Statement

by

H.E. Ambassador Shehab A. MADI
Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

at the

99th Session of the International Organization for Migration

Tuesday, 30 November 2010
Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to start by congratulating my dear friend Ambassador Idriss Jazaïry, on his election and express our appreciation for his able leadership in presiding over the Council. I would also like to welcome the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, the Republic of Botswana and the Kingdom of Swaziland as new member States, into the IOM family; we look forward to their valuable contribution to the discussions.

I also would like to thank the Director-General for his informative report and presentation to the Council, and also to take this opportunity to thank all staff of IOM all over the world for their professional efforts and commitment to address the complex and important issue of migration.

Jordan expresses its strong support for IOM for its outstanding efforts in addressing the issues related to Migration and Social Change, in all its challenges, including the impact on host countries and countries of origin.
Mr. Chairperson,

The issue of migration is an integral feature of today’s world, and therefore it is essential for states and all other relevant stakeholders to have a strategic and broad vision on what migration means to all of our societies. We need to focus on developing capacity to respond to and plan for migration effectively and in a sustainable way, bearing in mind the impact of migration on migrants themselves and their families, and the societies. Action needs to be taken by all duty bearers to guarantee the respect of human rights of migrants and their families. In this context, Jordan highly appreciates the significant role that IOM continues to play to improve and foster the development of policies that promote humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all.

In particular Jordan would like to highlight two issues of particular concern: Firstly the importance of giving consideration to the special circumstances and needs of young migrants, both from the point of looking at the contribution young migrants make in their countries of origin and in countries of destination. Secondly, we are concerned by the growing number of migrants, especially women and children, who attempt to cross the international borders without required documentation resulting in heightened levels of vulnerability. Jordan wishes to underline the importance of
promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants and ensuring that approaches taken by the authorities do not increase the vulnerability of the migrants.

Jordan believes that the ongoing coordination and cooperation between IOM and other relevant organizations and agencies is essential to that end. Such cooperation and new partnerships with relevant organizations will help to develop sustainable policies and approaches fully aligned with all relevant human rights instruments. It will also help to establish effective cooperation based on the respective mandates of the key organizations, helping States to take concrete measures and develop mechanisms, at the regional and international levels, in order to achieve more effective and sustainable solutions to various issues related to migration.

The Handbook on Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning which was launched a few weeks ago at the Global Forum for Migration and Development is a good practical example of this important inter-agency cooperation. The handbook was developed by IOM, UNDP, UNICEF and ILO, and was endorsed by the Global Migration Group (GMG).

Jordan commends IOM for its various initiatives in this regard, and for hosting the International Dialogue on Migration and the previous
informal consultations on challenges and solutions held earlier this year, and takes note of the important outcomes and lessons learnt.

Mr. Chairperson,

Jordan agrees that new challenges require new answers at both national and international levels, in countries of origin and in host countries. The multifaceted nature of migration warrants a comprehensive and longer term approach that not only tackles the underlying causes, but also endeavours to provide more security and prosperity as well as better enjoyment of human rights. It is, therefore, essential to ensure that all measures and actions taken in this respect must be measured against the provisions and standards of international law.

Jordan encourages IOM to offer its cooperation to the President of the United Nations General Assembly in designing the focus of the Informal thematic debate on international migration and development, which is to take place late spring early summer of next year.

Thank you.