

**MC/2301**

**Original: English  
10 November 2010**

**NINETY-NINTH SESSION**

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**APPLICATION BY THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE  
OF HUMANITARIAN LAW (IIHL)  
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

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OF HUMANITARIAN LAW (IIHL)  
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1. In a letter dated 27 September 2010, a copy of which is appended as Annex I, the President of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL) made a formal application for his Institute to be accorded observer status at meetings of the IOM Council. The Director General's reply thereto, dated 29 September 2010, is appended as Annex II. An appropriate item will be included on the provisional agenda of the Ninety-ninth Session of the Council.
2. This matter falls under rule 10 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council which provides that the Council may admit, upon their application, international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, concerned with migration, refugees or human resources as observers at its meetings.
3. An appropriate draft resolution will be submitted to the Council when this matter comes up for decision.

Annex I

**LETTER DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 2010 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HUMANITARIAN LAW (IIHL)  
TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

Sir,

I have the honor to refer to the contacts established between the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL). IOM's programmes and activities in the field of migration are of great interest to the International Institute of Humanitarian Law and we would wish to establish a closer relationship with your Organization.

The Institute has consultative status with ECOSOC and has been working in the field of international migration law since many years, organising courses and conferences in cooperation with IOM. On March 17<sup>th</sup> 2010, IOM and IIHL signed a Memorandum of Cooperation which establishes the general principles of a fruitful cooperation in areas of mutual interest. In this context, I was very pleased to receive you in Sanremo at the beginning of September on the occasion of the celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Institute. As I had the opportunity to tell you, the Institute would be interested in benefiting of IOM cooperation and advice in the organisation in Rome in November of a workshop on international law and practices in Latin America, which will be made possible thanks to the financial support of the Italian Government. Very useful contacts to this effect have already been established with the new Chief of Mission in Rome, Mr. Jose Angel Oropeza and with the Deputy Director General, Ambassador Laura Thompson, Member of the Council of this Institute. Similar seminars concerning the Mediterranean context, have already been organised with success by the two Institutes in Sanremo and Dakar.

By the present letter I would inform you that the International Institute of Humanitarian Law desires to take part in the work of the International Organization for Migration and would be very pleased to be invited to be represented at its meetings as observer. I shall appreciate your taking the necessary steps to submit this request to the Council for its consideration.

[Complimentary ending]

Annex II

**LETTER DATED 29 SEPTEMBER 2010 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION  
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF  
HUMANITARIAN LAW (IIHL)**

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 27 September 2010 seeking observer status for the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL) in the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Indeed, I can only note with appreciation the long-standing relationship between the IIHL and IOM in the field of international migration law and other migration-related activities, the recent signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation and the prospect of holding a workshop on international law and practices in Latin America. It is therefore my belief that both our organizations could benefit from a further strengthening of this already close and cordial relationship.

The necessary action will be taken for inscription of your request on the agenda of the forthcoming session of the IOM Council, to be held in Geneva from 29 November to 2 December 2010. An appropriate document formally presenting your application will be distributed to all Member and observer States in the near future. You will receive a copy of this document, together with further details and procedural information concerning the Council session.

It gives me great pleasure to receive your request for observer status. Allow me therefore to express my satisfaction at the prospect of furthering the relationship between our two organizations.

[Complimentary ending]