



International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
Organisation internationale pour les migrations (OIM)  
Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)

**C/105/23**

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## **COUNCIL**

**105th Session**

**APPLICATION BY THE AFRICAN FOUNDATION FOR DEVELOPMENT (AFFORD)**

**FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

**APPLICATION BY THE AFRICAN FOUNDATION FOR DEVELOPMENT (AFFORD)  
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

1. In a letter dated 6 August 2014, a copy of which is appended as Annex I, the Chairman of the African Foundation for Development 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 3 November 2014, is appended as Annex II. An appropriate item will be included on the provisional agenda of the 105th 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 invite, upon their application, international organizations, governmental or non-governmental, to be represented at its meetings.
3. The aims and purposes of the African Foundation for Development (AFFORD), a non-governmental organization based in the United Kingdom, are in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the IOM Constitution and its activities are relevant to migration, migrants, diasporas and human resources. The scope of its work extends in a great part beyond its national boundaries. AFFORD does not have consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, but the Director General is of the view that its observership at the Council will strengthen cooperation and be in the interests of IOM.
4. An appropriate draft resolution is submitted separately to the Council for its consideration.

Annex I

**LETTER DATED 6 AUGUST 2014 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE  
AFRICAN FOUNDATION FOR DEVELOPMENT TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

Dear Ambassador Swing,

I have the honour to refer to the contacts established between the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the African Foundation for Development (AFFORD). IOM's programmes and activities in the field of migration are of great interest and relevance to AFFORD and we would wish to establish a closer relationship with your Organization. We have collaborated since the 2006 UN High-level Dialogue and more intensely in 2013 as part of the HLD and post 2015 processes and through your country office in the UK

I am pleased to inform you that AFFORD desires to take part in the work of the International Organization for Migration by obtaining observer status to the meetings of the IOM Council and I shall appreciate your taking the necessary steps to submit this request to the Council for its consideration.

AFFORD is a pioneering diaspora-development organisation set up in the UK in 1994 with the mission to “expand and enhance the contribution that Africans in the diaspora make to Africa’s development”. We are keen to deepen present and future collaboration in the field of migration, diaspora and development, specifically on: post 2015; enterprise and employment; remittances and investment; engagement and capacity building; research, policy and advocacy.

[Complimentary ending]

Annex II

**LETTER DATED 3 NOVEMBER 2014 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF  
THE AFRICAN FOUNDATION FOR DEVELOPEMNT**

Dear Mr Chairman,

I have the pleasure to refer to your letter of 6 August 2014 seeking observer status for the African Foundation for Development (AFFORD) in the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Indeed, I can only note with appreciation the relationship between AFFORD and IOM in the field of migration and development, specifically on the engagement, enablement and empowerment of the African diaspora and organizations through capacity building and policy and advocacy training. I also highly appreciate AFFORD's participation in the United Nations High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development since 2006 and the organization's contribution in Sierra Leone and Lesotho diaspora-mapping exercises in the United Kingdom. It is therefore my belief that both our organizations will 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 25 to 28 November 2014. An appropriate document formally presenting your application will be distributed to all Member and Observer States prior to the November 2014 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 the African Foundation for Development'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]