

For decades, Germany has been working successfully with IOM in migration management. This year we celebrate the 40th anniversary of our voluntary return program!

In addition, IOM has proven to be a reliable and competent partner as a service provider for German projects, in particular also for resettlement of those in need of protection, humanitarian aid, crisis management and capacity building. We are very grateful for that.

With its long experience and its worldwide network of missions and experts, IOM contributes significantly to the success of projects in a very diversified migration portfolio. Many migrants around the world can often be helped, individually and concretely. This is the core competence of IOM - even though new tasks have been added by the GCM and we support these activities. However, in the future, too, Germany would like to rely on this core competence of IOM: as a service provider for the achievement of very specific objectives in migration management.

Therefore, apart from EU funding, Germany bilaterally contributes to the operational part of the budget in the amount of nearly USD 132 million. The basic funding is supported with another 3.6 M USD. In addition, a not inconsiderable part of the overhead costs from the project funds also contribute to the financing of general administrative tasks.

Germany does not deny the argument that the structural capacity of IOM should continue to be ensured. In this context one can make a comparison with the basic funding of other UN organizations, such as the UNHCR. But that's just an indication of the need to change something in IOM. In any case, the specific needs for IOM must be identified to justify additional basic funding.

Incidentally, the same applies to the question of whether reforms are required in the management of IOM. Due to the higher workload it appears quite worth considering whether a second Deputy Director General post should be established. It seems justified to streamline decision-making processes and foster fruitful cooperation at IOM's top management.

In order to ensure broad support from the Member States, we have so far elected the representative through an election, as provided for in the IOM Constitution. We can imagine changing the terms of the DDG election as long as the Member States are involved in the process of assigning one or two DDGs. If Member States have the possibility to confirm a preselection of one or two DDGs, decision-making could be simplified in comparison to the current procedure, without having a lack of the necessary broad consensus among Member States.

Germany will continue to work that IOM has up-to-date structures and is adequately financed. It is in our own interest to strengthen IOM as a global and professional service provider in migration management.

Finally, we are in alignment with the EU statement, of course.

-----