



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

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**DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY:MINISTRY HOME  
AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION**

**AT THE 101<sup>ST</sup>SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

**28 NOVEMBER 2012**

**GENEVA, SWITZERLAND**

- **Mr. Chairman,**
- **Ambassador Swing, Director General of IOM**
- **Distinguished Heads of Delegation and members**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

My delegation would like to join others in congratulating you and the rest of the bureau for your election to steer this meeting and assure you of our full support. Namibia aligns itself with the statement read by Algeria on behalf of the African Group. We welcome new members and observers to the IOM family. My delegation welcomes the Report of the Director General and congratulates him and the IOM staff for the comprehensive and informative reports. We have taken note that the Administrative part of budget remained static for four consecutive years despite the significant growth of the Organization and increased service demands which puts considerable pressure on the effective response of the organization.

### **Mr. Chairman**

Namibia remains prone to both floods and droughts which affected a large number of people. As a result, many families became displaced

and face food shortages. We thank the IOM and other international organizations for the assistance rendered to Namibia to combat these phenomenon. As floods and droughts seem to have become a yearly occurrence in Namibia, we continue to count on the expertise of IOM and other international donors in finding durable solutions and making the lives of our people better. We therefore cannot agree more with Director General that migration and population displacement should be included on the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

My delegation has always advocated for a well-managed and orderly migration as we continue hosting migrants of different categories. In this regard, Namibia with the help of IOM has established an Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee on Migration Management. The main roles of the Committee are to;

- Enhance awareness on the benefits of migration in national development and the cross-cutting character of migration;
- Improve dialogue between key Ministries involved in various aspects of migration, creating a platform for policy discussions and fostering coordination of actors in the area of migration management; and
- Address migration issues of relevance to the Namibian context and aligned to contemporary priorities and concerns of the Government, such as Fourth National Development Plan goals of economic growth, job creation and reduced social inequalities, as well as irregular migration and trafficking of persons in light of unlawful entries into Namibia and the recent

Tier 2 Watch List ranking of Namibia on the 2012 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report.

The Committee will also play a major role in the strategy to fill the gaps in the labour market using migration and development concepts while at the same time training local people to serve the labour market.

**Mr. Chairman**

Namibia remains concerned about the status of human trafficking and migrant smuggling. In this regard, joint training amongst law enforcement agencies is being intensified while at the same time looking further into improvement of legislation with a view to building the capacity needed to combat this crime at border posts and in land. We remain grateful to the International Organization for Migration for its continuous support in this endeavour.

In conclusion, Namibia will continue to work with other nations to improve the flow of lawful migration while at the same time combating the problems resulting from unlawful migration. We remain convinced

that this is the only way to ensure promotion of lawful migration to the benefit of all.

I thank you.