 2012 and to scale down the Somalia mission in Nairobi. A little-known area in which IOM had developed its activities in 2011 was the restoration of property to owners and reparations for victims of fighting. In that respect, IOM had already established collaborative partnerships with various countries and organizations and expected those to increase.

18. The Director General then discussed the challenges facing the Organization in 2012, notably from the point of view of the three As – arrears, amendments, accession. Many countries remained in arrears; it was hoped that the outstanding amounts would be paid before the next session of the Council. Progress had been made on ratification of the amendments to the Constitution, but a further eleven ratifications were still required. Member States should speak to him and/or the Legal Counsel about clarifying and supporting the process. As to accession, although no applications for membership had been received so far, there was a possibility of additional members joining in time for the Council in November 2012. The accession of new members was important if IOM was to remain the leading international organization in migration and to ensure that as many countries as possible joined in an organized dialogue on properly, responsibly and humanely managed migration, which could only happen if they were on board.

19. In conclusion, he reminded the Committee of the three strategic objectives agreed at the IOM retreats in 2010 and 2011 – maintaining IOM as the leading international migration agency, strengthening capacity to serve migrants and Member States, and increasing public recognition of the positive contribution of migrants to societies and economies.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE YEAR 2011

20. The Chairperson drew attention to the document entitled Report of the Director General on the work of the Organization for the year 2011 (MC/2346) and to the relevant draft resolution (MC/EX/L/185).

21. The Executive Committee took note of document MC/2346 and adopted Resolution No. 131 of 3 July 2012 on the Report of the Director General on the work of the Organization for the year 2011.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2011

22. The Executive Committee had before it the Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2011 (MC/2345), the relevant section of the Report of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance on the Tenth Session (MC/EX/719), the Report of the External Auditor on the financial operations of IOM for the financial year 2011 (CRP/37) and the draft resolution on the Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2011 (MC/EX/L/186).

23. The Rapporteur of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance said that, at the Standing Committee's Tenth Session, the Administration had reported that expenditure under the Administrative Part of the Budget had amounted to USD 44.3 million in 2011, and that the year-end surplus of CHF 91,676 had been carried forward in accordance with Council Resolution No. 1077 of 4 December 2002. Expenditure under the Operational Part of the Budget had amounted to USD 1.265 billion.

24. A representative of the External Auditors (the Comptroller and Auditor General of India) had stated that, in the External Auditors' opinion, the Financial Statements presented a true and fair view of the Organization's resources, expenditures and financial position.

25. The Standing Committee had recommended that the Executive Committee approve the Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2011 (MC/2345).

26. The Executive Committee adopted Resolution No. 132 of 3 July 2012 on the Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2011.

REVISION OF THE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2012

27. The Executive Committee had before it the Revision of the Programme and Budget for 2012 (MC/EX/717), the Programme and Budget for 2012 (MC/2317), the relevant section of the Report of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance on the Tenth Session (MC/EX/719) and the draft resolution on the Revision of the Programme and Budget for 2012 (MC/EX/L/187).

28. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Administration had informed the Member States that the Administrative Part of the Budget had increased to CHF 39,769,500, in line with Council Resolutions Nos 1230 of 5 December 2011 (Addition

of contributions from new Member States to the Administrative Part of the Budget) and 1077 of 4 December 2002 (Systemic solution for the use of surplus in the Administrative Part of the Budget). The increase would be used to develop the knowledge management system and to cover the costs of producing and translating the *IOM Project Handbook*, training staff in its application and developing an online version.

29. The Operational Part of the Budget had increased from USD 615.4 million to USD 993.6 million, and was expected to increase further.

30. The Standing Committee had recommended that the Executive Committee approve the Revision of the Programme and Budget for 2012 (MC/EX/717).

31. The Executive Committee adopted Resolution No. 133 of 3 July 2012 on the Revision of the Programme and Budget for 2012.

ASSESSMENT SCALE FOR 2013

32. The Executive Committee had before it the document entitled Proposed adjustment to the IOM assessment scale for 2013 (MC/EX/718) and the relevant section of the Report of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance on the Tenth Session (MC/EX/719).

33. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Standing Committee had been informed that the assessment scale for 2013 took account of the admission of 13 new Member States in December 2011. It did not take account of the admission of South Sudan, the assessment rate for which had not been established by the United Nations. The rate for South Sudan would be assessed retroactively from 1 January 2012 as soon as it became available.

34. The Standing Committee had recommended that the Executive Committee adopt the scale of assessment for the 2013 Administrative Part of the Budget shown in column 3 of the annex to document MC/EX/718, and that the governing bodies review the matter of the assessment scale for 2014 in the spring of 2013.

35. The Executive Committee approved the IOM assessment scale for 2013 as described above and invited the governing bodies to review the assessment scale for 2014 in the spring of 2013.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMMES AND FINANCE

36. The Executive Committee continued to examine the Report of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance on the Tenth Session (MC/EX/719).

(a) Working Group on Budget Reform

37. The Executive Committee had before it the documents entitled Proposed revision and consolidation of resolutions and mechanisms guiding the budget process (MC/EX/720) and Review of the Discretionary Income projection and reserve mechanism (MC/EX/721); it also had before it the draft resolution on budget processes and mechanisms (MC/EX/L/188).

38. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Chairperson of the Working Group on Budget Reform had reported to the Standing Committee's Tenth Session on the significant progress made by the Working Group since the Ninth Session, in November 2011.

(i) Proposed revision and consolidation of resolutions and mechanisms guiding the budget process

39. The Standing Committee Rapporteur noted that the Standing Committee had examined the document entitled Proposed revision and consolidation of resolutions and mechanisms guiding the budget process (SCPF/83), which contained a draft resolution consolidating existing resolutions and mechanisms governing the budget process, with a view to aligning IOM practice more closely with that of the United Nations and other organizations, and referring to Discretionary Income and the 1035 Facility by their new names, which were Operational Support Income and the IOM Development Fund respectively. The Standing Committee had approved document SCPF/83 and recommended that it be submitted to the Executive Committee at its next session for consideration and adoption of the draft resolution, on the understanding that the latter, if adopted, would serve as the basis for preparation of the Programme and Budget for 2013.

40. The Executive Committee adopted Resolution No. 134 of 3 July 2012 on budget processes and mechanisms. That decision would be submitted for approval to the 101st Session of the IOM Council, in November 2012. The resolution should serve as the basis for preparation of the Programme and Budget for 2013.

(ii) Review of the Discretionary Income projection and reserve mechanism

41. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Standing Committee had endorsed the Working Group's proposals, set out in document SCPF/84, to make the mechanism's three-year average formula the baseline/starting point for determining the annual budget for Discretionary Income, adjustable within a range of 10 per cent, to reduce the balance of the reserve from USD 10 million to USD 5 million, and to change the name of Discretionary Income to Operational Support Income. It had recommended that those changes be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration and approval.

42. The Executive Committee approved the changes to the mechanism set out in document MC/EX/721. That decision would be submitted for approval to the 101st Session of the IOM Council, in November 2012.

(b) Other items arising from the Report of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance

(i) Exchange of views on items proposed by the membership

43. The Standing Committee Rapporteur reported on the two subjects discussed under this agenda item at the Standing Committee's Tenth Session.

Migration consequences of complex crises: Institutional and operational responses

44. The Administration had introduced the document entitled Migration consequences of complex crises: Institutional and operational responses (SCPF/80 and SCPF/80/Rev.1), which

it had drawn up with the guidance and support of Member States. A migration approach to crises could complement and strengthen existing systems for providing assistance and protection to the people concerned. Adequate financial resources were nevertheless needed for the implementation of the Organization's responses to complex crises. Some delegations had expressed concern about the reference in the document to the rights and obligations of States and had requested that the relevant paragraph be modified. The Administration had agreed to make the changes in future documents on the operational migration crisis management framework.

Social protection for migrants

45. The Administration had introduced the document entitled Social protection for migrants (SCPF/78), which was based on the definition of social protection formulated by the United Nations Development Programme and emphasized the need to incorporate social protection for migrants throughout the entire migration cycle. IOM's goal was to develop and implement, in cooperation with Member States and other partners, measures to reduce migration-related social and financial risks and to help migrants achieve their economic potential through improved health, better awareness and reduced exposure to unfair or exploitive treatment.

46. Several Member States had said that it was important for countries to provide social protection for migrants in order to enhance the benefits of migration and stressed the need for international cooperation to achieve that goal.

47. The Standing Committee had taken note of the presentations made by the Administration and of the comments of Member States.

48. The Executive Committee took note of the Standing Committee's deliberations.

(ii) Outstanding contributions to the Administrative Part of the Budget

49. In addition to document MC/EX/719, the Executive Committee had before it the Status report on outstanding contributions to the Administrative Part of the Budget (SCPF/77).

50. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Administration had reported an increase in total outstanding assessed contributions since 2010. The number of Member States subject to Article 4 of the Constitution remained high. Some of the participants had lauded the efforts made by some Member States to pay their arrears and urged the rest to follow suit. The Director General had indicated that the Administration would continue to work closely with Member States in arrears, both directly and through the Permanent Missions in Geneva, with a view to helping them settle their arrears.

51. The Standing Committee had taken note of the situation with serious concern and urged all Member States in arrears, in particular those whose contributions had been outstanding for two or more consecutive years, to make every effort to pay as soon as possible or to agree a payment plan with the Administration and to comply fully with the payment conditions.

52. The Administration added that Greece had paid an amount of CHF 294,937 on 20 June 2012 and was therefore no longer subject to Article 4 of the IOM Constitution.

53. The Executive Committee took note of the Status report on outstanding contributions to the Administrative Part of the Budget (SCPF/77) and endorsed the Standing Committee's conclusions.

(iii) IOM Development Fund

54. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Administration had briefed the membership on the funds allocated by the IOM Development Fund in 2011, the resources available to it for 2012, and the efforts made to broaden the donor base. The Director General had encouraged all Member States to contribute to the Fund, which was the only funding available to the Organization that was not tied to specific projects.

55. The Standing Committee had taken note of the documents entitled IOM Development Fund (Final report: 1 January to 31 December 2011) (SCPF/75) and IOM Development Fund (Status report: 1 January to 31 March 2012) (SCPF/76).

56. The Executive Committee took note of the information provided.

(iv) Knowledge management within IOM

57. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Administration had presented the document entitled Knowledge management within the IOM strategic framework (SCPF/79), which outlined IOM's pyramid approach to collecting and organizing data systematically, summarizing and analysing the information obtained to generate knowledge, and synthesizing that knowledge as a basis for decision-making. It had also updated the Member States on the progress it had made towards enhancing IOM's capacity to capture and share institutional knowledge and the next steps to be pursued. The Member States had commended the Administration for its work in that regard.

58. The Standing Committee had taken note of document SCPF/79.

59. The Executive Committee took note of the Standing Committee's deliberations.

(v) Update on the Field structure reform implementation

60. The Standing Committee Rapporteur said that the Deputy Director General had briefed the Standing Committee on training activities in connection with the structure reform, which were part of the coherent process for transferring responsibility for project review and endorsement to the Regional Offices. Training was also being provided directly to large Country Offices, and project development and implementation sessions had been organized for certain donors. The next steps in the structure reform process would be to develop an e-learning platform for project developers and managers and to raise funds for the development of the Project Information Management System.

61. The Standing Committee had taken note of the information provided.

62. The Executive Committee took note of the update.

REAPPOINTMENT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR THE PERIOD 2013-2015

63. The Chairperson reminded the Executive Committee that the mandate of the External Auditors expired at the end of the year and invited it to consider the document entitled Reappointment of the External Auditors for the three-year period 2013-2015 (MC/EX/722).

64. The Executive Committee recommended to the IOM Council that it reappoint the Comptroller and Auditor General of India as IOM's External Auditors for 2013 to 2015 at its 101st Session, in November 2012.

DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

65. Pursuant to Council Resolution No. 972 of 26 November 1997, the Executive Committee would not meet in November 2012. The next session would take place in Geneva in June 2013.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

66. The Chairperson thanked the participants for their contributions.