

Greetings by representative of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the 109th Session of IOM Council, Geneva, Switzerland (Nov 27, 2018)

Your Excellency António Vitorino,

Dear IOM member-states and participants of the Council session,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, let me please express the high appreciation for being invited and having this opportunity to participate in this event.

It should be noted, in recent years the Government of our country is paying a special attention to the migratory processes in Uzbekistan. Currently, ensuring the safety of migrants remaining in other countries, including labour migrants, from the Republic of Uzbekistan, is set as a priority in this direction.

In 2018 a number of Government resolutions was adopted, directed at creating legal frameworks on improving the migration sphere.

On 5 March 2018, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted a Resolution 'On measures to ensure safety of the citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan being abroad from the Republic with an aim to be temporarily engaged in labour activities'.

On 28 May 2018, another Resolution was adopted by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan 'On establishing foreign representative offices of the Agency for External Labour Migration under the Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan'.

On 5 July 2018, the President adopted a Resolution 'On additional measures in the Republic of Uzbekistan on further improvement of the system of external labour migration'.

On 12 September 2018, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted a Resolution 'On measures on further improvement and fundamental revision of the system of employment of the citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan abroad'.

On 16 October 2018, a Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan 'On Private Recruitment Agencies' came into force.

Aimed at realization of the aforementioned tasks and with the aim of wider engagement in activities to protect the rights of workers [migrants] - those of the citizens of Uzbekistan, the Government of the country is cooperating with international organizations.

In particular, we have an active cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The main directions of our cooperation with IOM served as basis for the 'Plan of Practical Activities (Roadmap) on developing cooperation with IOM in 2018-2019', approved by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan on 27 June 2018. It became a logical continuation of the 'Uzbekistan-UN Roadmap' [approved earlier].

Approval of the Roadmap [between Uzbekistan and IOM] serves as a basis for Uzbekistan's accession to IOM, as well as for opening a representative office of the Organization in the Republic of Uzbekistan and developing the country's domestic and foreign policy on migration.

Your Excellency António Vitorino,

Dear participants of the Council session,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In line with the application of the Government of Uzbekistan as of 5 November 2018 with the intention to join IOM as a member-state, we have accomplished internal procedures on administrative formalities, in line with the [respective] clause of the IOM Constitution.

Once accessed to IOM as a member-state, the National Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan will consider the IOM Constitution for ratification.

Our country, as other member-states also do, undertakes the obligation to fulfill the financial contributions to the Organization, in accordance with the administrative requirements of IOM.

Taking into consideration the said above, may I kindly ask you to consider and approve the application of the Republic of Uzbekistan to join IOM as a member-state, please.

Thank you.

[End]