

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE HON. MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, CHIEF
MGWAGWA GAMEDZE DURING THE 99TH SESSION OF THE IOM COUNCIL, 29
NOVEMBER – 2 DECEMBER 2010, GENEVA

MR CHAIRMAN
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF IOM
H. E. AMBASSADOR WILLIAM SWING
HONOURABLE MINISTERS
DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

MR CHAIRMAN IT IS MY SINGULAR HONOUR AND PRIVILEGE ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND TO PARTICIPATE FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME IN THIS NINETY-NINTH SESSION. OF THE IOM COUNCIL. ON BEHALF OF HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT, I WISH TO EXPRESS MY DEEP GRATITUDE TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE IOM FOR ACCEPTING SWAZILAND'S APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP. I ALSO WISH TO THANK MOST HEARTILY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE IOM, HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR SWING AND HIS STAFF FOR THEIR ENCOURAGEMENT.

MR CHAIRMAN, SWAZILAND AS A NEW MEMBER HAS THE DESIRE TO :

- UPHOLD THE HUMAN DIGNITY OF MIGRANTS AND THEIR WELLBEING ;
- PROMOTE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MIGRATION ;
- MEET THE GROWING OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION MANAGEMENT ; AND
- UNDERSTAND THE MAGNITUDE OF MIGRATION ISSUES.

SWAZILAND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATES IN THE MIGRATION DIALOGUE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA (MIDSA) WHICH ADVANCES THIS AGENDA ON BEHALF OF IOM.

AS A MINISTER ENTRUSTED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MANAGING MIGRATION, I AM INDEBTED TO MY FELLOW COLLEAGUES HERE PRESENT TO ACCEPT MY COUNTRY'S MEMBERSHIP TO THIS VERY IMPORTANT ORGANIZATION. DESPITE JOINING THE ORGANIZATION LATE, THROUGH SHARING EXPERIENCES AND EXPERTISE, SWAZILAND HOPES TO BENEFIT FROM MEMBERSHIP OF THE ORGANIZATION IN PARTICULAR IN ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES OF IRREGULAR MIGRANTS. IT IS IN THIS REGARD THAT WE HOPE TO BUILD A STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH FELLOW MEMBER STATES TO DEAL WITH THIS SOCIO-ECONOMIC ISSUE.

IN CONCLUSION. I WISH TO ASSURE THE MEMBERSHIP THAT SWAZILAND WILL ACTIVELY PLAY ITS ROLE IN THE WORK OF THIS ORGANIZATION.

I THANK YOU