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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

### STATEMENT

BY

## MR. K.W.D. KIHOMANO

# DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION SERVICES

MADE AT

THE 88<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

GENEVA, 30 NOVEMBER TO 3 DECEMBER 2004

# STATEMENT BY MR. K.W.D. KIHOMANO, THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION SERVICES OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA AT THE 88<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM) 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER- 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2004

Mr. Chairman, Director General, Deputy Director General, Honorable Ministers, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of my delegation I wish first of all to congratulate you Mr. Chairman and your bureau for your election to steer the deliberations of the 88<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOM Council. I also wish to commend the excellent work done by the outgoing Chairman for the past one year. I commend the Director General of the IOM and his team for their efforts to reform the organization. Let me also associate myself to the statement made on behalf of the African Group.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation would like to take this opportunity to express sincere appreciation to the IOM for convening this important gathering. The relevance and importance of this organization continues to grow as the World grapples with the realities of globalization whereas migration management is a crucial element in this process. It is in this regard that I wish to congratulate the new members namely, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, the Republic of Estonia, the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Republic of Turkey, who like the rest of us have seen the necessity of teaming up with other members to address migration issues collectively. Indeed this is a step in the right direction as the globalization phenomenon is inconceivable without

addressing migration issues adequately. We therefore welcome them and offer them close cooperation.

Mr. Chairman, the World has witnessed many changes since our last session of which are of significance on migration management. The European Union has considerably expanded with the admission of more members. While this means more open borders within the Union, we believe that it may not turn to be more fortified buffer zone against migrants particularly from the third world. We salute the Euro zone for significant achievements it is making in creating space for more productivity, innovation, investments, and general welfare of the people. We hope this will have a positive multiplier effect to the rest of the world.

### **DEVELOPMENTS IN AFRICA:**

Mr. Chairman, in the African continent too there has been both positive and negative development. The Darfur crisis and instability in the Congo continue to mar efforts to fight poverty and HIV/AIDS pandemic which affect the lives of millions of our people. However, the recently held Great Lakes Region Conference in Dar es Salaam and its resultant Dar es Salaam Declaration offer a new hope of restoring peace and stability in this region and therefore making it possible for the people of the region to concentrate on development issues. Tanzania is supportive of the African Union's Vision and Strategic Framework on Migration Management. We equally appreciate the Berne Initiative towards the development of an International Agenda on Migration Management as well as the UN Secretary General for enlisting a Global Commission on International Migration. Indeed, the Government of

the United Republic of Tanzania appreciates the technical assistance being extended to it within the framework of Migration for Development. We have also noted with great satisfaction the increase by IOM in the allocation of funds for the 1035 Facility and encourage donor nations to increase their contributions to the Facility as well. We pledge to continue paying due regard to the obligation of paying assessed contributions.

### **REGIONAL INTEGRATION:**

Initiatives to integrate the African people in different parts of the continent received new impetus in the interim period. The signing of the Customs Union Protocol of the East African Community in March 2004 was an important milestone in the efforts towards the cherished goal of the East African Federation. The Fast Tracking Committee on the EA Federation formed by the three Heads of State is testimony to the political will and seriousness with which the people of the sub region endeavor to forget the past and grapple with present day realities. We do hope that similar efforts in the SADC and COMESA groupings will speed up the process of continental integration.

Mr. Chairman, what all this amounts to is that migration management will occupy a centre stage at both regional and global levels towards a more technologically united and stable world. This session will enable us deliberate on the best ways to achieve this. The IOM should be in forefront to facilitate smoother and hindrance free global efforts towards a peaceful, prosperous and stable world.

#### Thank you.