

**Statement by H.E. Ambassador WU Haitao,
Head of the Chinese Delegation at the General Debate of
the 103rd Session of IOM Council**

29 November 2013

Mr. Chairman,

Director-General Swing,

The Chinese Delegation would like to congratulate H.E. Ambassador Chávez Basagoitia upon his election as Chairman of the Council, and congratulate Mr. Swing upon his re-election as Director-General of the IOM.

Today, with deepening globalization and informatization, the scale and impact of international migration is on the rise, and the flows are increasingly multi-directional. Global migration flows not only mitigate the challenges of ageing populations, but also play a positive role in poverty reduction and achieving MDGs in developing countries. Meanwhile, the legitimate rights and interests of immigrants are often neglected, and global migration governance faces new challenges.

Migration is flow of people, as well as exchange and integration of resources, technology and ideas. All countries should joint hands in managing migration to give full play to the positive role of migrants. The Chinese delegation would like to share with you three proposals:

First, strengthening international cooperation on migration and tapping its potential for development. Countries of origin, transit and destination should strengthen policy coordination and achieve a win-win solution, under the principles of shared responsibilities, equality and mutual benefit. At this critical juncture of formulating the post-2015 international development agenda, we should incorporate migration into the development agenda, taking into full account of the important role of migration in sustainable development.

Second, adopting an open and inclusive approach to migrants and promoting their rights, interests and integration. All countries should take a rational view of the effect of cultural diversity, and properly guide public perception and opinion on migrants. Migration policies should be well adjusted to safeguard the rights and interests of migrants, promote respect, understanding and integration, and create an inclusive environment for migrants.

Third, promoting rational flow of migration and improving global migration governance. With north-south and south-south flows of migration becoming more robust, capacity building for migration management in developing countries has become more essential. All countries should adopt a notion of common prosperity and shared responsibilities. Developed countries should provide financial and technical assistance to developing countries to build their capacities.

Mr. Chairman,

With rapid economic and social development, China is increasingly becoming a country of both origin and destination for migrants. In 2012, more than 83 million residents of the Chinese mainland traveled overseas, and over 54.35 million foreigners traveled to China. As China is entering

a historical stage of comprehensive and in-depth reforms, more personnel exchanges are expected. We will continuously make entry and exit formalities more efficient, facilitate normal personnel flows, better protect Chinese citizens overseas, and curb human trafficking and illegal migration activities.

China enjoys good cooperation with the IOM, the ongoing project of Capacity Building for Migration Management in China being an example. During a successful visit by Director General Swing last September, China and the IOM reached a broad range of consensus on advancing cooperation.

China is deeply concerned with the situation in Syria and commends the IOM for its efforts in helping displaced Syrians. Early this year, China provided humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees in Jordan through contribution to the IOM.

We remain committed to international migration dialogue and cooperation in promoting orderly movements of migrants around the world.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.