



**REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**  
**Permanent Mission of Mozambique at Geneva**

**Delivered by Mr. Juvenal Arcanjo DENGÓ**  
**Counsellor**

**105<sup>th</sup> International Organization for Migration**  
**Council Session**

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

**Geneva, 26-28 November 2014**

**Mr. Chairman**

**Mr. Director General**

At the outset my delegation wishes to congratulate the elected President and other members of the bureau of the Council. Mozambique welcomes the new members and observers of the IOM.

**Chair,**

Mozambique aligns itself with the statement delivered by Botswana on behalf of the Africa Group.

We take this opportunity to commend Ambassadors William Swing and Laura Thompson, the Director-General and Deputy Director General of the IOM and their team for the outstanding activities they have undertaken in 2013, under difficult conditions, sometimes for their lives.

In the same vein, Mozambique takes note with appreciation of the DG's report on the activities of the IOM.

We commend the IOM for having invited eminent persons to address the Council and share their views on *human mobility, environment and climate*, at the time that we have on the horizon the Conference of Parties, on Climate Change, the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, and the World Humanitarian Summit.

**Mr. Chairman**

[Migration and development are of particular interest to my delegation, the reason why we applaud the keynote speech delivered by Mrs Graça Machel to this Council.]

Recent meetings on migration have reaffirmed the importance of migration mobility, and the contribution of migrant workers to the economic and social development, of not only for the host countries but also for the countries of origin.

International Migration is no longer just a South-North issue. It is increasingly a South-South issue with most

migration now taking place at intra-regional level. It is therefore incumbent upon us to develop equitable migration policies, at local, regional and international levels in order to promote free movement of skills across borders, address irregular migration, exploitation of workers through forced labour and trafficking of persons and unethical recruitment with its risks of debt servitude, confiscation of passports and other identity documents.

In this connection, Mozambique ratified, in August 2013, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, a clear display of my country's political resolve in safeguarding, promoting and protecting their rights.

**Mr. President**

The governance of international migration should take into account the concerns of the countries of origin of migrant workers, for, the latter contribute a lot to the economic and social development of their home countries through remittances. According to the Overseas Development

Institute, African migrants pay dearly to send money home. In an era of mobile banking and the internet, one can hardly understand why it costs 12% to send 200 US dollars to Sub-Saharan Africa. This is double the global rate.

On this note, Mozambique commends the Director General for having included the issue of remittances costs in IOM meetings. We have very much appreciated the presentations on this theme of great interest for developing countries, during the last Standing Committee on Programmes and Finances.

We also welcome the joint initiative recently launched by the Universal Postal Union and IOM, on the need of tackling the issue of high remittance costs.

Governments, IOM and other institutions, should work together to promote positive public perceptions of migrant and in particular raise public awareness of their contribution to the development of the host country.

At this junction, let me reiterate Mozambique's appreciation to the existing cooperation between the CPLP member States and the IOM.

I would like to reaffirm Mozambique's support to the inclusion of migration and development in the post-2015 UN Development Agenda, as we strive to finalize the drafting of the Sustainable Development Goals.

It is my delegations' understanding that migration and development issues should deserve the right consideration in the international development agenda, particularly given their potential role for sustainable development.

Before I conclude, Mozambique wants to express its firm support to the preparatory and regular briefing sessions organized by the IOM Secretariat addressed to member States. We commend IOM for this initiative and we believe that the latter will continue to provide and share information with Permanent Missions in Geneva on the activities of the Organization.

**I thank you Excellency!**