

Council of the International Organisation for Migration

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STATEMENT BY H. E. GUBISA FEROVIC, AMBASSADOR
OF MONTENEGRO TO UNOQ AND O. I. O. IN GENEVA
Mr. Chairman, Director-General, distinguished delegates,

At the outset let me thank to distinguished Ambassador Hannan for steering the works of the Council in the last year and wish a success to a new Council Chair, Ambassador Chavez from Peru. I would also like to wish a warm welcome to the delegations of the new IOM members: Turkmenistan, Iceland, Fiji, and Marshall Islands. Montenegro would like to align itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and would like to make a few additional remarks.

I would like to congratulate the Director General, Ambassador William Swing on the way he is leading the Organisation in this very demanding times and particularly for his comprehensive report.

Mr. Chairman,

IOM is the important partner for Montenegro and we value highly the activities of the Organization. We would like to thank to IOM for the cooperation in several areas such as: providing advisory and operational support in the efforts to strengthen the country's migration management capacity, efforts to curtail irregular migrations as well as to promote labor migration and development, just to name a few. We would also like to express our hope that the cooperation will be even greater having in mind that the challenges are significant.

Montenegro is still providing assistance to over 16 000 internally displaced persons and refugees that fled into our country during the Yugoslav wars. Regional partnership has proven to be very important in this regard. The cooperation with Serbia, Croatia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina resulted in adopting the Regional Housing Program at the Donor Conference in April 2012. The implementation of the

Programme, which aims at providing housing solutions for the displaced persons in the four countries has started with the approval of the first round projects by the international donors in April this year.

By adopting the Strategies of the integrated migration management and Strategy of the reintegration of persons based on the readmission agreement and the related action plans, Montenegro has defined a future direction in the area of the migration management. Also, Montenegrin Government adopted the Strategy for the cooperation with diasporas and the documents for partnership with numerous stakeholders. We are committed to develop and foster a legal framework, institutional and administrative capacities in order to create conditions for the sustainable reintegration of returnees. Increased migrations flows, particularly these ones that are caused by the crisis in the Mediterranean and the region, touching my county, are asking for further efforts in finding the solutions for solving these serious challenges.

Mr. Chairman,

Montenegro believes that the UN High Level Dialogue on migration and development that was held in New York in October this year was a success. The several important areas to stress migration agenda were emphasised as well as the importance of the dialogue and cooperation.

I would like at the end to underline, once more, open and fruitful cooperation between Montenegro and IOM and also express full support to the IOM's activities for the benefit of migrants worldwide. We are confident that IOM will live up to current and future challenges and play the central role in the field of migration.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.