



REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

*Check against delivery*

**STATEMENT**  
**by H.E. Victor Moraru**  
**Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova**  
**at the 101<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOM Council**  
*(Geneva, 30 November 2012)*

Mr. Chairman,

Let me start by congratulating you for assuming this important task.

I would also like to extend our appreciation to the Director General, William Lacy Swing, for his insightful comments both in his report to the Council at its opening meeting and in his statement prior to the opening of this general debate.

The continuing enlargement of the IOM membership proves that IOM has become one of the most relevant and efficient international organizations. We take this opportunity to welcome the new members who joined us on this Council Session.

The Republic of Moldova aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the European Union and fully shares the views contained therein. However, please allow me to take this opportunity and briefly address some of the issues of particular concern for my country.

Mr. Chairman,

The Republic of Moldova commends IOM's dedicated work in assisting migrants all over the world. We appreciate IOM's capacity to respond flexibly to the needs of migrants. It is in this vain that my delegation supported the adoption by this Council of the resolution on the *IOM's Migration Crisis Operational Framework* which offers a blueprint for a comprehensive and sustainable approach to meeting migrants' needs *before, during and after emergencies*.

The causes of migration are varied, but the main factors relate to the economic and social conditions, whether it is translated in poverty or lack of professional opportunities.

We welcome the IOM's efforts to *expand migration management support* to Member States to reduce impediments to the movement of people across borders in order to take full advantage of the opportunities that globalization presents. To paraphrase a line from a well-known poem by Robert Frost, it is true that "good fences make good neighbours", but we need to be aware that it is not only the strengthening of our borders that will successfully manage migration.

Likewise, we support the IOM's work to facilitate labour migration and to prepare migrants for this movement through its comprehensive pre-departure orientation services and the implementation of projects designed to mobilize Diaspora communities to maximize development gains.

Let us be aware that there is an important potential of socially useful activities that migrants have provided and can continue to provide in the destination countries. Therefore, promoting the fundamental rights of migrants and their smooth integration into society and labour market shall be pursued with greater determination. In this context, we welcome the upcoming high-level conference in Austria which will explore the topic of integration and fundamental rights.

We are also encouraged by the fact that many governments increasingly think of *migration as an issue of human mobility*, creating more options for people to engage in legitimate economic activity. The renewed *EU's Global Approach to Migration (and Mobility)* is of a particular relevance in this regard.

Still in this context, we would like to stress the importance of the upcoming *2013 High level Dialogue on Migration and Development* which should advance specific cooperation between IOM and relevant UN bodies and also contribute with new ideas and proposals on how to better address the complex interdependence between migration and development and how to better mainstream migration into development agenda.

Mr. Chairman,

With the EU and IOM assistance, the Republic of Moldova has made very good progress on laying down a comprehensive basis for an efficient migration management system. Migration has increasingly well been mainstreamed into country's development policies and is on the top of Moldovan Government's agenda, determining the priorities for future development.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude both to the EU and IOM for supporting implementation, including through joint initiatives, of migration-related projects in Moldova. These projects, while addressing a wide range of migration issues, have also supported the implementation of the *EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership*.

One of the EU - IOM initiatives in regard to Moldova led to development, in the framework of the *EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership*, of an *Extended Migration Profile (EMP)*. Meant to produce better and more sustainable evidence on the migration and development nexus, the EMP widens the Government's knowledge base about migration, improves the use and smooth dissemination of existing migration information among relevant stakeholders and supports the establishment of mechanisms for regular reporting on migration-related trends.

As part of the EMP exercise, an important project is being implemented with a view to comprehensively mapping the Moldovan Diaspora. Together with the current efforts to establish a new governmental agency with a diaspora-engaging mandate, the Government will be better equipped to improve linkages with and to meaningfully support Moldovan Diaspora Associations abroad, as well to maximize the impact of Moldovan Diaspora on the country's development. It should be also stressed that the functioning of the future Diaspora agency will be supported by IOM which recently approved, for this purpose, a technical assistance project, funded through the *IOM Development Fund: Developing Capacities in Migration Management*.

Mr. Chairman,

To conclude, allow me to express my country's full support for IOM's important work. We are confident that under the Director General Swing's strong and inspiring leadership the OIM will continue to live up to the evolving challenges in the field of migration.

Thank you for your attention.