

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)



IOM International Organization for Migration

AND

**THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION/ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS
(UNAOC)**



**United Nations
ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS**



2009

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and United Nations Organization/Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC),

TAKING NOTE that the UNAOC is an initiative of the UN Secretary-General which aims to improve understanding and cooperative relations among nations and peoples across cultures and religions, and to help counter the forces that fuel polarization and extremism;

FURTHER TAKING NOTE that the Report of the High-level Group of eminent persons established by the Secretary-General of the United Nations identified international migration as one of the areas for concerted action to reduce cross-cultural tensions and enhance global stability;

RECALLING that the same High-level Group recommended the development of partnerships in the framework of the UNAOC with international organizations that share its goals, and the reinforcement of their interaction and coordination with the UN system;

TAKING NOTE that IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society and, as the leading international organization for migration, acts with partners in the international community to assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and work towards effective respect of the human rights and well-being of migrants,

FURTHER TAKING NOTE that IOM supports policies and strategies that contribute to the social, economic and cultural inclusion of migrants in their host communities and to raising awareness among receiving communities of the diverse positive contributions migrants can make;

RECALLING that in approving the IOM Strategy in 2007, the IOM Member States requested the Organization to address migration phenomena from an integral and holistic perspective in order to maximize its benefits and minimize its negative effects, and that to achieve that goal, IOM would – *inter-alia* – assist States to facilitate the integration of migrants in their new environment;

AWARE that successful inclusion is a two-way-process that involves mutual adaptation of migrants and the host society, as well as respect for rights and obligations, and that integration is key to effective and comprehensive migration management approaches;

RECOGNIZING that increasing cultural diversity is an essential characteristic of modern society mainly due to migration and mobility of populations, and a driving force for economic and social development;

RECOGNIZING the role of the International Organization for Migration as a member of the “Group of Friends” of the Alliance of Civilizations;

BEARING IN MIND the principles of intercultural dialogue established for the Alliance of Civilizations by the High Level Group's report of 13 November 2006, and the importance of migration as one of the four main areas of action of the Alliance;

TAKING NOTE that the Cooperation Agreement between the United Nations and IOM of 25 June 1996 has established a general framework for cooperation and coordination between the two Organizations;

RECALLING the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and mindful of the need to support policies and programmes which foster greater harmony and tolerance between migrants and host communities, with the aim of eliminating manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

CONSCIOUS of the need for closer cooperation between UNAOC and IOM in matters of common interest, determined to undertake special joint efforts with a view to assisting states and communities to facilitate relations between migrants and host societies, between peoples of differing cultures, religions and traditions, desirous of further enhancing and strengthening such cooperation;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I

OBJECTIVES OF COLLABORATION

Wherever appropriate, and subject to funding, IOM and UNAOC (hereafter "the Parties") will collaborate, on a non-exclusive basis, on projects and other initiatives of mutual interest. Having regard to their respective competences, specific characteristics and programmes of activities, and building on their existing good relations, the Parties will promote and reinforce their cooperation based on partnership and complementarities and will make special efforts to promote understanding and cooperative relations among migrants and host societies, nations and peoples across cultures and religions, and to help counter the forces that fuel polarization and extremism. In this collaboration the Parties will be particularly mindful of the need to consider the relevance of gender issues in migration matters. As this cooperation is a non-exclusive relationship, it may be carried out in the context of joint collaboration with other strategic or operational partners.

ARTICLE II

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION

1. IOM and UNAOC shall act in close collaboration and hold consultations on all matters of common interest. To this end, the Parties shall consider the appropriate framework for such consultations as and when necessary.

2. IOM and UNAOC agree to seek to achieve the maximum cooperation and the elimination of unnecessary duplication between them, and that when common interests so dictate, either Organization may request the cooperation of the other.
3. The Parties shall ensure that their co-operation will further their aims and objectives in the context of the promotion and protection of democracy, human rights and the rule of law; the fight against all forms of discrimination on any ground; the equal dignity of every human being and gender equality; inclusive and cohesive societies; the democratic governance of cultural diversity; intercultural dialogue and exchange; and the strengthening of democratic citizenship and participation.
4. The Parties agree to build into their joint projects and activities a multi-stakeholder approach that may include, *inter alia*, other international or regional organizations, public authorities at all levels, civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector as essential actors in the dialogue among cultures and civilizations.
5. Each Organization shall endeavour, in so far as possible and in compliance with its constituent instruments and decisions of its competent bodies, to respond favourably to such requests for cooperation in accordance with procedures to be mutually agreed upon.

ARTICLE III

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

1. In accordance with the applicable rules of procedure and decisions taken by the competent bodies concerning the attendance of meetings by observers, IOM shall invite UNAOC to send representatives to meetings and conferences convened by IOM to which intergovernmental organizations have been invited, whenever matters of interest to UNAOC are to be discussed.
2. In accordance with the applicable rules of procedure and decisions taken by the competent bodies concerning the attendance of meetings by observers, UNAOC shall invite IOM to send representatives to meetings and conferences convened by UNAOC to which intergovernmental organizations have been invited, whenever matters of interest to IOM are to be discussed.

ARTICLE IV

JOINT ACTION

1. IOM and UNAOC may, through special arrangements, decide to act jointly in the development and implementation of projects that are of common interest. Special arrangements shall define the modalities for the participation of each Organization in such projects and shall determine the expenses payable by each of them.

2. When seeking resources for the purposes of programmes envisaged in this Agreement, IOM and UNAOC shall approach donors jointly, as early as possible, on the basis of agreed arrangements for implementation and programme delivery, to the extent feasible, or cooperate regarding additional modalities to attract and mobilize resources for jointly identified programmes.
3. IOM and UNAOC may, whenever they consider it desirable, set up commissions, committees or other technical or advisory bodies, on terms and conditions to be mutually agreed upon in each case, to advise them on matters of common interest.

ARTICLE V AREAS OF COOPERATION

To achieve the objectives of this Cooperation Agreement and without prejudice to cooperation in additional fields, the Parties agree to consider the following areas for potential collaborative efforts:

1. Foster intercultural dialogue and integration of migrants through information campaigns, multi-stakeholder workshops and other public outreach measures aimed at promoting social and religious diversity, furthering social cohesion and averting the marginalization of migrant communities.
2. Collect best practices of government programmes, civil society activities and academic research to foster information sharing at the global level with the aim of facilitating the integration and empowerment of migrants, focusing on three areas: Socio-Economic Integration, Legal and Political Integration and Cultural Integration.
3. Collect, share and disseminate experiences, lessons learned, and good practices on integration of migrants at the local and regional level in collaboration with other interested stakeholders, through joint events, network platforms and trainings.
4. Promote intercultural understanding and dialogue on migration and integration issues among relevant target groups, such as youth, through, *inter alia*, media events as well as outreach and training campaigns.
5. Promote educational programmes, intercultural and inter-faith dialogues in diverse communities, including through the engagement of NGOs and migrant associations, aimed at promoting exchanges between civil society and dispelling myth and stereotypes; those programmes will draw, *inter alia*, on the respective experience of the Parties.
6. Promoting the availability and utilization of media-relevant information regarding migration and migrants, encouraging objective and responsible use of information and reporting.

7. Advocate for and promote the effective respect for the human rights of migrants, with special emphasis on vulnerable groups such as migrant youth and migrant women, taking into account their rights and obligations, and those of host communities.
8. Promote successful migrant integration, in particular by facilitating dialogue and cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination for the purpose of building the capacity of countries to formulate and implement effective migrant integration policies and practices.
9. Exchange information and documentation in the public domain to the fullest extent possible on matters of common interest.
10. On request, provide technical support to the UNAOC Member States, by making available policy and programme development tools, technical assistance, and information.
11. Initiate and conduct joint research studies on matters of mutual interest.

ARTICLE VI **COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SECRETARIATS**

The IOM Director General and the UNAOC High Representative and shall take appropriate measures to ensure effective cooperation and liaison between the Secretariats of the two Organizations. Ad hoc consultations at a senior level may be organised on topical issues of joint interest. In order to facilitate collaboration, each Party will designate a focal point(s) who will be responsible for responding to queries and periodically reviewing collaboration between the two Parties as defined by this Cooperation Agreement. This includes close cooperation in the field, in particular in locations where both organizations are represented.

2. The Parties may consider as an option jointly developing a Plan of Action to be mutually agreed by the Parties at regular interval. The Plan of Action should reflect the goals and objectives of the Parties' respective work planning processes.

ARTICLE VII **VISIBILITY**

The Parties will take measures to enhance the visibility of their co-operation and joint activities to the general public. The Parties mutually will support each other in their relations with the media and with regard to web content, concerning joint activities

ARTICLE VIII
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Each Party retains the ownership and all rights in and to its copyrights, trademarks, name, logos and any other intellectual property. Either Party's use of the other Party's intellectual property is subject to the other Party's prior written approval. If such approval is given, the usage shall be on a non-exclusive basis and the Party using the intellectual property of the other Party shall strictly comply with the instructions of the other Party and with its guidelines and specifications.

ARTICLE IX
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The Secretariat of UNAOC and the Administration of IOM shall consult each other regularly on matters relating to this Agreement.

ARTICLE X
SUPPLEMENTARY ARRANGEMENTS

IOM and UNAOC may enter into such supplementary arrangements for the purpose of further collaboration and coordination as may be found desirable.

ARTICLE XI
ENTRY INTO FORCE, AMENDMENTS AND DURATION

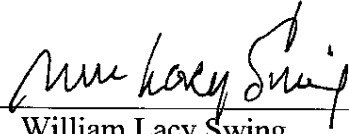
1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature by the duly authorized representatives of the two Organizations. Upon its entry into force, both organizations will publicize it among their personnel.
2. This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties. The proposed amendment should be made in writing to the other party and shall enter into force upon its acceptance in writing by the two Parties.
3. Either of the Parties may terminate this Agreement by giving six months' written notice to the other party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned representatives of the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Organization/Alliance of Civilizations have signed the present Agreement.

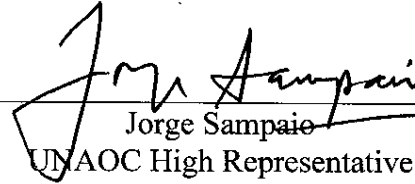
Signed this *6th* day of April 2009 at Istanbul/Turkey.

For the International Organization for Migration:

For the United Nations Organization/ Alliance of Civilizations:



William Lacy Swing
IOM Director General



Jorge Sampaio
UNAOC High Representative