

## 105 SESSION OF THE IOM COUNCIL

### STATEMENT BY RWANDA DELEGATION

28 November 2014

#### Thank you Mr. Chair

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Botswana on behalf of the African group and wishes to congratulate you Mr. Chair and members of your bureau for your election. We also thank the outgoing Chair, Ambassador of Peru for the good work he accomplished.

We commend the Director General for his excellent leadership of the organisation. We appreciate in particular the continued contribution of IOM in the area of migration and development.

We thank the DG for the presentation of his report. We acknowledge the challenges facing migration today as mentioned in the report of the DG and share his views on the need to change the current migration "narrative." Hostility towards migrants continues to grow. Migrants should not be perceived as the "other" and regarded with suspicion by receiving communities.

We take note of the ongoing policy, operations and programmes of the IOM. This includes its response to level 3 emergencies in CAR Iraq, South Sudan, Syria and most recently in West Africa in the

effort to address Ebola Crisis. We applaud the resettlement services of the IOM and in particular we commend the role of the IOM in the resettlement of refugees in Rwanda.

Rwanda welcomes IOM's continued engagement in the post-2015 agenda process and will continue to support efforts aimed at ensuring that migration and related issues of migrants feature in the final outcome. We welcome the pledge of the DG to participate in the World conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, in Sendai, Japan in March 2015 and we commend IOM's commitment to supporting and contributing to disaster risk reduction and resilience activities.

Rwanda welcomes the support IOM gives governments to address issues related to migration. In this regard, IOM has been a very important partner of Rwanda in the management of migration issues. IOM support has been mainly in the areas of refugee resettlement. In this regard, IOM signed a MOU with the Ministry of Public Service and Labour (MIFOTRA) aimed at strengthening labour migration management in Rwanda. IOM has also signed a MOU with the Ministry of Justice (MINIJUST) to carry out an assessment study on reparation for Genocide survivors in Rwanda. We are looking forward to the outcome of the study.

To conclude, Rwanda will continue to work together with the international community in exploring innovations to find durable solutions to problems experienced by migrants.