

Statement of the Republic of Yemen

To

The 100th Session of the Council of the International
Organization for Migration

By

His Excellency Dr .Ali Muthana Hassan
Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs

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Mr. Chairman,
Mr., General Director ,
Excellencies,
Ladies & Gentlemen,

Allow me to begin by expressing our pleasure in the growing number of accessions to this esteemed Organization, and which has now reached a total of 146 member countries. Indeed, this seems a most opportune time to call upon the remaining countries to join the IOM, in order to further promote the valuable activities of the Organization in the field of migration affairs.

The complexity of migration with its social, economic, cultural, health and security aspects, was such that national efforts were not enough and regional and international cooperation was required. We hope that this today gathering will help to enhance the international cooperation in this important field.

Mr. Chairman

We listened to the important remarks highlighted by the distinguish Director General which focus on the efforts that were taken to improve the performance of IOM to maintain its leadership position in supporting governments and migrants to address the challenges of migration in the world. We took note also about the World Migration Report 2010 and the valuable facts and information it contains about the situation of the migrants in the world , problems and challenges they face and how can the IOM and the international community help them to solve these obstacles . In this regard we would like to express our thanks and appreciations to the Director General, his Deputy and all IOM staff who worked hardly to prepare this important world report.

The high level segment of today will allow the member states to express their views on the migration concerns in particular their experiences in migration management priorities and the role of the IOM within the global migration debate.

Mr. Chairman,
Ladies & Gentlemen,

The Republic of Yemen is a member of the International Organization for Migration and cooperate positively with it and there are many activities and programs implemented by the organization in Yemen, which focuses on providing assistance in developing the performance of the departments of immigration and border control authorities and the strengthening the Yemeni government control on land, sea and air ports. These programs focus on human capacity building and provide technology to these departments and raise the performance level of staff providing assistance to victims of human trafficking and asylum seekers.

The Yemeni government suffers from a number of challenges arising due to mixed migration and still facing the flow of illegal immigrants from the Horn of Africa. We think that the project that is implemented by the International Organization for Migration in Yemen will provide technical assistance required to deal with issues of immigration and asylum seekers to enable the Yemeni authorities to perform its tasks in dealing with these challenges.

Mr. Chairman,

Yemen bear the burden of hosting around 750,000 Somali refugees and about 400 thousand internally displaced persons as well as other numbers of illegal immigrants from the Horn of Africa, , who seek better employment and living conditions elsewhere and take Yemen a transit spot . Yemen has not failed to its moral and legal obligations of hosting the refugees and the migrants, despite difficult economic circumstances and the threat of security and other problems. The Yemeni government reiterates its demand to the international community to provide aid and assistance to ease the burden. We consider the offer of the IOM technical assistance commendable contribution in this respect.

On other hand the Yemeni Government was engaged in implementing a number of programs to improve migration management affairs with a view to protecting the interests of foreign-based Yemenis, preserving their cultural identity, strengthening their links with Yemen promoting their participation in national development and improving the social security legislations.

Before concluding, I would like to express our thanks and appreciation for the ongoing cooperation and partnership between the Republic of Yemen and the IOM, and in particular the efforts of the General Director, his assistants, the Head of IOM Office in Yemen.

Thank you