



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

C/105/6

Original: English
4 September 2014

COUNCIL

105th Session

**APPLICATION BY SAVE THE CHILDREN
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

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1. In a letter dated 1 May 2014, a copy of which is appended as Annex I, the Chief Executive Officer of Save the Children International made a formal application for her Organization to be accorded observer status at meetings of the IOM Council. The Director General's reply thereto, dated 14 July 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 admit, upon their application, international organizations, governmental or 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 1 MAY 2014 FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF
SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

Dear Ambassador Swing,

I have the honor to refer to the contacts established between the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the organization Save the Children.

IOM's programmes and activities in the field of migration are of great interest to Save the Children and we wish to establish a closer relationship with your organization.

I am pleased to inform you that Save the Children 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 appreciate your taking the necessary steps to submit this request to the Council for its consideration.

Save the Children leads the Inter-Agency Group on Children on the Move that was formed in 2011 following a global conference held in Barcelona in October 2010. The group includes the following agencies: IOM, ILO, Plan International, Save the Children, Terre des Hommes, the African Movement of Working Children and Youths (AMWCY/MAEJT), Environmental Development Action in the Third World (ENDA), UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision, the Oak Foundation alongside individual experts and academics.

In this context and since 2011, Save the Children has developed several successful advocacy initiatives in cooperation with IOM, for example around the UN CRC Committee - Day of General Discussion on Children involved in international migration (Genève - September 2012) as well as the High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (3-4 October 2013). In addition, from a programmatic perspective, Save the Children has developed a strong cooperation with IOM around migration programs in a number of countries and regions such as Mediterranean, East and Southern Africa, South and East Asia, Latin America.

Around the thematic priority of *children on the move* we have adopted a holistic focus on child migration, defining the target group of our work as 'children moving for a variety of reasons, voluntarily or involuntarily, within or between countries, with or without their parents or other primary caregivers, and whose movement while it may open up opportunities might also place them at risk (or at an increased risk) of economic or sexual exploitation, abuse, neglect and violence'.

This definition and approach has been supported by several agencies working with SC in the Inter Agency Group on Children on the move, including IOM and leads our work in this area, in line with our mission to save children's lives; fight for their rights; and help them fulfill their potential.

Alongside my colleague Valerio Neri, CEO of Save the Children Italy, we thank you for your consideration.

[Complimentary ending]

Annex II

**LETTER DATED 14 JULY 2014 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION TO THE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL**

Madam,

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 1 May 2014 seeking observer status for Save the Children in the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

I can only note with appreciation the relationship between Save the Children and IOM in the field of migration. I also highly appreciate the contribution of Save the Children on the development of successful advocacy initiatives in cooperation with IOM during the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child – Day of General Discussion on Children in the context of international migration (2012) and the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (2013). Following the 2010 International Conference on Protecting and Supporting Children on the Move in Barcelona, the formation of the Inter-Agency Group on Children on the Move under Save the Children's lead, of which IOM is a member, is an example of our commitment to the protection and support of these children. It is therefore my belief that both our organizations could benefit from a further strengthening of this already close and cordial relationship, particularly with the ongoing discussion of a cooperation agreement between our organizations.

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 Save the Children'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]