

Check Against Delivery

**Statement by H.E. Ambassador WU Hailong,  
Head of the Chinese Delegation at the General Debate  
of the 106th session of the IOM Council**

(27<sup>th</sup> December 2015, WIPO New Conference Hall)

Mr. Chairperson,  
Director General Swing,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the Chinese Delegation, I would like to congratulate Ambassador Bertrand de Crombrughe on his election as Chairperson of this session of the Council. We believe that this session will achieve expected results under your excellent leadership and with the joint efforts by all parties.

Mr. Chairperson,

At present, the scale of global migration keeps expanding. Migration, which has been included into the 2030 Agenda for

Sustainable Development, has become an important issue in global governance. China commends that IOM is going to adopt the Migration Governance Framework, which will inject new momentum for cooperation on global migration. Meanwhile, it should be noted that the cause of global migration still has a long way to go. Discrimination against migrants and related xenophobia are becoming prevalent. Illegal migration, smuggling and transnational organized crimes have brought challenges for social governance. Due to regional turbulence, armed conflict and natural disaster, forced migration has reached its highest level since World War II.

In light of such developments, the international community should make efforts in the following areas:

**1. To enhance the role of migration in promoting global economic and social development.** Migration serves as a bridge and a link in the economic, social and cultural exchanges among states, which contributes to more rational allocation of human resources, technology and funds. The international community should treat migration in an open, inclusive and just way. The goals related to migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development should be effectively implemented. The gap between the rich and the poor among states and regions

should be narrowed. Migration policies should be incorporated into national development strategies, so as to create a sound cycle where migration promotes development and development benefits migration.

**2. To strengthen cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination.** Migration is not a zero sum game. Countries of origin, transit and destination should strengthen dialogue and cooperation on the basis of shared responsibility, mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit in order to jointly improve capacity in response to migration issues. The positive role of migration in sustainable development should be fully promoted while the negative factors need to be handled properly.

**3. To manage properly the relation between promoting orderly migration and reducing forced migration.** States should show the political will to broaden the channels of regular migration, solve the difficulties for migrants in labor and employment, family reunion, child education, health and social security. They should also guide public opinion to view migration in a just and objective way, and reduce discrimination and eliminate xenophobia against migrants. Meanwhile, comprehensive policies should be implemented to enhance

resilience against natural disasters and epidemic outbreaks, in order to address the root causes of forced migration.

Mr. Chairperson,

The refugee and migration crisis in Europe, which broke out early this year, continues to simmer. China is grieved at those unfortunate incidents of refugees and commends the efforts by relevant states in settling refugees. The concerned countries should fulfill their obligations to provide international protection for refugees based on the principle of shared responsibility. It is imperative to safeguard refugees' survival, security and dignity and ease the humanitarian crisis. China has rendered 680 million RMB humanitarian aid to Middle East countries. Recently, President Xi Jinping announced during the G20 Summit that China will further provide 100 million US dollars humanitarian aid to relevant countries and international organizations.

Uneven development and regional instability are the root causes of refugee and migration crisis. The international community should reflect upon and draw lessons from the root causes. Emphasis should be laid in key areas such as eliminating extreme poverty, social turbulence, armed conflict and clash of

civilizations in order to avoid the recurrence of historical tragedy. China calls for a UN high level meeting on refugee issue as soon as possible.

As the most important inter-governmental organization for migration, IOM has made unremitting efforts to promote international cooperation on migration issues, in particular in addressing the refugee and migration crisis in Europe. China commends IOM's efforts and hopes that the role of IOM will be further enhanced.

Mr. Chairperson,

China is a big country in terms of migration. The number of exit and entry of personnel in China reached 490 million in 2014. China attaches great importance to migration issues and is devoted to protect the legitimate rights of migrants. In order to continuously enhance the capability for exit and entry administration, we have formulated various laws and regulations including *The Exit and Entry Administration Law*. While facilitating orderly migration and protecting the legitimate rights of migrants, we have also cracked down on human trafficking and illegal migration, and achieved positive results. China also pays great attention to international cooperation on migration

issues and has actively participated in mechanisms related to migration issues including the Global Forum on Migration and Development, Bali Process and Colombo Process.

In recent years, the cooperation between China and IOM has developed rapidly. With the joint efforts by both parties, the first and second phases of “Capacity Building for Migration Management in China Project” completed successfully last year. The third phase of “EU-China Dialogue on Migration and Mobility Support Project” was launched this year. In August this year, Director General Swing paid a successful visit to China, during which China and IOM reached a lot of consensus on enhancing cooperation level and expanding cooperative space. China is ready to join hands with the international community and make greater contribution in promoting international exchanges and cooperation on migration issues.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.