



**GROUP OF FIFTEEN**  
**The Summit Level Group of Developing Countries**

**G-15 Joint Statement**  
**105<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of the International**  
**Organization for Migration**

Geneva; 25 to 28 November 2014

**Mr. President**

I have the honour to address this Council on behalf of the Member Countries of the Group of Fifteen (G-15), a Summit Level Group of Developing Countries comprising 17 member states<sup>1</sup>, which seeks to promote South-South and North-South cooperation, with an emphasis on socio-economic progress and sustainable development.

We appreciate and would like to thank Ambassador William Swing, IOM Director-General, for his report on the work of the Organization. G-15 Members recognize his esteemed leadership and assiduous dedication in leading the organization on international migration issues.

The world today is facing unprecedented challenges. In the past year alone, five crises have been classified as “L3 emergencies”, the highest level of crisis which requires sustained, top level, system-wide support focused on leadership and coordination in order to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian response efforts. UN Secretary-General has called for protecting the fundamental human rights of migrants, ensuring that migration occurs by choice, and making sure that migration work for development can only be achieved through cooperation, partnerships and responsibility sharing. In this context, G-15 Members support IOM’s efforts towards continuity, coherence and change.

G-15 welcomes active participation of all concerned in the considerations of the Working Group on IOM–UN Relations and the IOM Strategy to explore ways to advance the main goals and mission of IOM. We recognize the value of the partnerships in pursuing the activities of the IOM and support the efforts in order to develop and strengthen collaboration with regional economic communities and civil society organizations, and to develop new public–private partnerships in benefit of the migrants. G-15 also greatly values professionalism and commitment of the IOM staff and we support the efforts toward strengthening their capacities through training on the Migration Crisis Operational Framework and on crucial IOM areas.

The G-15 countries encourage the Director-General and the Council to continue their efforts in order to keep the IOM as the leading organization in the field of migration; to strengthen the Council’s capacity to provide services to migrants and States; to increase the political and public recognition of the contribution made by migration, migrant workers and members of their families to development; to carry out the Council’s role for a humanitarian and human rights-centered management of

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<sup>1</sup> Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

international migration; and to contribute substantively to follow up the results of the Second High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development (HLD).

We recognize the successful IOM Global Migration Group (GMG) Chairmanship during 2013, a landmark in international migration discussions. G-15 encourages IOM's involvement in following up and implementing the results of the High-Level Dialogue, and in continuing its support for Regional Consultative Processes on Migration and the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

At the same time, G-15 calls IOM to foster its cooperation with the GMG members and to actively participate in the discussion on global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, in order to include Migration with the appropriate targets and indicators.

We also support the active role of IOM in the preparation of the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (2015, Sendai, Japan), and the World Humanitarian Summit (2016, Istanbul, Turkey).

International migration is a reality that can impact positively the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, and is a cross-cutting issue that involves all areas of human rights, labor, health, economy and education, among others. International migration should be part of the global economic discourse and development paradigm. We are therefore, committed to work together at both the regional and international level for the protection of migrants.

#### **Mr. President**

G-15 considers that international migration should be approached in a holistic and comprehensive manner, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, based simultaneously on the defense of the human rights of migrants and on the developmental paradigm of migration that is sensitive to the national circumstances of countries of origin, transit and destination, and one that seeks to maximize the mutually beneficial nature of international migration.

The multi-disciplinary nature of migration should lead to the establishment of a worldwide strategy to look into innovative multilateral cooperation with a view to achieving sustainable solutions.

We believe that IOM's vast experience and expertise will be instrumental towards this goal. We remain confident that the IOM will continue fostering dialogue and cooperation on migration.

Finally, the G-15 welcomes Samoa as a new IOM Member State.

Thank you very much.