



MC/2385

Original: English
25 September 2013

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

COUNCIL

CONSEIL

CONSEJO

103RD SESSION

**APPLICATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

**APPLICATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

1. In a letter dated 6 August 2013, a copy of which is appended as Annex I, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) made a formal application for his Organization to be accorded observer status at meetings of the IOM Council. The Director General's reply thereto, dated 13 September 2013, is appended as Annex II. An appropriate item will be included on the provisional agenda of the 103rd Session of the Council.
2. This matter falls under rule 10 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council which provides that the Council may admit, upon their application, international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, concerned with migration, refugees or human resources as observers at its meetings.
3. An appropriate draft resolution will be submitted to the Council when this matter comes up for decision.

Annex I

**LETTER DATED 6 AUGUST 2013 FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

[Complimentary salutation]

I am glad to confirm that UNICEF will join the IOM's governing body as an observer to further engage in migration policy deliberations related to children and their families.

I would also like to reiterate UNICEF's support to IOM in its current chairmanship of the Global Migration Group (GMG), including during the second General Assembly High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development on 3-4 October.

We look forward to working closely with IOM on global protection mechanisms for unaccompanied minor children in accordance with our agreement. Ms. Susan Bissell, Associate Director, Child Protection, will be happy to discuss such cooperation in more detail with your colleagues. Furthermore, UNICEF would greatly value the resumption of the annual review of joint activities and Activity Plans between UNICEF and IOM which was established in the Memorandum of Understanding between our two organizations signed on 14 September 2006, with UNICEF's Office of Emergency Programmes.

Thank you, again, for the visibility you continue to give to children's rights and protection issues in the context of migration.

[Complimentary ending]

Annex II

**LETTER DATED 13 SEPTEMBER 2013 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION TO THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND**

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 6 August 2013 seeking observer status for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Indeed, I can only note with appreciation the relationship between the UNICEF and IOM in the field of migration, especially on global protection mechanisms for unaccompanied minor children and children victims of trafficking. I also highly appreciate UNICEF–IOM country projects focusing on the health, education and rehabilitation of communities. It is therefore my belief that both our organizations could benefit from a further strengthening of this already close and cordial relationship.

It will be possible to take the necessary action to place your request before the IOM Council during its next regular session, to be held in Geneva from 26 to 29 November 2013. An appropriate document formally presenting your application will be distributed to all Member and Observer States prior to the November 2013 Council session. You will receive a copy of this document, together with further details and procedural information concerning the Council session.

A formal invitation to attend the session, during which UNICEF's application for Observer Status is presented to the Member States, will also be sent to you.

It gives me great pleasure to receive your request for observer status. Allow me therefore to express my satisfaction at the prospect of furthering the relationship between our two organizations.

[Complimentary ending]