

**105TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
FOR MIGRATION**

Geneva, 25-28 November 2014

**INTERVENTION OF AMBASSADOR RYTIS PAULAUSKAS, PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

Mr. Chairperson,

- Lithuania aligns itself with the statement of the European Union. We commend the important work of the IOM in helping migrants, refugees and IDPs around the globe and thank Director General Ambassador Swing for his tireless efforts in pursuing this aim.

Mr. Chairperson,

- We are very much concerned about the difficult situation of migrants and IDPs in the countries in conflict, namely in Syria, Iraq, CAR and others. We also deeply worried about those crossing the sea and risking their lives. In this respect we highly commend and fully support the work of the IOM, UNHCR, EU and member states, namely Italy for its lead of Mare Nostrum operation. We also share the opinion of those that see root causes of the process should be addressed invoking education and respect for human rights of all, developing social systems and promoting job creation, and above all, supporting peace and security. Therefore, Lithuania favours inclusion of migration into the post-2015 development agenda as global process which increasingly influences all spheres of life.

Mr. Chairperson,

- The situation that is difficult to accept that now in the center of Europe there is growing number of refugees and IDPs due to the conflict. I speak about Ukraine where a number of international organizations and the IOM work with the goal to alleviate suffering of people who lost their family and home. Nevertheless, we are also trying to help people in need: the Government contributed 250 000 euro to the humanitarian needs of Ukraine, including the cure of injured people, supply of non-food items for humanitarian assistance and receiving of children victims of conflict in Lithuania for a school year together with their teachers in response to the request of the Ukrainian Government. Our civil society is also actively collecting financial resources to support the Ukrainian humanitarian NGOs.

- Finally, I would like to assure that Lithuania supports the IOM as lead migration organization, its humanitarian and protection commitments, its active engagement in cooperation with the UN agencies and other international organizations in seeking for effectiveness and avoiding duplication in the field of migration.

Thank you.