

TERRE DES HOMMES INTERVENTION
Tuesday 26th November 2013 - 103rd session IOM

Distinguished Chairman,
Distinguished Director General,
Excellences, heads of delegations.
Ladies and gentlemen,

We wish to express my gratitude to the Council for accepting Terre Des Hommes to take part in the work of the International Organization for Migration with an observer status to the meetings of the IOM Council. We strongly appreciate the necessary steps taken to submit this request to the Council for its consideration.

Terre Des Hommes is a child rights Federation of 10 members working with 800 partner organisations in 70 countries.

Terre Des Hommes has a long working relationship with IOM at operational level and at global level. Terre Des Hommes is running a campaign on children on the move, on the rights of children in the context of migration (www.destination-unknown.org). In the recent months Terre Des Hommes launched the campaign in additional countries such as in France, in several states in India and in the Mekong region.

Both IOM and Terre Des Hommes are active members of the Interagency Group on Children on the Move which strengthens the implementation of the rights of children in the context of migration.

At the High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development on 3rd and 4th of October, Civil society brought a unity message, one carved out of national and regional consultations. An 8 point agenda to work with governments over a 5 year period. An agenda to bring about substantive change, to demonstrate commitments and to bring an end to the globalization of indifference. An agenda where amongst others, children were not been left out. The 8 point agenda is on back table.

The proposals by civil society are without precedent in depth and specifics. Civil Society came to the HLD more prepared than ever to discuss with governments. Civil society is with a greater degree of optimism that, in fact, civil society organizations can make major changes.

Amongst a strong civil society community involved, Terre Des Hommes contributed to the collective work and specifically to sharp messages on children on the move, on the rights of children in the context of migration:

- immigration detention of children must stop;
- a child must be guaranteed access to services (health services/education), protection and justice regardless of migration status.

The output document of the 2nd HLD represents a significant advance on many issues amongst which how the issues of children affected by migration are approached.

Making the case for migration in the Post 2015 Development Agenda is on our common agenda. It is one of the 8 agenda points of civil society it is on IOM's agenda. Negotiation and implementation of existing and future goals will depend critically on the level of support and pressure from civil society at national level. With the destination unknown campaign led by Terre Des Hommes, we seek to increase public voice, the children's voices.

Thank you for your attention

Ignacio Packer
Secretary General
Terre Des Hommes International Federation
Ignacio.packer@terredeshommes.org