



IOM International Organization for Migration
OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

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102ND (SPECIAL) SESSION

DRAFT REPORT ON THE
102ND (SPECIAL) SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

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Rapporteur: Mr Bertrand de Crombrughe (Belgium)

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**DRAFT REPORT ON THE
102ND (SPECIAL) SESSION OF THE COUNCIL**

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The Council convened for its 102nd (Special) Session at the Centre International de Conférences Genève (CICG), on Friday, 14 June 2013, at 10.20 a.m. A single meeting was held, chaired by H.E. Mr Abdul Hannan (Bangladesh).

ATTENDANCE¹

2. The following Member States were represented:

Afghanistan	Democratic Republic	Lithuania	South Africa
Albania	of the Congo	Luxembourg	South Sudan
Algeria	Denmark	Madagascar	Spain
Angola	Djibouti	Malawi ²	Sri Lanka
Argentina	Ecuador	Malta	Sudan
Armenia	Egypt	Mauritania	Suriname ²
Australia	El Salvador	Mauritius	Swaziland
Austria	Estonia	Mexico	Sweden
Azerbaijan	Ethiopia	Morocco	Switzerland
Bahamas	Finland	Mozambique	Tajikistan
Bangladesh	France	Myanmar	Thailand
Belarus	Georgia	Namibia	Timor-Leste
Belgium	Germany	Nepal	Togo
Bolivia	Ghana	Netherlands	Trinidad and Tobago
(Plurinational	Greece	New Zealand	Tunisia
State of)	Guatemala	Nicaragua	Turkey
Bosnia and	Haiti	Niger	Uganda
Herzegovina	Holy See	Nigeria	Ukraine
Botswana	Honduras	Norway	United Kingdom
Bulgaria	Hungary	Pakistan	of Great Britain
Burkina Faso	India	Panama	and Northern
Cameroon	Iran (Islamic	Peru	Ireland
Canada	Republic of)	Philippines	United Republic of
Cape Verde	Ireland	Poland	Tanzania
Central African	Israel	Portugal	United States of
Republic	Italy	Republic of Korea	America
Chad	Jamaica	Republic of	Uruguay
Chile	Japan	Moldova	Venezuela
Colombia	Jordan	Romania	(Bolivarian
Congo	Kazakhstan	Rwanda	Republic of)
Costa Rica	Kenya	Senegal	Yemen
Côte d'Ivoire	Kyrgyzstan	Serbia	Zimbabwe
Croatia	Latvia	Sierra Leone	
Cyprus	Lesotho	Slovakia	
Czech Republic	Libya	Slovenia	

3. The European Union and the African Union were both represented by an observer.

¹ See List of participants (MC/2372).

² See paragraph 6.

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES

4. The Council took note that the Director General had examined the credentials of the representatives of the Member States listed in paragraph 2 and found them to be in order.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The Council adopted the agenda set out in document MC/2364/Rev.1.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORGANIZATION: THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME AND THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

6. The Council adopted by acclamation Resolutions Nos. 1247 and 1248 admitting the Republic of Suriname and the Republic of Malawi, respectively, as members of IOM.

7. The representative of the Republic of Suriname expressed her country's appreciation of its admission to membership of IOM and said that it looked forward to cooperating with all Member States. Migration had been fundamental to the development of the Caribbean and Latin America, whose society was composed primarily of diasporas. Migration had shaped the multicultural community in Suriname, which lived in peace, harmony and religious tolerance. The rise in global interconnectivity and mobility and its impact on development had placed migration high on the international agenda. Migration policy must be more comprehensive and balanced and globalization and increased regional integration meant that no government could single-handedly manage migration. IOM provided a forum for countries to exchange views and technical assistance in formulating migration policy in Member States. Migration was a tool for development and Suriname was committed to approaching it in a holistic way.

8. The representative of the Republic of Malawi thanked the Council for accepting the admission of his country to IOM membership, which was long overdue. In that respect, he thanked the first female President of the Republic of Malawi, H.E. Doctor Joyce Banda, for personally championing accession to such an important organization without further delay. Travel was a national phenomenon for many different reasons and Malawi was pleased that the IOM family had always worked to ensure that all forms of migration were well managed to ensure the safety and mobility of mankind. Malawi hoped to learn from all IOM members and would work tirelessly to contribute to the Organization's success.

9. The Director General welcomed the two new Member States to the Organization. The admission of Suriname meant that every country in South America was now a Member of IOM. Even before the country became a Member State, IOM had enjoyed close collaboration with the Government of Suriname, which was strongly committed to addressing the challenges and opportunities of migration and had also been involved in several capacity-building exercises. The accession of Malawi was also significant because it meant that all Member States in the Southern African Development Community were now IOM members, leaving only three countries on the African continent without membership. Malawi and IOM had enjoyed an active and productive partnership, including the recent launch of the first ever Border Management Information System at the Songwe border with the United Republic of

Tanzania. IOM was also engaged in enhancing the capacities of the country's immigration officers.

10. Several delegations congratulated Suriname and Malawi on their admission, welcomed them into the IOM fraternity and pledged their support and cooperation for a fruitful partnership within the Organization. Two speakers highlighted that both countries would benefit from IOM's experience in migration matters and one representative was sure that Malawi's membership would help to accelerate regional efforts to cooperate in managing migration flows between countries.

ELECTION OF A DIRECTOR GENERAL

11. The Chairperson informed the Council that Mr William Lacy Swing (United States of America) had been proposed for a second term of office as Director General and was the sole candidate.

12. He reminded the Council that Article 18, paragraph 1, of the Constitution specified that the Director General had to be elected by a two-thirds majority of the Council and that the term of office was normally five years but could, in exceptional cases, be less if a two-thirds majority of the Council so decided; Article 29, paragraph 2, of the Constitution stated that: "Majorities provided for in this Constitution of rules made by the Council or the Executive Committee shall refer to members present and voting", and Article 29, paragraph 3, stated that "No vote shall be valid unless a majority of the members of the Council are present"; Rule 38, paragraph 4, of the Rules of Procedure for the Council stipulated that: "For the purpose of these Rules, the phrase 'members present and voting' means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting"; Rule 45 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council stated that: "On decisions relating to individuals, a secret ballot shall be taken." However, since there was only one candidate, Rule 45 could be suspended by the Council, in accordance with Article 12, Rule 49, of the Rules of Procedure, provided that was consistent with the Constitution.

13. The Chairperson had been informed that an election by consensus or acclamation was consistent with the Constitution and had been applied in the past in the majority of similar elections held since the creation of the Organization. He understood that there was a consensus in favour of an election by acclamation. He therefore proposed that the Council proceed accordingly.

14. Mr William Lacy Swing was re-elected Director General by acclamation.

15. The Council adopted Resolution No. 1249 concerning the election of a Director General, completed with the name of Mr William Lacy Swing in the second preambular paragraph and in the operative paragraph.

16. On behalf of the Council, the Chairperson congratulated Mr Swing on his re-election for a second term of office and pledged the Council's full support and cooperation.

17. He then invited the Council to approve the contract to be concluded with the Director General, in accordance with Article 18 of the Constitution.

18. The Council adopted Resolution No. 1250 concerning the contract of the Director General.

19. The Director General expressed his profound gratitude to all members of the Council for the confidence they had shown in re-electing him to a second term of office as Director General. He pledged to continue working tirelessly to ensure that he and the Administration performed in a manner that would always merit the trust and support of members and migrants worldwide.

20. He would lead IOM over the next five years under the banner of continuity, coherence and change. In terms of continuity, he would actively pursue the successful priorities of his initial mandate, not least the three “Ps” of proprietorship, partnership and professionalism. Moreover, he would continue working with the United Nations (UN) and other partners to achieve maximum policy coherence in the areas of IOM’s mandate, innovating and seeking convergence in the areas where change was needed.

21. Coherence meant regional and global dialogue, which included IOM efforts to support the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and the post-2015 development agenda. IOM would be looking at a “high-road scenario” in the areas of migration management, migration governance, migration advocacy and migration and protection and would continue putting together the building blocks of coherence in all those areas.

22. Change must be further developed and important assessments would be carried out over the next year, including evaluating the new IOM regional structure and reviewing the IOM–UN relationship seven years on. He was confident that the Working Group on Budget Reform, with member support, would attain the goal of increasing the core budget to bring it more in line with an exponentially expanding organization ready to respond to critical unmet needs. IOM and migration was a complicated and diverse category to brand and market, largely because migrants came in many forms. A public relations drive would therefore be launched to create a more positive image for migrants and a higher profile for IOM as *the* migration agency. It was important to address the numerous obstacles to legitimate human mobility and migration and to highlight migration’s historically positive contributions to development, which required a policy of change. In that respect, each IOM department had undertaken at least one new endeavour over the past year such as the Migration Crisis Operational Framework, the International Recruitment Integrity System and the forthcoming Diaspora Ministerial Conference.

23. He assured the Council of the Administration’s commitment to continuing to serve members and migrants to the best of its ability and to ensuring that IOM retained its rightful place as *the* migration agency and the global lead organization in migration and human mobility.

24. All speakers who took the floor congratulated the Director General on his re-election. The fact that he had been re-elected by acclamation was testament to his hard work throughout his first term and to the trust and confidence that the Member States had in him and his vision for IOM. In the previous five years, he had shown himself to be a tireless advocate for migrants and the protection and promotion of their rights and well-being. Many commended him for the way in which he had steered the Organization efficiently and successfully through

a number of reform measures, making IOM one of the most dynamic, flexible and responsive international organizations. Many also welcomed the way in which the Director General had risen to the challenge of making IOM more visible and improving the perception of migrants among the global community. Several speakers praised the Organization's response to crises in recent years, including the Libyan crisis and the ongoing Syrian situation and noted that the Migration Crisis Operational Framework would be valuable in continuing efforts in that regard.

25. Many representatives said that the Director General's second term was beginning at a challenging time. Migration was a clear megatrend of the twenty-first century: the levels of movement of people in recent times had been unprecedented and, with people migrating for any number of reasons – including pleasure, economic factors, or fleeing crisis situations – there was an ever-increasing demand for the expertise, policy advice, thought leadership and services of IOM. A redoubling of efforts was needed by the Organization to strengthen coordination with key partners, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, to build capacities for responding to migration issues and to ensure that migration was high on the international agenda. In that regard, many speakers praised the Director General for having organized the forthcoming Diaspora Ministerial Conference as well as for the preparations already under way by IOM ahead of the High-level Dialogue. Such events were crucial in reinforcing IOM's role as the lead agency on migration. They also drew attention to the clear link between migration and development and would help to secure the necessary political and international will to ensure that migration was high on the post-2015 development agenda. Many delegates affirmed their desire to continue working with the Director General during his second term and supporting the Organization as it fulfilled its commitment to effective migration management.

26. Many speakers who took the floor welcomed the two new members, Malawi and Suriname, and said that the growth in membership demonstrated the growing recognition of the relevance of IOM and the importance of moving towards universality, which was a key factor in continuing to strengthen the effectiveness of the Organization.

27. The Director General expressed his sincere thanks for the outpouring of goodwill and support conveyed by Member States, which would spur him and the Administration on as they intensified their efforts to ensure that IOM served its members well. He acknowledged the work of IOM's Field staff, and paid particular tribute to those who had recently suffered a horrific attack on the Office in Kabul, Afghanistan, and to the courageous leadership of the Chief of Mission for Afghanistan and his team, who had stayed the course and ensured that the office was operational again within 24 hours. He concluded by thanking the Government of the United States of America for having nominated him for re-election as the Director General and his wife for her unfailing support.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

28. The Chairperson, thanking all those who had contributed to the success of the 102nd (Special) Session of the Council, declared the session closed at 12.50 p.m. on Friday, 14 June 2013.