

**Check against delivery**

**Statement of Bangladesh At the IOM Council Session**

**General debate**

**27.11.13**

Thank you Mr. Chair.

Since this is my first time taking the floor, I would like to begin by congratulating you Mr. Chair on your assumption of the office. We are confident that with your vast experience and expertise, you will lead the IOM Council Members forward with a view to fulfilling the Council's objectives. My delegation remains ready to extend its full support and cooperation to you in the fulfillment of your mandate.

Bangladesh delegation also appreciates the Director General Mr. William Lacy Swing for his presentation yesterday, as he has given us the overall summary of the activities of IOM, its challenges and good practices as well as its contribution in the field of migration. We fully acknowledge the highs mentioned as well as the challenges. We also appreciate the Director general for mentioning the Global Leadership Consultation Meeting on Population Dynamics held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 12-13 March, 2013. Bangladesh was happy to be associated with Switzerland for Co-hosting and organizing the meeting in Dhaka, which has contributed in the shaping of the global discussion on integration of migration in the post 2015 development Agenda.

My delegation would like to take this opportunity to commend the work of the working group on Budget reforms and the Chair of the Working Group. For any institution / organization core budget is one of the most important areas to ensure efficiency and effectiveness. We therefore, are glad to see the resolution MC/L/1228 adopted.

Mr. Chair, Migration and migrants being an important area for Bangladesh, my delegation has been supportive to the organization. As we engage in the discussion on the post 2015 development agenda, we recognize the role and contribution of IOM in the post 2015 development Agenda.

Mr. Chair, one of the vital components of IOM lies on the closer interaction between the governments and the organization and on the strengthening of the institution. We feel that the strengthened institutionalization of the organization with true ownership of universal membership can reply to the challenges that IOM face. Infact, we believe, this would ensure maintaining IOM as the leading international migration agency.

We are happy to see the Council on the threshold of embarking upon the discussions on relations between UN and IOM.

We believe that various engagements of IOM manifest the capacity of the organization to carry forward the interest of migrants. In this context, we believe that a strengthened organization with a higher level as an institution would contribute positively in translating our common understanding with regard to the international migration in concrete deliverables to make difference in the lives of migrants. We look forward to our active engagement in the deliberations on this in the coming days.

Thank you.

