# IOM UN MIGRATION

# WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER

**September 2019**

## Diaspora Engagement for Safer Shelters

Click here for more information

## STRATEGIC COOPERATION

### IOM Co-Hosts African Diaspora Network Event on Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Investment

IOM and its nonprofit partner, USA for IOM, co-hosted a symposium with the African Diaspora Network on Sept. 17 at the Symantec office in Washington, D.C. Entrepreneurs, investors, policymakers and other public and private partners discussed key issues, including policies toward Africa on investment, innovation, entrepreneurship, trade, and the role of the African diaspora within these areas. Other partners included the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Wilson Center and Pxyera Global. For more information, e-mail Roberta Romano.

## ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY AND ACADEMIA

On Sept, 26, IOM joined Georgetown University and the Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration for a discussion on a four-year study following 4,000 displaced Iraqi families. The report offers key insights into the particular challenges and explores access to durable solutions for internally displaced persons. Click here for more information.

Brian Kelly, Head of the Community Stabilization Unit at IOM Washington, participated in a panel discussion as part of the launch event for a new

### IOM Supports Capacity-Building between Liberian Government and Diaspora

IOM Washington and IOM Liberia supported the meeting of the Liberian Government's Diaspora Affairs Unit and Liberian diaspora associations on Aug. 17 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The event aimed to increase coordination among government stakeholders and diaspora members. IOM Washington presented findings of the Liberian Diaspora Mapping Report conducted last year, allowing for discussion and feedback on ways forward for future collaboration between Monrovia and U.S.-based Liberians. For more information, e-mail Roberta Romano.

### USA for IOM Renews Partnership with Global Classrooms DC

USA for IOM, the non-profit partner of the International Organization for Migration, has renewed its partnership for a second year with the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA). Building on the success of last year's collaboration with USA for IOM, UNA-NCA's Global Classrooms DC education program will again include a curriculum on the topic of migration to reach more than 1,000 students in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia. The program concludes with the Annual Spring Model UN Conference, which will feature debate on resolutions to address forced migration. Click here for information on last year's activities.

report on irregular migration at the Center for Strategic and International Studies on Aug. 29. Click here to watch the recording.

## RECENT VISITORS

This July, Deputy Director General Laura Thompson visited Washington. She met with various government interlocutors, including senior officials from the U.S Department of State and USAID.

Jeff Labovitz of the U.S. was recently appointed Director of Operations and Emergencies. He previously served as the Regional Director for the East and Horn of Africa. On his first official visit to Washington since assuming his new post, Labovitz met with government interlocutors and civil society.

## NEWS FROM THE FIELD

On Sept. 1, Hurricane Dorian made landfall in the Bahamas, wreaking havoc across the islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama. Click here to watch a video from IOM Washington's Brian Kelly who led the UN Disaster and Assessment Coordination Team.

## Media Requests

For media inquiries, please contact IOM Washington Media & Communications Officer here.

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