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**Statement by Sweden**

Mr Chairperson,

Sweden aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the EU and its Member States. We wish, in addition, to say a few words.

We thank Director General Bill Swing for his presentation and reiterate Sweden's strong support and appreciation for his leadership of IOM. This year we are experiencing an almost unprecedented level of new complex humanitarian emergencies as well as continued natural disasters, pushing millions of people on the move. The situation continues to give evidence of the need for a robust and global organization for migration to address the mobility challenges of today and tomorrow.

Inspired by the Director General's weakness of alliteration, this year we want to highlight three important "Gs" – the GFMD, Global Governance and Growth.

On the **Global Forum for Migration and Development**, it was with great enthusiasm that Sweden assumed the Chairmanship of the process from January 2013 until June this year. The fact that the chairmanship coincided with the second UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development as well as the preparations of the post-2015 development agenda, gave a unique opportunity to enhance the impact on the global migration and the development agenda. Important progress was made through our collaborative efforts during the Swedish Chairmanship. I want to take this opportunity to thank Ambassador Swing and his engaged and professional colleagues at IOM for all support that we received during our Chairmanship of the Global Forum, both for the substantial and valuable input but also for the great hosting of the GFMD Support Unit.

I want to highlight two important outcomes during the Swedish Chairmanship.

First, a more development focused forum was the central starting point for the work of the Swedish Chairmanship. We have seen that when migration is excluded from the international development agenda, the needs of thousands and potential of thousands more become invisible. Indeed, the inclusion of migration in the post-2015 Development Agenda would be a strong call for governments and development actors to analyse, plan for, act upon and follow up on the opportunities and challenges that migration brings. Strong recommendations were endorsed to this effect at the Forum Meeting. Sweden is grateful that Turkey has expressed a commitment to take this work further.

Second, another priority during the Swedish Chairmanship was to further improve the cooperation between the GFMD and other stakeholders. Great progress was made in this regard, by all of us working together: governments and international organizations in partnership with civil society and the private sector. Collectively we have been able to start an upgraded phase of the Global Forum, which was the goal we set for ourselves at the outset. The progress made was only possible thanks to the dedicated efforts of all stakeholders involved.

This leads us to the second G as in **Global Governance**. At the second UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in October 2013, the UN Secretary General tasked his Special Representative, Mr Sutherland, to convene regular meetings with the leadership of the GFMD and the GMG to identify shared priorities in order to improve coordination and cooperation. I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution to the global debate on international migration and development already made by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General, Mr Sutherland. We support his work plan and look forward to engaged discussions ahead.

In addition to strengthened cooperation between the GFMD, the GMG and the Special Representative, strengthened coherence and cooperation should be encouraged within the Global Migration Group. A much stronger GMG is needed and IOM has an essential role to play in this regard. Enhanced multilateral coordination would follow if all relevant UN agencies and IOM, as the lead migration agency, have migration and development on their agendas.

At last year's Council we welcomed the establishment of the IOM Working Group on IOM-UN relations and the IOM Strategy. After one year of healthy deliberations we believe that it is beneficial to continue the work but with an increased focus on the long-term challenges and opportunities. As voiced by the Chair of the Working Group at the Standing Committee last month, we must

succeed to go beyond our immediate concerns. Our eyes must be set on the future maybe 20 years from now, on the positive potential of migration and on what should be the format of our cooperation in order to be able to reap the many benefits of migration.

This brings us to our last G as in **Growth**. We wish to acknowledge the continued strong growth of IOM's activities and budget in a wide number of areas over the last years, particularly in the area of Movement, Emergency and Post-crisis Migration Management. This growth in demand for IOM's expertise and services is of course a reflection of the global development with migration becoming – as often described by the Director General – a “mega-trend” of our century. While many people make their own decision to move, a growing number of people have no choice but to flee from war, conflict, persecution and other disasters.

Often migrants are caught in these crisis situations and many countries continue to rely on IOM for assistance to evacuate and help their citizens. IOM also has an important role in the international community's efforts to respond to people in need of humanitarian assistance in conflict situations and natural disasters – as the global cluster lead with UNHCR on Camp Management and Camp Coordination and de facto lead of Emergency Shelter in many emergencies, through its expertise in managing movement of people and its sheer presence in many locations where conflict and crisis erupt.

As global humanitarian crisis continue to escalate and collective resources are stretched and depleted, it is imperative for IOM to have a clear strategy for its engagement, based on complementarity and value-added and in order to ensure a more principled and coherent action. Sweden is pleased to support IOM's efforts to strengthen its institutional capacity in the humanitarian field, including the elaboration of a new policy framework and we look forward to continued close follow up in this regard.

On the topic of **Growth**, we also want to say a few words on the financial and budgetary situation of IOM. Sweden is pleased with the progress report on the implementation of the budget strengthening model for the core structure and the effects of last year's agreement on budgetary reform. While we commend IOM's efforts to implement the plan this year, we note that increase of the overhead rate and the combined results of the reform package have not yet reached full effect. We worry that the increase of the core budget through the budget reform is not enough to sufficiently strengthen capacity of key functions such as financial

management, oversight functions and internal controls. We encourage IOM to continue to run a tight ship in order to maximize the use of its resources and results. Sweden look forward to continued constructive dialogue on these and other important issues.

Thank you!