

**107th Session of the Council of the
International Organization for Migration**

Statement by the
International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA)

Geneva, Switzerland
5 December 2016

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. Chairman,
Ambassador William Swing, Director General of IOM,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Distinguished participants,

On behalf of the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the IOM Council for having positively considered IACA's application for Observer Status with your organization. IOM is already a Party to the *Agreement for the Establishment of IACA as an International Organization*, and the Council's favourable decision today paves the way for even closer cooperation between our respective organizations.

I would also like to emphasize the strong links that both our organizations enjoy with the UN. In this respect, let me congratulate IOM on the signing of the UN-IOM Agreement in New York on 19 September and the Summit on Migration, a truly historic step that brought your organization into the United Nations system.

Ever since its inception, IACA has also cooperated closely with the UN. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was one of our initiating partners, and in 2012 it represented the UNSG in signing a Cooperation Agreement with our organization. Furthermore, in 2015 alone IACA's capacity-building activities and specialized curricula in the fight against corruption received explicit tribute in two UN resolutions.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the UN has provided a roadmap for a better global future via the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was unanimously adopted by all UN Member States in September 2015 and in which both migration and anti-corruption feature prominently. Here I am referring to Goal 10 on "Reduced Inequalities", including the target to "*facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies*", and also to Goal 16, respectively, on "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", including the target to "*substantially reduce bribery and corruption in all their forms*". Meeting this target is crucial, because corruption is one of the single biggest threats to the entire 2030 Agenda.

Corruption has significant links to migration, not only as a contributor to outflows of people, but also as a major institutional barrier to inclusion, to equity and equality.

Migration and anti-corruption are complex issues that require a coherent international approach and a sense of shared ownership. Addressing the links between them can also have a considerable impact in other areas such as human rights, social welfare, peace, development, security, and access to education and health care.

These links were emphasized in two panel discussions hosted by IACA this year: in August, in the framework of the European Forum Alpbach in Austria, on human rights, migration, and corruption, and in October in the framework of the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) in Vienna, on organized crime, terrorism, and corruption, with a focus on irregular migration. The second panel was organized together with the OECD and welcomed the IOM Director for South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia as a speaker.

Ladies and gentlemen, I strongly believe there is great scope for further cooperation between IOM, a leading global organization focusing on migration management, and IACA, an international centre of excellence in anti-corruption that in little more than five years has brought together a constituency of 70 Member States and has empowered professionals from 145 countries.

IACA and the IOM can work towards addressing the corruption-related challenges of migration and contributing to the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda through joint educational, capacity-building, technical assistance, and awareness-raising activities.

For this reason I am delighted to see IACA further strengthen its links today with IOM. I look forward to stimulating discussions here in Geneva and to even closer cooperation between our organizations in the future.

Thank you.