

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson,

At the outset, I would like to express my congratulations to H.E. the Permanent Representative of Ghana on his election as Chairperson of the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of the IOM and to ensure him of my delegations support. I would also like to express my delegation's appreciation to H.E. the Permanent Representative of Peru, our Previous Chairperson for all his efforts throughout last year's session.

My delegation would also like to welcome and congratulate both the Independent State of Samoa along with all the newly admitted observers.

Mr. Chairperson,

The partnership, relations and collaboration between Jordan and the IOM have grown steadily over the years. This is clearly reflected not only in the continued increase and expansion of IOM activities and assistance in and to Jordan but also in the visits of the H.E. the Director General whom we were honored to welcome last May. His visit was primarily to inaugurate a very important assistance program funded by the EU which we equally thank. My delegation also thanks all other countries that have supported IOM's projects and activities in Jordan, including the Government of the United States.

Today IOM's Office in Amman is among the largest in the world. While IOM had primarily focused its programs and activities in the beginning on resettlement of Iraqi refugees from Jordan, its activities have expanded today to include building capacity to improve migration management.

For this purpose, IOM has worked closely with our ministries of Justice, interior and Health as well as the related Jordanian agencies and directorates and has offered numerous capacity-building and technical

cooperation projects in different areas that have included Counter-Trafficking, Border-Management and Migration Health.

Most importantly however, is the support being provided by IOM to Jordan today so as to address the ramifications on Jordan as a result of the Syrian Crisis.

Mr. Chairperson,

The report of the Director General on the work of the organization for the year 2013 demonstrates the importance and size of IOMs activities, projects and programs worldwide, and points to its pivotal role amidst the increased number of new and ongoing crises. This role and response remains to be of utmost importance, especially with respect to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic and its effect on neighboring States.

Mr. Chairperson,

Two of the current level 3 emergencies are in countries bordering Jordan. The impact of the Syrian crisis and its related political, economic and security challenges on my country are enormous and well known to the International Community. IOM's assistance therefore remains to be instrumental for Jordan.

As the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic is approaching its fourth year, it is important that IOM support inside Syria continues and that Syrians continue to be provided with the required lifesaving and humanitarian assistance they need including shelter and non-food items. The delivery of relief items in cross line and hard to reach areas also remains pertinent.

Mr. Chairperson,

In Jordan, IOM has been an active member of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) regional response to the Syrian Crisis. It has been instrumental in assisting the Jordanian Armed Forces and the Jordanian

Border Guards in the transportation of refugees from the border to the camps. IOM and its partners have also assisted the Jordanian Ministry of Health in developing a public health strategy to address tuberculosis among Syrian refugees in Jordan.

IOM efforts have also included the distribution of non-food items and the provision of primary health care to Syrians, and Tuberculosis Screening. It has also assisted Jordan in repatriation of Third Country Nationals (TCNs) fleeing from Syria into Jordan.

It is hoped that once the conflict subsides, IOM would assume a larger and more increased role in the repatriation and resettlement of Syrians.

Mr. Chairperson,

Jordan supports IOM's global delivery of return migration programs in assisting repatriation. Of equal importance are its new community stabilization projects. Capacity-building support for governments, communities and community members and rehabilitation of basic infrastructure and restoration of essential services at community and national level should be supported.

Jordan also supports IOM's role in assisting states in transition and recovery. Assisting countries including in our region through preventing secondary displacement and stabilizing crisis-affected communities is of highest importance.

Finally, Mr. Chairperson, my delegation commends the leadership and efforts of H.E. Ambassador William Lacy Swing, Director General of IOM and also expresses thanks to his team here in Geneva as well as in IOM's Office in Amman for their dedication and hard work, especially for their support to Jordan whether through the regular programs or through the programs related to addressing relief of Syrians in Jordan.