



**STATEMENT FROM MIGRANT HELP TO
THE 105TH SESSION OF THE IOM COUNCIL FOR OBSERVER STATUS
25TH NOVEMBER 2014**

Chair, ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour and pleasure to be here today to thank you for the opportunity to represent Migrant Help, in respect of our application for International Organization for Migration, observer status.

Founded in 1963 Migrant Help has become a leading national charity, providing services to vulnerable migrant and refugee communities across the United Kingdom, working with asylum claimants and refugees, EU nationals, foreign national prisoners, detainees and victims of modern day slavery. We provide our clients with the resources and support they need to find safety, access appropriate services and develop greater independence. We use our work to develop an evidence base, to raise awareness of the needs of migrants amongst policy makers, civil society organisations and the general public.

Migrant Help has a longstanding and strong partnership with the International Organization for Migration. A partnership that fosters collaboration around mutual interests in the field of migration and research. A partnership that supports international knowledge exchange to strengthen our fight against modern day slavery and protection of migrants' rights. A partnership that is based on mutual respect, transparency and open communication. We seek to further strengthen this relationship with observer status, which will enable us to extend our reach and impact in these areas.

Registered Address: Migrant Helpline Limited (trading as Migrant Help), Charlton House, Dour Street, Dover, Kent, CT16 1AT
Website: www.migranthelp.org Tel: 01304 203977

Registered Charity (England and Wales): 1088631 Registered Charity (Scotland): SC041022 Company No (England and Wales): 4172880





A key focus for Migrant Help over the next five years is our newly developed UK Institute for Migration Research, established in partnership with Canterbury Christ Church University. The Institute will sit alongside Migrant Help's front line services accessing 'real time' information and key national data sets. We will use this to conduct evidence-based research on the challenges and opportunities for migrants nationally and internationally. The Institute will draw together a wide network of collaboration, coordination and information sharing to support policy discussion and public debate on the impact of migration

The proposed enhancement of our close relationship with the IOM is a very exciting prospect for Migrant Help. Our vision is for a global society that protects migrants, treats them with respect and enables them to become successful members of their communities, whether these are in the UK or overseas. Together we are stronger in meeting this vision.

Ladies and gentlemen, we would like to thank you for your consideration.

Robert McCrea
Chief Executive Officer
Migrant Help

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