

Statement by
H.E. Mr. Abbas Bagherpour Ardekani,
Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
before 105th Session of the IOM Council
(27 November, 2014)

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. Chairman,
Director General of the IOM,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to begin by extending my congratulations to you Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of the Bureau on your assumption to lead the IOM Council. May I also express my gratitude to the outgoing Bureau, distinguished Ambassador of Peru and his Colleagues for their efforts. I wish to welcome the state of Samoa for being the new member of IOM too. Moreover, I take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to H.E. Ambassador Swing, Director General of IOM and his team for their dedication and commitment to reduce the migratory challenges that the international community is facing with.

In this regard, we would like to highlight the efforts of the IOM in line with the Structural Review Team, which show the effectiveness of suggested and implemented changes and reforms during previous years. Also we appreciate the new initiative and changes suggested on Strategy and Policies of the Organization, in following up the recommendation made by the United Nations High level Dialogue. These all assist IOM to address the challenges, deficits and shortages that exist in different areas in managing the orderly migration. It is highly expected that, in this process, the observations and recommendations of the member states would be appropriately taken into account.

Mr. Chairman,

International migration, as one of the structural elements of the international community, is a key component of the globalization process. It is therefore

necessary to consider, in the light of Eight-Point Agenda for Action of Second High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, as well as the contribution of Global Forum for Migration and Development, the close linkage between migrations and development. We are thus expecting that the important issue of migration will be addressed and considered in the Post 2015 Agenda for Development in an appropriate manner.

It should also be noted that the phenomenon of the irregular migration is a direct result of conflicts and instability in the region. This issue has also been tightly woven with other organized crimes. Due to the nature of these crimes and the economic and political situation of the countries of the origin, it will not be practical to limit ourselves to the counter trafficking measures of the country concerned alone for accomplishment of the expected goals and objectives. Rather, cooperation and collaboration of countries, including the origin country, more engagement of relevant international organization, including IOM and also close cooperation and coordination with host country, are all necessary with a view to upgrading the conditions of life of migrants and other categories of people

Mr. Chairman,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the light of its geographical location, volatile and unstable situation of the region and also the economic, social and political condition of the country, the Islamic Republic of Iran has been a desirable destination as well as transit country during last decades. As a result, a large number of the foreign displaced persons and irregular migrants are living or crossing the country. Therefore, Iran is facing many displacement and irregular migration challenges originated from neighbouring countries. In return, the Islamic Republic of Iran has done many works to cope with these challenges despite the complicated difficulties originated from illegal sanctions. While we appreciate the IOM for its efforts in implementing projects with the assistance of donor countries, we expect from IOM further attention, in collaboration with the key players, to address this multifaceted issue, in a concerted and coordinated manner, through including defining and implementing projects related to resettlement and voluntary return and reintegration of the nationals of Afghanistan from Islamic Republic of Iran to their country. For this, Iran is determined to work seriously to play its constructive role.

Thank you