

MC/2260

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NINETY-SIXTH SESSION

**APPLICATION BY THE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

1. In a letter dated 3 June 2008, a copy of which is appended as Annex I, the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) made a formal application to be accorded observer status at meetings of the IOM Council. The Director General's reply thereto, dated 4 June 2008, is appended as Annex II. An appropriate item will be included on the provisional agenda of the Ninety-sixth Session of the Council.
2. This matter falls under rule 10 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council which provides that the Council may admit, upon their application, international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, concerned with migration, refugees or human resources as observers at its meetings.
3. An appropriate draft resolution will be submitted to the Council when this matter comes up for decision.

Annex I

**LETTER DATED 3 JUNE 2008 FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF
THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)
TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the contacts established between the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD). IOM's programmes and activities in the field of migration are of great interest to the IGAD secretariat and we would wish to establish a closer relationship with your organization.

IGAD closely works with IOM in the areas of Facilitating migration, regulating migration, forced migration and migration and development. IOM signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IGAD on 5th September 2006 to inter alia jointly and collectively address the operational challenges of migration in the IGAD sub region.

Three IGAD member states; Kenya, Uganda and Sudan are members of IOM, while Ethiopia and Somalia have observer status. On 13th April 2007, the IGAD Council of Ministers during the 26th ordinary session held in Nairobi, approved of IOM's request to be a member of the IGAD Partnership forum. Very recently, IGAD in partnership with IOM have established an IGAD Regional Consultative Process (IGAD-RCP) to facilitate dialogue and regional co-operation in migration management amongst IGAD Member States.

I am pleased to inform you that the IGAD secretariat desires to take part in the work of the International Organization for Migration and I shall appreciate you taking the necessary steps to submit this request to the council for consideration.

[Formal close]

Annex II

**LETTER DATED 4 JUNE 2008 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION
TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)**

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 3 June 2008, informing me that IOM's programmes and activities in the field of migration are of great interest to the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and that you wish to establish a closer relationship with IOM. The growing cooperation between the two organizations, as demonstrated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on 5 September 2006 between IGAD and IOM and IOM's membership in the IGAD Partnership forum, augurs well for our future collaboration.

I have taken note of your desire to seek observer status in the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In this regard, I shall take the necessary action for inscription of your organization's request on the agenda of the next regular session of the IOM Council, to be held in December 2008. A document formally presenting the application of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development will be distributed to all IOM Member States and Observers in due course. I shall send you a copy of it, together with further details and procedural information concerning the Council session at a later stage.

It gave me great pleasure to receive your organization's request for observer status. Allow me therefore to express our deep satisfaction at the prospect of a closer relationship developing between IOM and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development.

[Formal close]