

Check against delivery

**Statement delivered by**  
**H.E. Ambassador Remigiusz A. Henczel**  
**Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland**

**at the General Debate of the**  
**105. session of the IOM Council**

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*Mr. Chairman, Director-General,*

Thank you for giving me the floor. I fully align my statement with the statement delivered by the European Union. I would like to present a few remarks from my national perspective.

*Director-General, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

We approach the start of the international negotiations of the new UN development agenda. Let me stress, that in this context, Poland finds the work of IOM extremely important. Migration is one of the key factors that shapes the development policies and programmes. Actively advocating for the development of human mobility potential, IOM contributes to the advancement of the world development processes and poverty eradication. To support IOM in achieving this common objective, Poland is fully committed to deliver on the implementation of the Eight-point agenda for action on making migration work, as endorsed at the High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in 2013. In that context, bearing in mind the need to ensure coherence of actions taken by the IOM and the UN system organizations, Poland is ready to further contribute to deliberations on development of methodology for the enhanced dimension of IOM-UN relation.

*Director-General,*

Poland supports the activity of IOM on a regular basis. Additional contributions are brought to cover the implementation costs of joint migration projects. In order to raise awareness on human rights of migrants and to counteract the cases of discrimination and labour exploitation, we started a domestic project on "Rights of migrants in reality".

We note rising demand for assistance in voluntary returns. Core beneficiaries of joint Poland-IOM activities in this field are Russian, Ukrainian, Georgian and Vietnamese citizens. At the same time, we recognize the importance of coordinated, international efforts. To this end, Polish authorities cooperate closely with third countries, such as Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, in building their administrative capacity to successfully manage voluntary returns and assist in activities regarding implementation of readmission agreements with the European Union. Poland has also decided to extend the content of bilateral agreement with IOM on Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) cooperation in order to better prevent and combat human trafficking. We actively participate in addressing human trafficking for labor exploitation through the ADSTRINGO project, that has been initiated by the Council of the Baltic Sea States with the IOM field office in Warsaw as one of the stakeholders.

*Excellences,*

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm Poland's commitment to the enhancement of the capability of developing countries in managing migration flows. This objective, that we share with IOM, should be at the top of the agenda of the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit to be held in Istanbul. The Summit should serve as an opportunity to discuss the need for developing relevant and timely responses in cases of forced migration from conflict settings.

*Thank you for your attention.*