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and other International Organizations in Geneva*

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**INTERVENTION BY H.E. AMBASSADOR MARIA NAZARETH
FARANI AZEVÊDO, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Thank you Mr Chairman,
Mr. President,

My delegation endorses the statement ^{to be} delivered by the Permanent Representative of Panama on behalf of GRULAC.

Globalization and the instant flow of information are celebrated as catalyst elements for change and democratization. Their effects on the rise of human mobility are well known among migration experts. Although enhanced mobility has proven to be beneficial to host societies, the adverse effects of the financial crises have fueled xenophobia and the stigmatization of migrants. Media reports of discrimination, exclusion and violence against migrants are extremely disturbing. Brazilian people, who often have a positive attitude towards immigrants, are particularly concerned with this trend. Instances of xenophobia are often caused by a refusal to accept the other's difference. This situation stems from fear, ignorance, bias ^{and} ~~or~~ prejudice.

Adequate knowledge of the phenomenon of migration is central to enable migrants and their host societies to live harmoniously. More accurate

information is required to overcome prejudice and to combat stereotypes. IOM, as a leading global migration agency, is a key partner to disseminate knowledge for the prevention and combat of xenophobia.

Brazil's migration policy aims to meet the aspirations of Brazilians that live overseas and to maintain a favourable environment for migrants in Brazil. It is informed by the following principles: i) reciprocity; ii) respect for the rights and the dignity of human beings; iii) provision of incentives for regular migration (through general regularization processes or through the removal of obstacles for the regularization); iv) rejection of the criminalization of irregular migration and of the deliberate conceptual confusion between migration and criminality.

Enhanced cooperation to combat criminal groups, regardless of their nationality, should be complemented by the recognition of the non criminal nature of irregular migration and the removal of obstacles for regularization. Fewer opportunities for regular migration only benefit those who profit from human trafficking and forced labour.

To act robustly in line with our migration policy the Government has devised new institutional mechanisms. In 2006, the Ministry of External Relations created an Under-Secretariat for Brazilian Communities Abroad. In 2010, a forum for regular dialogue between the Government and the Brazilian Communities abroad was established. In addition, Brazilian diaspora councils were elected.

The regularization of the migratory status of our nationals is a priority for the Brazilian Government. A successful example of regularization is the agreement reached between Brazil and Paraguay, with the initial support of IOM. It created "task forces" that operate on the ground, in selected localities of Paraguay, to regularize our nationals. This is a concrete outcome of the integration process

among South American countries. We have also counted ^{on}with IOM's valuable support for the resettlement of Brazilians that reside in Bolivia in areas close to the border with Brazil.

To conclude, Mr. President,

As we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the IOM this year, my delegation has an additional reason to celebrate. The readmission of Brazil to the Organization, approved by the membership in 2004, has received the approval of our National Congress a few weeks ago. It is my Government's expectation that this will expedite the opening of an IOM office in Brazil.

I take this opportunity to convey our deep appreciation to IOM's Director-General, Ambassador William Swing, and to IOM's regional office in Buenos Aires for their valuable support to the 11th South American Conference on Migration, held in Brasilia. This Conference has proven to be a unique forum for dialogue on migration among South American countries. We look forward to its gradual incorporation into UNASUR (the Union of South American Nations).

✓ Thank you Mr. President.