



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**HONOURABLE ROSALIA NGHIDINWA, MP**

**MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION**

**AT THE 100<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

**5 DECEMBER 2011**

**GENEVA, SWITZERLAND**

- **Mr. Chairman,**
- **Ambassador Swing, Director General of IOM**
- **Distinguished Members of Delegations**

Namibia congratulates you for your election to steer this important meeting and assures you of her full support. My delegation is honoured to partake in the 100<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of the International Organization for Migration which coincides with the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization. We welcome 14 new Member States and observers to the IOM family. My delegation is looking forward to the launch of the *World Migration Report 2011* as part of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition of the IOM's flagship publication. Namibia commends the IOM officials for a job well done.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Last year Namibia experienced floods which affected a large number of people. As a result, many families became internally displaced and had to be relocated to avoid loss of lives. We thank the IOM and other international organizations for the assistance rendered to Namibia during that time. As floods seem to have become a yearly occurrence in

Namibia, we continue to look forward to IOM expertise in finding durable solutions.

Namibia has always advocated for a well-managed and orderly migration as it continues to host migrants of different categories including refugees and migrant workers. My delegation believes that through a well-managed migration process harmony for both the migrants and the citizens of the receiving state can be attained. As part of the strategy to fill the gaps, migration is considered in the job market while at the same time training local people to take over such positions at the end of the contract of migrant workers. This approach has so far served Namibia well and will be pursued in the achievement of her goals.

**Mr. President**

Namibia has in recent months experienced cases of human trafficking and migrant smuggling. Four of the cases were successfully prosecuted and culprits have been appropriately punished in terms of the Prevention of Organized Crime Act (POCA) which provides for the punishment of offenders in organized crime. In this regard, joint training amongst law enforcement agencies continues with a view to building the capacity needed to combat this crime at border posts. We remain indebted to the

International Organization for Migration for its continuous support in this endeavour.

In conclusion, Namibia will continue to work with other nations to ensure that while facilitating a smooth flow of lawful migration, the problems resulting from unlawful migration are addressed. We remain convinced that joint effort in this regard will ensure promotion of lawful migration to the benefit of migrants and receiving countries.

I thank you.