

**TENTH COORDINATION MEETING
ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

New York, 9-10 February 2012



United Nations

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Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Population Division

TENTH COORDINATION MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

New York, 9 and 10 February 2012



United Nations
New York, 2013

DESA

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat is a vital interface between global policies in the economic, social and environmental spheres and national action. The Department works in three main interlinked areas: (i) it compiles, generates and analyses a wide range of economic, social and environmental data and information on which States Members of the United Nations draw to review common problems and take stock of policy options; (ii) it facilitates the negotiations of Member States in many intergovernmental bodies on joint courses of action to address ongoing or emerging global challenges; and (iii) it advises interested Governments on the ways and means of translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, helps build national capacities.

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PREFACE

The Tenth Coordination Meeting on International Migration was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, from 9 to 10 February 2012. It was the latest in a series of annual coordination meetings on international migration convened since 2002 by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat.

The meeting was attended by almost 140 participants, representing agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, offices of the United Nations Secretariat, including the regional commissions and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Also present were invited experts and representatives of United Nations Member States.

The coordination meetings on international migration are convened yearly with the purpose of reviewing the latest evidence on emerging topics in the field of international migration, as well as to exchange information on current and ongoing projects and enhance system-wide coordination and coherence. The outgoing and incoming Chairs of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) also participate in the meeting, providing a unique opportunity for dialogue between the State-led Global Forum process and the United Nations system, and enabling participating entities to contribute to the preparations, implementation and outcomes of the Global Forum.

The Tenth Coordination Meeting, pursuant to resolution 65/170, discussed contributions of relevant entities of the United Nations system and other organizations to the preparations of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, organized by the General Assembly during its sixty-eighth session in 2013.

The Chair-in-Office of the fifth meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development presented the achievements of the meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland from 1 to 2 December 2011, while the Chair-in-Office of the sixth meeting of the Global Forum presented plans for the forthcoming meeting, to be held in Port Louis, Mauritius, from 19 to 22 November 2012.

Nineteen entities, the majority belonging to the United Nations system, reported on their current and ongoing migration activities during the coordination segment. The large number of presentations signaled the strong involvement of the United Nations system in international migration, validating the request of the General Assembly to the Population Division of UN/DESA to continue to convene annual coordination meetings on international migration (A/58/208).

Since this meeting marked the tenth anniversary of the coordination meeting mechanisms, this volume contains an overview of the last ten coordination meetings and the report of the tenth meeting.

For further information on the present publication, please contact the Office of the Director, Population Division, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, by telephone (+1 212 963 3179), fax (+1 212 963 2147) or e-mail (migrationp@un.org). This report as well as other migration-related publications of the Population Division may be accessed at its website www.unmigration.org.

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

The following abbreviations have been used in the present document:

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AOIM	Arab Observatory for International Migration
AU	African Union
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CMS	Center for Migration Studies
DOLAS	United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea
ECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
EU	European Union
Eurostat	Statistical Office of the European Communities
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFMD	Global Forum on Migration and Development
GMG	Global Migration Group
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICMC	International Catholic Migration Commission
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMEPO	Hellenic Migration Policy Institute
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IUSSP	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
KNOMAD	Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development
LAS	League of Arab States
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
OAS	Organization of American States
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
SIMN	Scalabrini International Migration Network
SICREMI	Continuous Labour Migration Reporting System for the Americas
UNAOC	United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN/DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-NGLS	United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research

UNODC
UN WOMEN
WHO

United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
World Health Organization

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AN OVERVIEW OF THE COORDINATION MEETINGS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION, 2002-2012

A. INTRODUCTION

The coordination meeting on international migration has been held annually at the United Nations in New York since 2002. The meetings are organized by the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in response to General Assembly resolutions 56/203 of 21 December 2001 and 58/208 of 13 February 2004. The meeting in 2012 marked the tenth anniversary of this coordination mechanism.

B. OBJECTIVES

The coordination meetings were originally intended to (a) share and exchange information on the collection and use of data in the area of international migration; (b) identify major gaps or areas of missing information, and (c) facilitate coordination of activities within the United Nations system and among other relevant international and regional organizations as well as national institutions concerned with international migration. Over time, the scope of the meeting was broadened and experts were invited to report on the multidimensional aspects of international migration and to discuss emerging issues in the field. As the debate on international migration evolved at the global level, the meeting also welcomed representatives of different forums, in particular the Global Forum on International Migration and Development. Throughout the ten-year history of the meeting, the coordination segment became more important. This was evident from the increasing number of papers submitted to the meeting on coordination issues, the ever-growing number of requests for presentations from the floor during the coordination segment, and the rise in registrations of international organizations that had not participated in the past.

C. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Meetings' attendance

The attendance has increased steadily since 2002, with the tenth coordination meeting attracting almost 140 participants (table 1). In general, participants have been representatives of agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, offices of the United Nations Secretariat, the regional commissions, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as invited experts and representatives of United Nations Member States. Given the long-standing tradition of having a segment on data and research, representatives of academia and international research organizations also participated and made presentations.

In later years, the meeting also welcomed representatives of international forums dealing with issues related to migration. For example, representatives of the Berne Initiative, the Global Commission on International Migration and the Global Forum on International Migration and Development were invited to give presentations and interact with participants. Over the years, the chairs of the Global Forum have made presentations at the coordination meetings. The coordination meeting also provided an opportunity for participants to meet on the side lines with the Secretary-General and other high-ranking United Nations officials or representatives of Member States. On regular occasions, the United Nations Population Division organized briefings for Member States in conjunction with the coordination meetings. In 2012, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development addressed the meeting. Civil society participation also increased over the years, including

representatives of the business community who at times were also invited to give presentations. In 2011, the Chair of the Civil Society Days of the Global Forum addressed the meeting. Members of the Global Migration Group (GMG) participated regularly, and were also represented by the GMG chair.

TABLE 1. COORDINATION MEETING ATTENDANCE, 2002-2012

<i>Year</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Number of Participants</i>
2002	First	45
2003	Second	67
2004	Third	57
2005	Fourth	68
2006	Fifth	80
2007	Sixth	78
2008	Seventh	80
2009	Eighth	88
2011 ¹	Ninth	96
2012	Tenth	138

In summary, the number of participants attending the coordination meeting increased and its composition changed over the last 10 years, now also welcoming representatives of global forums, Member States and civil society, including the business community and academia.

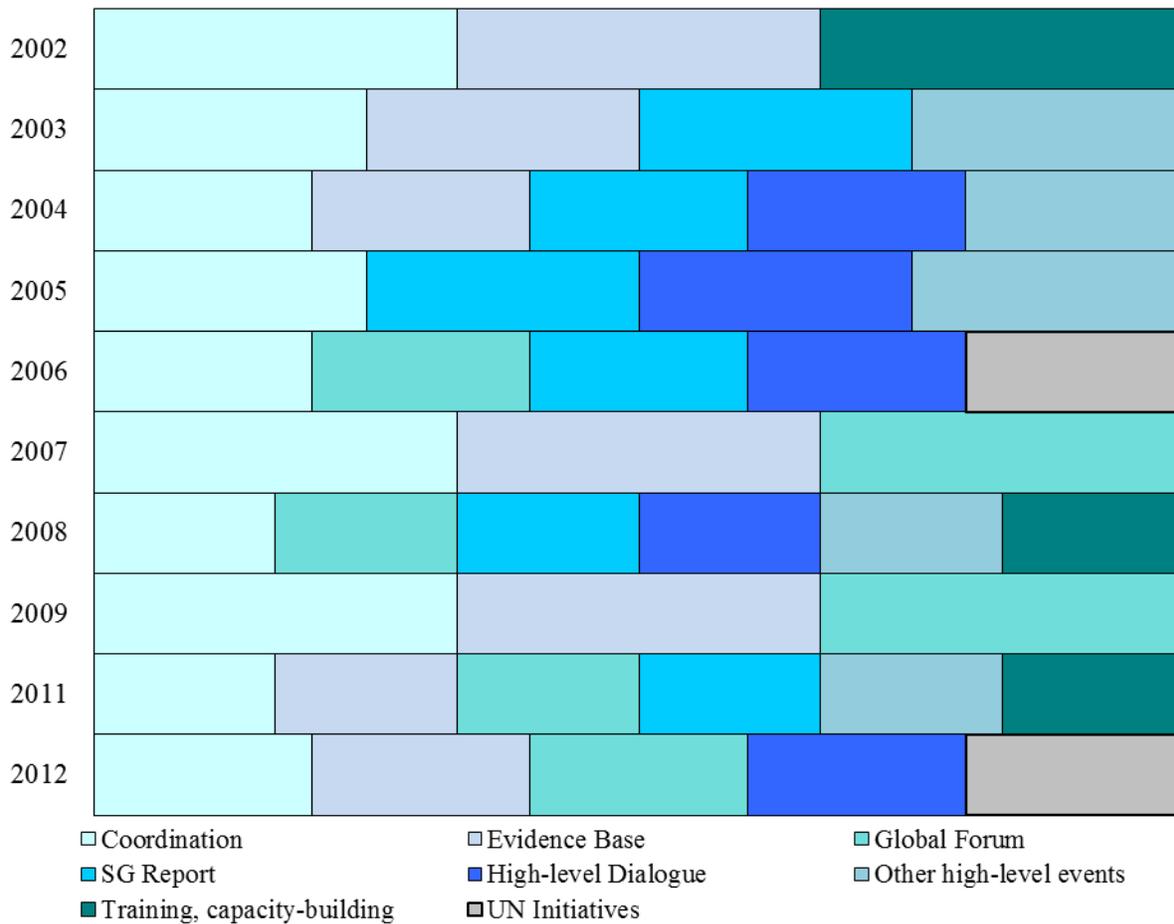
2. *Trends in topics*

Over time, the topics discussed at the coordination meetings have evolved and increased in number. The first meeting focused on: (1) international migration: measurement and policy issues; (2) major challenges in gathering information on international migration, and (3) unmet needs for information and coordination of future activities. However, it was already noted at that time that future meetings would need to address research topics other than data collection activities and methodology.

As indicated in figure 1, over the last 10 years, the main focus of the meeting was on coordination activities. Initially, United Nations entities used this meeting to present their work, but intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, civil society and academia followed. Prior to each meeting, participants were asked to submit papers on their past, current and future activities. These initiatives were posted on the meeting’s website and published in the proceedings of the meeting. Participants were also given an opportunity to present an overview of their activities from the floor (“tour de table”). In general, participants reported on research projects, conferences, reports, policy initiatives, capacity-building activities and on the establishment of networks. Starting in 2011, a segment on new initiatives was added providing a platform for participants to report on their new, and sometimes joint, initiatives.

¹ The ninth coordination meeting, scheduled to take place in 2010, was postponed until 2011.

FIGURE 1. TOPICS ADDRESSED OVER TIME¹



The second most important topic addressed at the meeting over the years was the evidence base, with presentations and discussions dealing, for example, with the latest data on migration levels and trends, the integration of migrants or remittances. Presenters from organizations such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA) and the World Bank showcased their latest research from a global and regional perspective. Often, sessions were more theoretical in nature and focused on methods, such as efforts to standardize international migration information, and statistics and data collection activities through censuses and surveys. Some presentations showcased efforts of individual researchers, while others focused on collaboration of activities. For example, in 2008, the Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research consisting of representatives of academia and international organizations presented its work on improving migration data in a practical, cost-efficient way. In 2009, this was followed by a presentation of the Suitland Working Group, consisting of national and international organizations working in the field of migration statistics. The Group had focused on developing guidelines for the use of household surveys in studying international migration.

In recent years, the meetings increasingly covered multidimensional aspects of international migration and emerging issues, including: migration of highly-skilled people, the link between migration and environmental change, migration of health workers, the impact of the global financial and economic crisis on migration, migration of women, migration intentions and diasporas. Major research reports, such as the 2009 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development report entitled

Overcoming barriers: Human mobility and development and the 2011 Foresight Report entitled *Migration and global environmental change* were presented under the agenda item of emerging issues.

As international migration moved to the forefront of the global development agenda, the coordination meeting provided a platform for representatives of various global processes in the area of international migration to present their work and to exchange ideas with the United Nations community. In 2003 and 2004, representatives involved with the Berne initiative, a global State-led consultative process to promote international cooperation in the management of international migration, provided an overview of its work. In 2003, the Global Commission on International Migration was launched by the Secretary-General and by a number of interested Governments. Over its tenure from 2003 to 2005, the Commission was tasked with placing international migration on the global agenda, analysing gaps in current policy approaches to migration, and examining inter-linkages with other areas. In 2004, the Commission reported on its planned activities followed in 2005 by a presentation on the report of the Commission and its relevance for the 2006 High-level Dialogue.

The coordination meeting discussed the 2006 and 2013 High-level Dialogues on International Migration and Development on various occasions. Prior to the 2006 High-level Dialogue, representatives of the Office of the President of the General Assembly and the Office of the Secretary-General reported on its preparations, and United Nations entities and other participants suggested topics to be discussed. Similarly, in 2012, participants previewed their planned preparatory activities for the 2013 High-level Dialogue. The report of the Secretary-General prepared for the 2006 High-level Dialogue was also presented and discussed at the meeting. Following the 2006 High-level Dialogue, its outcome, limitations and achievements were reviewed.

Starting in 2007, following the first meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, each coordination meeting provided a platform for the chairs of the Global Forum to discuss the past and forthcoming Global Forum meetings. In 2012, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General offered his perspective on the links between the Global Forum process and the United Nations, and his views on the forthcoming High-level Dialogue in 2013. Since much of the activities related to the Global Forum have taken place in Geneva, bringing the deliberations of the Global Forum to New York was a major achievement. This allowed New York's diplomatic community and New York-based organizations to learn more about the activities in Geneva.

Furthermore, since the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), international migration and development has been discussed in the Second Committee of the General Assembly every two years, leading to the adoption of resolutions on international migration and development. The Population Division has been in charge of the preparation of reports of the Secretary-General as background to these negotiations. The coordination meetings have provided an opportunity for the United Nations system to give valuable input to these reports.

The topic of capacity-building on migration data was mainstreamed throughout the meetings. In 2008, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) gave a presentation on providing training on international migration to United Nations Member States as well as the broader United Nations community. The coordination segment in particular allowed participants to report on their activities in this regard. For example, in 2012, the regional commissions provided an overview of their participation in the Development Account project on international migration. The project had supported all five commissions to build national and regional capacities by organizing workshops, authoring research guides, developing data depositories and online inventories of information on migration, including migration institutions.

In retrospect, although the coordination meetings started with a primary focus on data, capacity-building and coordination among participants, the scope was broadened significantly over the years. The

yearly meetings contributed to strengthening the link between various forums on international migration, especially the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and the United Nations system, provided a platform for discussions both before and after the 2006 and 2013 High-level Dialogue, and explored emerging issues in the field. The coordination segment allowed for an exchange between participants and for identification of gaps and synergies in their activities. Although the meeting was global in scope, it also promoted regional perspectives, especially by inviting the regional commissions and other regional stakeholders to provide an overview of their work.

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REPORT OF THE TENTH MEETING

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REPORT OF THE TENTH MEETING

The Tenth United Nations Coordination Meeting on International Migration took place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 9 to 10 February 2012. The meeting was organized by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (UN/DESA). Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/170, discussions focused on the preparations for the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development which would be held by the General Assembly during its sixty-eighth session in 2013. The meeting also focused on outcomes of the 2011 meeting and preparations for the 2012 meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, summarized the most recent evidence in the field of international migration and development, and provided an opportunity for interagency coordination, with a special emphasis on new initiatives.

The meeting attracted nearly 140 participants, including representatives of agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, offices of the United Nations Secretariat, the regional commissions, intergovernmental organization and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) active in the field of international migration. Also present were invited experts and country representatives.

I. OPENING

Mr. Bela Hovy, Chief of the Migration Section of the Population Division of UN/DESA, opened the meeting by welcoming the participants. He noted that the annual coordination meetings had evolved from a mainly technical meeting of migration experts to one with multiple functions. An important development in this evolution was the creation of a panel on the Global Forum on Migration and Development intended to foster dialogue between the State-led Global Forum and the United Nations system. Further, in recognition of increased migration-related activities worldwide, the coordination segment had been steadily strengthened, as a result of the growing number of migration activities. Lastly, civil society's role in the meetings continued to grow.

II. THE GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

H.E. Eduard Gnesa of Switzerland, Special Ambassador for International Cooperation in Migration Issues and the 2011 Chair-in-Office of the Global Forum presented an overview of the activities of the 2011 Global Forum carried out by Switzerland under the overarching theme of "Taking action on migration and development – coherence, capacity and cooperation". The 2011 Global Forum had been innovative in both topics and format, and in addition to the annual meeting, the Swiss chair had organized for 14 thematic meetings in various locations around the world. They were organized into three thematic clusters: (a) labour mobility and development; (b) irregular migration addressed through coherent migration and development strategies; and (c) tools for evidence-based migration and development policies. These themes built on previous Global Forum meetings and reflected the action-oriented and output-driven character of the 2011 Global Forum. The results were discussed at the concluding debate, held in Geneva from 1 to 2 December 2011, which was attended by 600 delegates from about 160 countries, 36 representatives of international organizations and 120 civil society representatives.

Under thematic cluster I, Governments recognized that there should be greater private sector involvement in labour market planning in order to better match labour supply with demand. Further, international cooperation in the area of skills development, regulation of recruitment processes and mutual recognition of qualifications could contribute to lowering the costs of migration. Care workers were of increasing global importance and mechanisms were needed for their protection. Under thematic cluster II, governments underscored the need for better understanding of the implications of irregular migration on development for both countries of origin and of destination. Under thematic cluster III, Governments described progress in evidence-based policy-making through increased use of tools, including Migration Profiles, impact assessments, and the handbook on mainstreaming migration into development planning. Countries had taken ownership of the evidence generated by these tools and had begun to use statistics in developing evidence-based migration and development policies. The proceedings of the 2011 Global Forum meeting, to be published in February 2012, would discuss these outcomes in greater detail.

The 2011 Global Forum had also broken new ground by increasing the participation of the private sector and civil society. The chair gratefully acknowledged the support of Governments, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration, Mr. Peter Sutherland, and of international organizations, including the Global Migration Group (GMG), which had been instrumental in making the 2011 Global Forum a success. The 2011 Global Forum had succeeded in building trust between partners on which future action should be based, especially with a view to the 2012 Global Forum and the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development.

Further, under the Swiss Chair and with support from the Special Representative, the first phase of the Global Forum assessment had been completed. The assessment showed that the majority of States that had responded in the survey recognized that the Global Forum had facilitated the exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of international migration and development. The second phase of the assessment to be organized in 2012, would address the future of the Global Forum. Member States should view the assessment as an opportunity to analyze the relationship between the Global Forum and the United Nations in light of the 2013 High-level Dialogue. The Informal Thematic Debate on International Migration held in the General Assembly on 19 May 2011 had highlighted the need for regular exchange between various stakeholders at the United Nations. Switzerland reiterated its support for the 2013 High-level Dialogue and wished the Chair-in-Office of the 2012 Global Forum every success.

Mr. Mansoor, Financial Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development of Mauritius and Chair-in-Office of the 2012 Global Forum, provided an overview of the 2012 Global Forum preparatory activities and the second phase of the assessment process. Under the overarching theme of “Enhancing the human development of migrants and their contribution to the development of communities and states”, Mauritius would build on the previous Global Forum meetings and work towards realizing improvements in the conditions and prospects of migrants and their families. Mr. Mansoor emphasized that the Global Forum was a State-led process, saying that he viewed his role as building bridges between State and non-State actors. Mauritius would also pay special attention to the challenges facing Africa as both an origin and destination for migrants, and Mr. Mansoor invited the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to collaborate with the Chair in this regard. The Global Forum would also continue to collaborate closely with the private sector, diaspora groups, civil society and international organizations, including the GMG, in supporting the efforts of Governments to achieve concrete outcomes.

The 2012 Global Forum meeting, to be held in Mauritius in November 2012, would comprise Government-led roundtables and thematic sessions organized by the Global Forum ad-hoc working groups and other stakeholders. The draft concept paper proposed three round tables: Round table 1:

Circulating Labour for Inclusive Development; Round table 2: Factoring Migration into Development Planning, and Round table 3: Managing Migration and Migrant Protection for Development Outcomes. Gender and human rights would be treated as cross-cutting topics in all round tables, and Round table C would feature a dedicated session on domestic workers. As the Government of Mauritius had received limited financial support, Mr. Mansoor appealed to Member States to make available the necessary funding.

The second phase of the assessment would be conducted in 2012 and would focus on the future of the Global Forum process, including its relationship with the United Nations. A preliminary report of the second phase would be presented for discussion and endorsement at the Global Forum meeting in Mauritius in November 2012. The final report, including the report of the first phase and a final analysis of the second phase, would be available by the end of 2012 ahead of the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

III. THE 2013 HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

H.E. Ambassador Eva Åkerman-Börje, former Director in the Department for Migration and Asylum Policy in the Swedish Ministry of Justice and 2013-2014 Chair of the Global Forum, offered Sweden's views on the possible contribution of the Global Forum to the 2013 High-level Dialogue. Sweden had supported discussions about international migration and development at the global level for some time, including the work of the Global Commission on International Migration and the Global Forum since its beginning in 2007. The State-led, voluntary, consultative, open-ended and non-binding character of the Global Forum had allowed Member States to engage more easily in dialogue and collaboration, knowing that they could "agree to disagree". Over time, trust had developed among participants, which in turn benefited the Global Forum process and its outcomes. The 2013 High-level Dialogue could emulate the Global Forum's approach of pairing Governments for the preparation of joint inputs and presentations, including policy-relevant recommendations. Regarding topics to be discussed in 2013, Sweden suggested choosing some of the themes that had already been addressed at past Global Forum meetings, adding that the topic of global governance had not yet been discussed at the global level and should be considered for 2013. While the number of Member States participating in the Global Forum had increased steadily, the lack of involvement by development experts needed to be remedied. She encouraged the United Nations to collaborate closely with Member States in preparing the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

Professor François Crépeau, Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, reflected on the human rights perspective in relation to the 2013 High-level Dialogue. Migrants did not move *from* their human rights; they moved *with* their human rights. The fundamental tenets of international human rights law — non-discrimination and equality of treatment — were applicable to *all* migrants. International migrants were often poorly organized due to language barriers, lack of resources and awareness of their rights, as well as to the fear of being deported. It was essential to coordinate efforts to carry this message forward in order to influence long-term change with respect to laws, policies and the public discourse on migration.

Disrespect for human rights was a common cause of international migration, and many migrants continued to experience violations of their human rights in countries of transit and destination. Migrant women and children and migrants in an irregular situation were particularly at risk of exploitation and abuse. Demand for cheap labour was a strong pull factor for undocumented migrants, and regularization of irregular migrants was needed in order to end exploitation of migrant workers and abusive and manipulative practices of recruitment agencies and employers. Rather than criminalizing migrants for irregular entry and presence in a country, governments should apply sanctions to employers who are engaged in unlawful and exploitative employment.

At the 2011 Global Forum meeting, presentations on the human rights of migrants in an irregular situation were made by the Special Rapporteur, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Chairperson of the Committee on Migrant Workers and representatives of civil society. A session on the same topic could be organized for the 2012 Global Forum. A number of events and publications on migrant rights planned for 2012 would provide input to the 2013 High-level Dialogue. For example, in September 2011, the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families of the Human Rights Council had held a general discussion on the rights of migrant workers in an irregular situation in preparation for the adoption of General Comment No. 2 on the same topic later in 2012. A thematic report emphasizing alternatives to detention of migrants in an irregular situation was being prepared for a session of the Human Rights Council in June 2012. The general discussion of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in September 2012 would focus on children in situations of migration. These activities would contribute to the High-level Dialogue.

At the global level, many States had recognized that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants were essential for reaping the benefits of international migration. At the national level, however, countries had yet to translate this recognition into a reality. The 2013 High-level Dialogue should reaffirm that migration, human rights and development were interdependent and mutually reinforcing. All migrants should enjoy all basic human rights, regardless of their migration status, and protecting those rights was both a legal obligation and in the interest of countries of destination. The High-level Dialogue should also send a clear message favouring regularization of irregular migrants and employer sanctions over detention and criminalization of undocumented migrants.

Mr. John Bingham of the International Catholic Migration Commission and Co-Chair of the Civil Society Days of the 2011 Global Forum, reviewed civil society's role in and contribution to the 2006 High-level Dialogue and suggested improvements in this area for the 2013 High-level Dialogue. The 2006 High-level Dialogue had allowed only limited civil society participation. For the 2013 event, civil society, including transnational communities, the private sector and migrants themselves should be included more fully and allowed to engage early on in both the preparatory process and the High-level Dialogue itself. Further, the High-level Dialogue should produce concrete outcomes focusing on (a) the rule of law in international migration; (b) rights-based global governance of international migration; (c) development alternatives to forced migration; (d) irregular migration; (e) protection of stranded migrants; (f) labour migration with a focus on "recharging" the International Labour Organization's (ILO) mandate on this topic; and (g) moving the Global Forum process under the United Nations mandate. Lastly, civil society needed to better organize itself for the events in 2013, and a necessary step in this direction was the creation of a working group on the modalities of civil society's engagement during the 2013 event. For the first time, civil society had received multi-year funding to organize civil society activities at the Global Forum. This would enable the group to enter into multi-year relationships with Mauritius, Sweden and Turkey as the current and future chairs of the Global Forum. Regarding the State-led Global Forum process, Mr. Bingham concluded that due to lack of funding the process was not sustainable in its current form, and that all stakeholders should start thinking about the future of the Global Forum.

H.E. Luis Alfonso de Alba, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations in New York, speaking in his capacity as chair of this session and representing the Chair-in-Office of the 2010 Global Forum, expressed his confidence that the High-level Dialogue could build on the trust established between Global Forum participants over the years. However, bringing the debate to New York might be a challenge since most of the Global Forum discussions had taken place in Geneva. He suggested that the collaboration between Member States and United Nations entities leading up to the High-level Dialogue be improved over that of the 2006 High-level Dialogue and the Global Forum process. The Second Committee of the General Assembly would address the modalities of the High-level Dialogue during its sixty-seventh session in the fall of 2012, including its outcome document, and it was important that

concrete outcomes be achieved. He agreed with the representative of Sweden that global governance of international migration was a crucial topic. Further, Mexico was engaged in discussions surrounding Rio+20 and the post-2015 United Nations development agenda, and it supported the suggestion by many Member States that the two frameworks be integrated. In this context, the nexus between international migration and development was an integral part of a revised United Nations development agenda.

During the following discussion, participants emphasized that the High-level Dialogue should move beyond debating the future of the Global Forum and should ensure that international migration be included in the broader post-2015 United Nations development agenda. Furthermore, gender and human rights, including the rights of migrant children and youth, should be mainstreamed in the forthcoming Global Forum and High-level Dialogue. Labour migration should also be considered at these events, and employers and trade unions should be included as participants of civil society.

IV. INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT: REGIONAL DIMENSIONS AND INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

This session focused on regional and interagency coordination in the field of international migration and development. It consisted of two panels, one reviewing a project on international migration, the other addressing preparations for the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

Representatives of all five regional commissions summarized their involvement in the Development Account Project on international migration. The project, headed by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and carried out in collaboration with all regional commissions and UN/DESA, aimed at strengthening national capacities for incorporating international migration into national development strategies. Specifically, it was intended to improve the availability and quality of information, to strengthen national institutional capacities by incorporating international migration into national development strategies, and to promote cooperation between stakeholders through intra- and interregional networks. The project consisted of three phases: (a) regional activities in 2009-2010; (b) inter-regional activities in 2011, and (c) a final phase of report-writing and presentation of results during the first semester in 2012. As the lead agency, ECLAC had organized and coordinated most of the project activities, participated in meetings, and prepared publications on international migration in Latin America and the Caribbean. It was now writing the final report of the project with input from the other regional commissions and UN/DESA.

The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), in collaboration with many international partners, including UN/DESA, had focused on strengthening capacities in the field by developing evidence-based policies on international migration in countries of Central Asia and Eastern Europe. In 2010 and 2011 it had organized regional workshops with participants from statistical offices and ministries, addressing data gaps, identifying capacity-building needs, and developing tools for data collection and analysis. A regional practical resource guide had been authored presenting definitions, indicators and commonly used data sources. At the request of Member States, the Commission had created an online repository of basic migration statistics for countries in Central Asia and Eastern Europe.

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) had organized three regional workshops which had stressed the importance of developing comprehensive policies on international migration. Policies should (a) guarantee the protection of migrant worker rights throughout the migration process, including recruitment, deployment and return; (b) focus on improving channels for remittance transfers; (c) reduce recruitment and deployment costs for international migrants, including those of private recruitment agencies, and (d) aim at reform of employer-tied work permits, which should always respect the rights of migrants. Further, the meetings had emphasized the need to collect, tabulate

and disseminate sex-disaggregated data on international migration, including labour migration. In this regard, ESCAP was collaborating with the Scalabrini Migration Center in the Philippines on revising the online migration information system in Asia. The Commission had also authored a number of publications on international migration in the region. With the International Organization for Migration (IOM), ESCAP was co-chairing the thematic working group on migration including human trafficking, and was organizing the sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference to be held in Bangkok in 2013.

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) had convened regional workshops, published a report on international migration challenges in Arab countries, and was currently developing a regional database on international migration containing information on migration statistics and key researchers and research centres. The workshops had focused on (a) the development impact of remittances; (b) transnational communities; (c) emigration of highly-skilled migrants; (d) gender dimensions of international migration flows; (e) social protection of migrant workers; and (f) the need to improve data collection, dissemination and analysis in the field. The Commission was currently exploring the possibility of co-organizing a workshop on data collection, dissemination and analysis in the region. It would continue to coordinate the Regional Commissions' participation in the GMG and planned to hold a preparatory meeting for the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) had been active in the field of international migration since the 2006 High-level Dialogue, with some of its activities covered under the development account project. The Commission had initiated the inclusion of international migration on the agenda of three of the four meetings of the African Development Forum. It had also organized the first Africa regional dialogue on international migration in South Africa in 2011, participated in an interregional development account project meeting held in Geneva in 2011 and authored some studies. It was preparing a report on migration in Africa for 2012-2013 and planned to participate in regional and subregional expert group meetings. ECA was also establishing an online repository of bilateral and multilateral agreements on international migration combined with a platform for policy dialogue and knowledge-sharing. Lastly, the Commission intended to support the Government of Mauritius, the current chair of the Global Forum, in preparing for the 2012 Global Forum meeting.

IOM and ECE chaired the second panel. The panel topic was introduced with reference to resolution 65/170, which had invited regional commissions, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system and the IOM, to examine regional aspects of international migration and development, and to provide inputs to the report of the Secretary-General as well as to the preparatory process of the High-level Dialogue. In the ensuing tour-de-table, participants presented some of their ongoing work and plans for the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

The first topic raised was capacity-building of United Nations Member States. For some time, IOM had assisted Governments in developing national policies on international migration facilitated by the IOM development fund, and would continue to do so for the foreseeable future. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) would carry on its work on mainstreaming migration into development planning. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), in collaboration with the IOM and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), was engaged in capacity-building of Member States through their regularly-held Migration and Development Series in New York, and intended to continue this work for the foreseeable future.

A number of organizations reported that the human rights of migrants would be high on their agenda for 2012-2013. For example, OHCHR was addressing the following topics in preparation for the High-level Dialogue: (a) combating xenophobia; (b) promoting the economic, social and cultural rights of migrants, and (c) protecting migrants' human rights. The ILO was continuing its work on labour migration, the social protection of migrant workers and the transferability of social security benefits. ILO

suggested that the High-level Dialogue allow for discussions on developing a global migrant labour policy. UN Women's work at the global, regional and country levels focused on gender-responsive migration governance, including empowering migrant women to claim their rights, which would be carried forward to the High-level Dialogue. IOM was continuing its work on international migration law as well as training of Member States.

Continuing with the discussion on human rights and migration, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) reported that it was collaborating with the IOM on full implementation of an agreement to overcome HIV-related challenges faced by migrants. The focus was on enhancing social protection for migrants affected by HIV, and removing the punitive laws, policies, practices, stigma, discrimination and violence directed at them. This also entailed strengthening governments in their efforts to fight discrimination of HIV-infected migrants. The United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOLAS) pointed out that many migrants migrated by sea, especially irregular migrants. Together with the IOM and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Division had developed comprehensive legal and political approaches to address this. In 2012, the thirtieth anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea would be observed by organizing special events, such as a panel discussion on the loss of lives at sea. Some of these activities would feed into the High-level Dialogue.

Some organizations concerned with "stranded migrants," migrant smuggling and human trafficking stressed the need to address these topics at the High-level Dialogue. For example, UNHCR had closely collaborated with IOM during the humanitarian crisis in Libya in 2011. This crisis had revealed gaps in legal safeguards for "stranded migrants." These organizations pointed out that the topic should be debated in 2013. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) continued to support Member States in fighting migrant smuggling and human trafficking, including support in taking preventive action. The work of UNODC in the field of international migration was based on three pillars: (a) normative work to assist Member States to ratify and implement the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols on trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling; (b) research- and awareness-raising to increase knowledge and understanding and expand the evidence base for policy and operational decisions, and (c) field-based technical cooperation to enhance the capacity of Member States to prevent and punish trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling. UNODC was currently involved in two regional interagency projects in this regard — one linked to the Bali regional consultative process and another to work with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe — and was hopeful that they would feed into the High-level Dialogue.

The Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) at Georgetown University had recently received a three-year grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to study crisis-induced migration. The focus was on setting guiding principles and effective practices for addressing migration induced by crises such as environmental change, violence, epidemics, nuclear disasters and terrorist attacks. The Institute would collaborate with UNHCR on this project and was hopeful that some of the research would be relevant to the High-level Dialogue. In a second recently funded project, the Institute was creating a module of migration- and remittance-related questions for inclusion in household surveys in developing countries. Results from these surveys were expected to add to the evidence base in the field.

Some organizations reported on work at the regional level that would inform the High-level Dialogue. For example, since 2006, ECA had focused on international migration in Africa and was planning on convening regional meetings and authoring a report on this topic. For the European Union (EU), international migration remained a priority area and the EU was collaborating with United Nations agencies, the International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and the IOM to develop safe, legal and orderly migration policies. The EU was also supporting research on migration and

development and had welcomed the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Code of Practice on the international recruitment of health personnel. This topic was clearly relevant to the High-level Dialogue. ESCWA, with support from ILO, UNFPA and Member States was planning to hold a preparatory meeting for the High-level Dialogue in December 2012. ESCAP, in collaboration with members of the thematic working group on migration including human trafficking, civil society and Member States, was organizing a meeting to investigate recent levels and trends in international migration. The 2013 Asia and Pacific Population Conference to be held in Bangkok, Thailand in May 2013 would devote time to the High-level Dialogue. ECE would continue its work on migration statistics and was planning to organize a workshop on this topic in Geneva in October 2013 with a view to the forthcoming high-level event.

The African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Observatory on Migration had worked with different partners on south-south migration and had authored 42 different studies on this topic. These studies had already been shared with the 2012 chair of the Global Forum and would also be made available for 2013. The Observatory was also involved in regional capacity-building initiatives which would continue through 2012. UNICEF reported that in 2012-2013 it would continue its collaborative work with UN/DESA on south-south migration. International migration also remained high on the agenda of the League of Arab States (LAS) which had focused on transnational communities. For the biennium 2012-2013, the LAS was planning to hold a meeting on Arab expatriates, and also on the impact of the "Arab spring" on migration in the region. These topics would clearly be relevant to the High-level Dialogue. The OECD had already partnered with some regional commissions on collecting data and was looking forward to expand this work in view of the High-level Dialogue. In collaboration with the regional commissions, IOM had offered to co-chair the GMG in 2013 and was planning to organize regional workshops to prepare for the High-level Dialogue.

Other topics raised under the agenda item of regional preparations for the High-level Dialogue were migration and youth, improving the evidence base on international migration, and migrant perceptions. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), in collaboration with ILO, IOM, UN/DESA, UNFPA, and the Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) reported on their work on migrant children, which would extend through 2013. IOM would continue to compile Migration Profiles and publish the annual *World Migration Report*. Further, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) had developed an internet platform on best practices of migrant integration featuring a number of action-oriented projects designed to change negative perceptions regarding migrants. This platform could be of interest to participants at the events in 2013.

The NGO Committee on Migration called for strong participation of civil society in the 2012 Global Forum meeting and the 2013 High-level Dialogue, including its regional preparatory meetings. The Committee had formed a working group on modalities to ensure civil society's full participation in the High-level Dialogue. Similar working groups had come together for high-level events in the areas of social development, financing for development and sustainable development. The NGO Committee on Migration was also in contact with the Office of the President of the General Assembly, the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS) and UN/DESA to ensure full participation in the High-level Dialogue. The Committee recommended that the High-level Dialogue consider the topics of mixed migration flows, human trafficking and climate-induced migration.

Looking beyond 2013, some organizations reported on their efforts to mainstream migration into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda. Together with UN/DESA, UNDP was leading discussions on this topic and was supporting the inclusion of migration in these discussions. UN Women expressed interest in contributing to this debate. UNFPA, in collaboration with UN/DESA, was currently engaged in the twenty-year follow-up of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and was undertaking an operational review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD, including a review of Chapter X on international migration.

Mr. Peter Sutherland, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Migration, addressed the meeting at the conclusion of this panel. He noted that international migration was not featured prominently on the United Nations agenda before 2006. Given the reluctance of some Member States to discuss the topic regularly at the United Nations, the Global Forum had been created. It was a voluntary, informal, non-binding and State-led process open to all State Members and Observers of the United Nations, whose goal was to advance understanding and cooperation on the mutually reinforcing relationship between migration and development and to foster practical and action-oriented outcomes. Now in its seventh year, the Global Forum had become the largest and most comprehensive global platform for dialogue and cooperation on international migration and development.

The Special Representative remarked on some of the shortcomings of the Global Forum process. While the Global Forum's informality and voluntary status contributed substantially to its success, this also limited its resources for funding and support structures. First, the support unit assisting the Chair-in-Office in administrative matters remained very small, and second, the financing of the process remained unreliable and difficult. It was time to strengthen the support unit and also to move to a regular annual budget. Further, it was important to broaden the involvement of civil society, including the business community.

Regarding the future, the Special Representative noted the Secretary-General's commitment to the topic of international migration and development. Mr. Sutherland recognized that the Global Forum was distinct from the High-level Dialogue, but it could clearly inform and strengthen it. In this regard, the ongoing assessment of the Global Forum provided an opportunity for Governments to evaluate the process and consider its future. It was already clear, however, that for the future the majority of Member States neither favoured the creation of a United Nations entity solely devoted to the topic of international migration nor a formalized United Nations process to address it on a regular basis. Mr. Sutherland then recognized the work of the GMG noting, however, that the group had not met all of his expectations.

He then highlighted topics high on the international migration agenda that might be considered for the High-level Dialogue. The political and humanitarian crisis in Libya in 2011 had spotlighted the plight of "stranded migrants." Surmounting many difficulties, the Philippines had successfully helped most of the Filipino migrants trapped in Libya to return home. These events, however, had highlighted the lack of guidelines to assist "stranded migrants" for countries of origin, transit and destination. The 2011 Convention concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers was a major breakthrough, and he encouraged all Member States to ratify it. Furthermore, Governments and the international community should continue their fight against human rights abuses of migrants regardless of their legal status. Countries of origin should also engage transnational communities for purposes of development, for example, by issuing diaspora bonds.

Mr. Hovy thanked the Special Representative for his remarks and noted that a ratification event for migration-related treaties could take place during the High-level Dialogue. The representative of the Philippines thanked Mr. Sutherland for commending his Government regarding the return of "stranded migrants." He added that much work remained to be done regarding the tracing of overseas workers, and that a legal framework was needed to protect such workers during crises. The representative of the IOM reported that 45 Governments had sought IOM's support to evacuate their nationals from Libya. While countries had a legal obligation to assist "stranded migrants," the private sector had a responsibility to respond as well. The safe return of migrants was only a first step, and further assistance was needed to reintegrate returning migrants into their countries of origin. The representative of Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy LLP, a New York City-based international law firm, welcomed the growing involvement of the private sector in the Global Forum and expressed interest in participating in the High-level Dialogue.

V. MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT: RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EVIDENCE BASE

In order to assist States in identifying critical issues and discussing future steps, the coordination meeting addressed trends in remittance flows, migration levels and trends, and the link between migration and environmental change.

Mr. Dilip Ratha of the World Bank provided an overview of levels and trends in remittance flow estimates for 2012-2014 with a special focus on remittance costs. Officially recorded remittance flows to developing countries were projected to reach US\$ 377 billion in 2012, up from US\$ 351 billion in 2010. However, official remittance statistics tended to underestimate the actual size of remittance flows. Overall, remittance flows had remained steady during the economic and financial crisis in all regions of the world and were projected to grow by 7 to 8 per cent over 2012-2014. However, persistent unemployment in Europe and the United States of America, restrictive immigration policies, volatile exchange rates, and uncertainty about the direction of oil prices presented risks to the positive outlook.

India, China, Mexico and the Philippines were the top four remittance-receiving countries, each having received more than US\$ 20 billion in 2011. Continued oil-related economic activity in countries belonging to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Russia benefited many migrant-sending countries in Asia, such as India and the Philippines. Remittances as a per cent of GDP were largest in smaller countries such as Lesotho, the Republic of Moldova, Samoa and Tajikistan.

At a summit meeting in Italy in July 2009, G8 countries had agreed to reduce global average remittance costs from ten to five per cent in five years (the “5 by 5” objective). As a member of the Global Remittances Working Group, the World Bank was facilitating and coordinating international efforts to make remittance markets more efficient and reduce the associated costs. According to World Bank estimates, average remittance costs at the global level, weighted by bilateral remittance flows, had declined between 2008 and the third quarter of 2011. In general, South-South remittance costs were higher than North-South remittance costs, especially with respect to intra-Africa remittance transfers. A number of factors kept remittance costs high. For example, international frameworks for anti-money laundering (AML) and combating the financing of terrorism (CFT) for financial service providers hindered undocumented migrants from transferring money through legal channels. Costs were also high due to lack of market competition, as evident in the exclusive agreements between money transfer organizations and post offices in over 100 countries.

Mr. Ratha emphasized the need to reduce remittance costs further, and suggested that post offices and mobile phone companies could play a significant role in expanding access to the poorest segments of the population. However, exclusive partnerships between remittance service providers should be avoided. There was also a need to develop appropriate regulations for telecommunication firms offering financial services. In preparing for the High-level Dialogue, the focus should be on improving remittance and migration data at the national level and for bilateral migration corridors. The High-level Dialogue should discuss how to reduce remittance costs further and how to mobilize investments by transnational communities via diaspora bonds. Governments in developing countries could issue and market these bonds to emigrants living in developed countries. The desire of these emigrants to “give back” to the country of origin, combined with their lower estimate of sovereign risk and favourable investment outlook could make such bonds attractive. The bonds could serve as another source of financing for development.

In the ensuing discussion, it was reported that in Europe remittances were often perceived as hindering the integration of migrants in countries of destination. There was also a call for better remittance data, including disaggregation of remittance estimates by sex. Mr. Ratha pointed out that migrants tended to send remittances as long as they had family ties to countries of origin. Over time and

as migrants became more integrated into host countries, remittances as a per cent of total income tended to decline, but the total amount of remittances sent increased due to higher incomes. Migrants who were not allowed to remain in the country of destination after retirement would often repatriate their money when returning home. Mr. Ratha supported the call for better data on remittances, including more information on women's remittance behaviour.

Ms. Sabine Henning of the Population Division of UN/DESA, gave a presentation on global migration trends and their policy implications. According to recent migrant stock estimates, the number of foreign-born in the world stood at 214 million in 2010 or 3.1 per cent of the total global population. While most international migrants — 60 per cent — lived in developed regions, migration between countries in the developing regions, contrary to popular perception, was as common as migration from developing to developed regions. Approximately 72.7 million (34 per cent) of all international migrants in developed regions originated in developing regions, while 73.6 million (34 per cent) of all migrants in developing regions had also originated in developing regions. From a policy perspective, it was therefore important to view developing countries as countries of destination as well as origin. Political initiatives designed to reap the benefits of international migration, including policies intended to reduce remittance costs, should also be designed for and implemented in developing countries.

According to new migrant stock estimates by age and sex¹, international migrants were on average older than the general population. Whereas the median age of the total population in 2010 was 28 years, it stood at 39 years for the total migrant stock. The relatively high median age of international migrants was partly due to the way children born to international migrants were classified. In most destination countries, children born to international migrants were included in the native-born population and not counted as international migrants. Migrant children were also underrepresented in the migrant stock because of restrictive government policies on family reunification. The median age of the migrant stock in developed regions was even higher, standing at 42 years, as compared to 34 years in developing regions. Ageing-in-place of migrant populations and the lack of family reunification opportunities for migrant workers in some countries caused the even smaller share of children among the migrant stock in developed countries.

Referring to the most recent data on migration flows from the Population Division², Ms. Henning pointed out that while the number of foreign immigrants had increased in most major areas (Europe, Northern America and Australia/New Zealand), the financial crisis had reduced the number of new immigrants, especially to Europe. Countries such as Ireland, Spain and Switzerland had recorded a decline in the inflow of foreigners after 2008. The origin of foreign immigrants to Europe and Northern America differed considerably. From 2005 to 2009, less than 40 per cent of foreign immigrants to Europe originated in a developing country, compared to nearly 90 per cent in Northern America. The age distribution of foreign immigrants indicated that migration was age selective, favouring students and persons of young working age.

According to the latest population estimates and projection,³ net migration, defined as the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants for any given country or area, had slowed population decline in Europe between 1950 and 2010, slightly reduced population growth in Africa, and added to growth in Northern America over the same period. However, assuming the continuation of current net migration trends, it would not be sufficient to counterbalance population decline due to natural change (births minus deaths) in Europe. Therefore, Europe's population was projected to decline after 2020. Under these assumptions, developed countries were expected to lose 77 million or 11 per cent of persons of working-age (those aged 20 to 64) by 2050 in a zero net migration scenario for the period 2010-2050. By contrast, the impact of zero net migration was expected to be small in developing regions. Overall, net migration could play a role in moderating population decline or the size of the working-age population, but could not reverse general trends of population ageing.

The ratification status of legal instruments related to international migration varied by Member States. Instruments designed to protect refugees and to prevent and prosecute migrant smuggling and human trafficking had been ratified by more than two-thirds of Member States. However, instruments protecting the rights of migrant workers and their families had been ratified by less than one-third of Member States, none of which were main destinations for international migrants.

Since the adoption of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in 1994, the number and scope of activities on international migration had rapidly increased, especially with the 2004 Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM), the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and the six meetings of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held since 2007. With the 2013 Commission on Population and Development focusing on new trends in migration with an emphasis on demographic aspects, and the 2013 High-level Dialogue, international migration and development had clearly moved to the forefront of the international agenda. It was up to United Nations entities and others to inform future debate by providing the best available data and analysis.

Mr. Jean-Christophe Dumont of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) presented information drawn from an OECD database on migrant stock for 25 OECD countries. Ninety-one million foreign-born were living in 25 OECD countries in 2005-2006, of which 16.5 per cent represented recent immigrants. Overall, 10.8 per cent of the total population in OECD countries was foreign-born, compared to 9.5 per cent in 2000. Nearly half, 43 per cent, of all migrants in the OECD came from other OECD countries, and that share was expected to be even higher after 2005 due to the enlargement of the European Union. In 2005-2006 India, China and the Philippines accounted for the largest number of non-OECD foreign-born residing in OECD countries. The highest *relative* growth in the OECD (39 per cent), was seen among foreign-born originating in sub-Saharan Africa between 2000 and 2005/2006, while foreign-born from Latin America recorded the highest increase in *absolute* terms (over 5.9 million) during the same period.

Mr. Dumont then highlighted other characteristics of the foreign-born in OECD countries. For example, one in five migrants from the Middle East and Northern Africa was between the ages of 15 and 24; women made up a large proportion of migrants from Colombia, Jamaica and the Philippines; migrants from Asia tended to be more integrated, as evident from the higher employment rates in OECD countries as compared to migrants from other major areas. Overall, the share of the population with tertiary education had grown faster among foreign-born than among natives. One-third (5.2 million) of all recent migrants had a tertiary education. The highest number (900,000) of international students in OECD countries originated in Asia, and 36 per cent of the Asian foreign-born in the OECD held a tertiary degree. Foreign-born women generally had higher labour force participation rates in OECD countries than in their countries of origin, regardless of job quality. Emigration rates and the intention to emigrate were positively correlated, although more people planned to emigrate than actually emigrated. This finding suggested a gap between intentions and outcomes, the former outnumbering the latter. Mr. Dumont concluded his presentation by referring to a recent publication entitled *Connecting with Emigrants, A Global Profile of Diasporas*⁴, which presented data for about 120 countries of origin on migrant stocks in OECD and non-OECD countries, migrant characteristics (age, sex, educational attainment, labour market outcomes), emigration rates, including for the highly educated and health professionals, data on migration flows to OECD countries, and data on international students and the intention to emigrate.

In the ensuing discussion, Ms. Henning and Mr. Dumont agreed that the migrant stock estimates presented were primarily based on data from censuses, and therefore identified international migrants by place of birth. These estimates might include undocumented migrants counted in the censuses, but did not account for second-generation migrants born in countries of destination, who were generally classified as native-born. Overall, information on first- and second-generation migrants and circular migration might

be very helpful, but the data were not available at the global level. Mr. Dumont noted that perceptions of who was a “migrant” often differed from the actual definition based on census data. In France, for example, children born to migrants were often perceived to be migrants themselves, even though they were classified as native-born. It was important to provide specific definitions when talking about migrants to ensure a balanced discourse. The media often found it difficult to convey positive aspects of migration, and more needed to be done to inform the public about migrant contributions. Ms. Henning suggested that educating the public about South-South migration might help broaden perceptions that had been shaped by a focus on South-North migration.

Mr. Andrew Geddes of the University of Sheffield summarized the main conclusions of a report on *Migration and Global Environmental Change*⁵ published by the Foresight Programme, a research group advising the Government of the United Kingdom about future needs. The report had involved some 350 experts and other stakeholders from over 30 countries in the field, and drew on more than 70 commissioned and peer-reviewed papers. It focused on internal and international migration in the context of environmental change over the next 50 years. Migration, a multi-causal phenomenon, was driven at the macro level by political, social, economic, demographic and environmental factors. Environmental change caused by climate change or the degradation of land, coastal or marine ecosystems, could affect any of the other existing drivers of migration. Whether migration occurred or not depended not just on the presence or absence of migration drivers, but rather on a series of intervening factors, and on micro level personal and household characteristics.

Focusing on three ecological regions — dry lands, low-elevation coastal zones and mountain regions — the report showed that migratory flows out of dry lands, such as those in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, had increased over the previous four decades. However, it was not clear that environmental change was the main cause of this increase. Coastal zones, which were often the site of cities and urban agglomerations, had continued to attract migrants, resulting in positive net migration to these regions. Coastal zones were often at high risk from an environmental perspective. Since people had a historical preference for moving to coastal regions, populations in these zones were likely to increase further. Mountainous regions had witnessed out-migration, resulting in depopulation in all such regions, except in Europe.

In conclusion, the report had shown that in the future the impact of environmental change on migration would increase. However, given the complexity of interactions between the drivers of migration, it was unlikely that environmental factors would be the sole drivers of migration in some regions of the world. Further, due to lack of financial, social, political and physical assets required to migrate away from environmentally dangerous areas, not everyone affected by environmental change would move. This would result in millions of people being “trapped” in areas vulnerable to environmental change and represented an important challenge to society and policymaking.

In addition, the number of persons at risk of being affected by environmental change was expected to increase as more people moved towards areas of environmental risk. Movement from rural to urban areas was of particular concern, since migrants in cities were highly vulnerable to environmental change. Preventing migration to cities was not considered a viable option, since it would be ineffective and might result in humanitarian disasters for those unable to migrate away from environmental danger. Lastly, migration could be seen as an adaptation strategy for coping with environmental change. The report cited evidence from Africa showing that through internal migration, people could find new sources of income and secure livelihoods for their families.

The report recommended that policymakers recognize (a) the vulnerability of growing urban populations; (b) the gaps in safeguards for those displaced by environmental change; (c) the need to fund adaptation planning; (d) to recognize the role of migration as part of the solution, and (e) to build long-term resilience. The report opposed the creation of a new “climate refugee” migrant category and also opposed creation of a global governance regime for such migrants. There was no simple causal relationship between migration and environmental change that could be used to define either the new type of migrant or a governance regime. Further, such a regime would neglect trapped populations. Instead, the report suggested building on existing international agreements and institutions in the field of global governance of international migration.

Ms. Pratikshya Bohra-Mishra of Princeton University presented research on environmental drivers of internal and international migration in Nepal. The country was prone to natural disasters due to over-exploitation of agricultural land, deforestation and soil degradation. Temporary and permanent migration had both increased in previous decades. Since the 1990s, emigration to neighbouring countries, such as India, had increased, coinciding with agricultural decline. In 2010, Nepal’s remittances as a share of its GDP were the sixth highest in the world, accounting for 21 per cent of total GDP. Almost 60 per cent of households in Nepal were receiving remittances. Among the root causes of emigration from Nepal were high and widespread poverty and unemployment, low wages, violence, and an unstable political climate due to a Maoist insurgency. The creation of labour recruitment agencies, a decentralized system for issuing passports, and an increase in social capital, or networks, had facilitated the rise in emigration flows.

Ms. Bohra-Mishra reported on a study of the impact of environmental change on migration in a specific district of Nepal, called Chitwan. Between 1997 and 2006, a monthly panel survey had been conducted covering 3,700 individuals aged 15 to 69, or 1,300 households from 151 neighbourhoods. The study had identified five measures of environmental degradation and focused on three competing outcome variables: migration within the district, migration to other districts and emigration. The study found that gradual environmental degradation had led to an increase in short-distance movement rather than movement across international boundaries. This was because those affected by environmental change were generally poor rural families that lacked the resources to migrate internationally. These “trapped” populations represented a policy concern as important as international migrants, and resources had to be set aside to reduce future humanitarian crises and displacement.

In the ensuing discussion, Mr. Geddes emphasized that the Foresight report had not advocated either the relocation of urban areas or restricting rural-urban movement. Rather, the report supported strategic decision-making in long-term city planning that would protect urban areas from environmental change. The report also did not support either the use of the term “climate refugee” or the creation of a global framework focusing on these migrants alone. The Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Africa, adopted by the African Union (AU) in Kampala, Uganda in October 2009, was the first legally binding regional instrument that obliged states to protect and assist internally displaced people. It focused on displacement caused by a wide range of causes —from conflict and human rights violations to natural or man-made disaster, provided standards for the protection of IDPs and offered durable solutions to their displacement. Migration was multi-causal and environmental change would affect other migration drivers. Ms. Bohra-Mishra re-emphasized that the poorest segments of society were often “trapped” and unable to utilize migration as an adaptation strategy. Both presenters reiterated the need for further research in this area focusing specifically on the gender dimension of responses to environmental change.

VI. NEW INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

One function of the coordination meeting was to promote exchange between participants regarding new initiatives on international migration and development. The following section summarizes presentations made under this agenda item, by United Nations entities, other intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations. The papers submitted by participants detailing their past, current and future work, including new initiatives, are available on the meeting's website at www.unmigration.org.

The Statistics Division of UN/DESA reported that as of January 2012, 180 of 235 countries had conducted a census over the period 2005-2014 (2010 census round). Out of a total of 119 countries that had provided a census questionnaire to the Statistics Division, 91 countries had included a question on country of birth, 85 countries one question on citizenship, and 51 countries had included one question on year or period of arrival. If countries tabulated and disseminated such data in a timely manner, data on migrant stock could be made available for many countries in the near future. A preliminary analysis of the completed census questionnaires showed that participation of African countries had increased compared to the 2000 census round and that for the first time the census of China had included a question on the foreign-born. Through their demographic yearbook data collection system, the Division was also following up with countries which had not yet reported the results of the current and past census rounds.

The Statistics Division was also collecting annual migration flow statistics from non-Eurostat countries. By January 2012, 34 countries had provided such data, and 24 had indicated that either they did not have such data or that the collection and compilation of these statistics were administered by offices other than national statistical offices. Since flow statistics were often collected by different national institutions, usually operating as part of the management or control of international migration, comparability of such data was challenging. Furthermore, because the data was the product of administrative processes that were not meant to satisfy statistical demands, only a small part of the information they recorded was processed for statistical purposes. Thus, collecting flow data on international migration remained a challenge.

The World Bank reported on the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD) an open, multidisciplinary platform providing data, research and exchange of ideas and best practices in the field of international migration and development. The World Bank was developing this partnership with the goal of providing input for policy development in countries. The platform would draw on existing partnerships and knowledge networks, international organizations and research institutions, and the World Bank was still welcoming new partners. The focus would be on (a) data on migration and remittance flows; (b) skilled labour migration; (c) unskilled labour migration; (d) integration in host communities; (e) policy and institutional coherence; (f) migrant rights and social aspects; (g) demographic changes and migration; (h) remittances, including access to finance and capital markets; (i) mobilizing diaspora resources; (j) climate change and migration; (k) rural-urban migration and urbanization, and (l) migration and security. A concept note on the partnership had been submitted to potential donors and the World Bank was awaiting their response.

UNICEF reported on the GMG symposium on "Migration and Youth: Harnessing Opportunities for Development" it had organized in New York in May 2011. The proceedings of the meeting were forthcoming and the various contributions from GMG colleagues and others were highly appreciated. A meeting to discuss the report would be held in the near future.

The ILO reported that following the adoption of the Convention Concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers by Member States in 2011, the ILO had developed a plan of action for its ratification and implementation. The Convention called for basic rights of domestic workers and required Member

States to enact appropriate policies. The number of domestic workers worldwide was estimated between 51 and 100 million persons in 2010. As a share of paid employees, most domestic workers were residing in Latin America and the Caribbean (11.9 per cent), followed by the Middle East (8.0 per cent) and Asia, excluding China (4.7 per cent). Domestic workers did not usually cross international borders, but rather migrated internally. About 83 per cent of all domestic workers at the global level were female, but the share of women among domestic workers differed by region, ranging from 64 per cent in the Middle East to 92 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean. The ILO was promoting ratification and implementation of the Convention by Member States, and hoped that this topic be addressed at the High-level Dialogue.

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) was working on women rights and empowerment through research, policy and advocacy at the global, regional and national level. In the area of research, eight country studies had been conducted focusing on care workers, including domestic workers, and the movement of women from Asia to Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. Activities in the area of policy and advocacy focused on the ratification of the ILO Convention on domestic workers. Specifically, the organization was active in promoting the rights of domestic workers in Cambodia, Indonesia and the Philippines and in advocating for lifting a ban on the eradication of female domestic workers in Lao People's Democratic Republic and Nepal. UN Women had contributed a paper on domestic workers and had partnered with other organizations in preparing input for regional Global Forum meetings leading up to the concluding debate in December 2011.

The European Union (EU) noted that international migration was at the top of the EU's political agenda. It favoured the management of migration flows with a view to reducing and preventing undocumented migration, human trafficking and migrant smuggling. In 2005, the EU had adopted a global approach to migration, a unified EU migration policy addressing migration through dialogue and cooperation with non-EU countries. In 2011, a revised global approach to migration and mobility had been developed and it was expected to be adopted later in 2012. Its focus was on creating coherence between different political stakeholders in the EU, including foreign policy and development cooperation. In addition to the three pillars of the global approach — management of legal migration, prevention and reduction of irregular migration and understanding and supporting the relation between migration and development — a fourth pillar had been added on international protection and the external dimension of asylum policy.

The IOM reported that in 2011, the IOM Council had approved the establishment of a US\$30 million migration emergency fund, a flexible internal mechanism for funding quick responses to crisis situations involving “stranded migrants”. In 2011, IOM and the Migration Policy Institute had completed a report entitled *Engaging Diasporas in Development: A Handbook for Policymakers and Practitioners in Home and Host Countries* which was presented at the 2011 Global Forum's concluding debate. The publication was a tool for policymakers and practitioners in countries of origin to develop partnerships with transnational community groups. In 2012, IOM would hold a conference of diaspora ministers with the objective of sharing best practices for engaging them for development purposes. The 2012 International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) would focus on managing migration in crisis situations. Two workshops would be convened preparatory to the Dialogue in Geneva, and another meeting would be organized in collaboration with the International Peace Institute in New York later in the year. The 2013 *World Migration Report* would focus on migration and development. IOM was also actively promoting the inclusion of migration in the Rio+20 conference and had submitted a contribution for consideration to the Rio+20 draft resolution. To build capacity, IOM and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) had developed a training manual on labour migration management that contained modules covering policy examples and best practices, current knowledge, and legal provisions, as well as guidelines for the protection of migrant workers. The modules were designed for government officials from countries of origin and destination and had already been utilized in national and regional

programmes in Central America, Central Asia, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA), Western Africa, and Western Asia. In addition, IOM was continuing to train government officials worldwide in all aspects of migration management, including counter-trafficking, border management and migration and health using in-house developed tools.

The League of Arab States (LAS) had launched the Arab Observatory for International Migration in 2004, and, in April 2011, the LAS began to collaborate with UNHCR on a joint agenda of activities and scientific reports. Representative of the LAS visited border regions between Libya and Egypt and Libya and Tunisia and produced reports on the needs of refugees and migrants in those areas. Arab States were increasingly concerned about rising migration levels in the region, and the effects of the Arab Spring on migration. Other activities of the LAS included the publication of a migration newsletter and the organization of the thirteenth Arab National Populations Councils and Committees meeting (NPC) in Doha, Qatar in 2011. This meeting was supported by UNFPA and focused on skilled emigration and youth unemployment. In September 2012, the first regional conference entitled “Roles of health competencies abroad to strengthen the health sector in the Arab States” would be convened by the LAS. The organization also participated in a project entitled “Mediterranean-International Household Migration Surveys,” developed and to be implemented by the regional statistical cooperation programme between the EU and 10 Mediterranean countries.

The African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Observatory on Migration reported that it was working on establishing networks of research institutions and government entities dealing with migration in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. The Observatory was preparing country and regional reports, compendia of existing studies and projects, research guides and background notes addressing specific migration topics. For 2012, 10 national and regional studies had been commissioned, focusing on the impact of South-South migration on development, transnational communities in the South, and the human rights of migrants in the South, among others. Many of these studies would cover a number of countries, and would apply research techniques such as surveys and literature reviews. They would be conducted in collaboration with national and international partners, such as government entities and United Nations organizations. The study results would feed into the 2012 Global Forum process. In 2011, the Observatory had conducted training workshops on various migration-related topics, such as international migration, remittances and diasporas and data management software (Dakar, Senegal, 11-14 April 2011) and environmentally-induced migration (Dili, Timor-Leste, 25-29 July 2011), and would hold follow-up workshops in 2012. Training modules were available from the website of the Observatory.

The OECD had begun publishing their first country review on managing labour migration, focusing on Sweden. Austria, France and Germany would be next in the series. The OECD was also developing indicators of migrant integration in connection with labour markets, housing, health and culture. Work was also underway on analyzing the supply of and demand for certain labour market skills, with a view to migrant skills and the recognition of their skills in countries of origin. This work would be complemented by workshops on the same topic.

The Organization of American States (OAS) reported that in collaboration with the OECD and ECLAC it had implemented a continuous reporting system on labour migration for the Americas (SICREMI) focusing on migration data and policies. Through a network of national correspondents, information was collected and updated annually. The first report based on this collective effort had been published in 2011 and covered nine countries. It had highlighted the great variety of migration policies developed in the region and corresponding data, and had led to the development of a system designed to unify data collection. Currently, OAS was working on the second report that would cover 18 countries and would be launched in July 2012. The forthcoming report would include a chapter on migration and development policies and would also feature country sheets.

The Center for Migration Studies emphasized that its work focused on four main areas of activity: (a) publication of the International Migration Review (IMR) and possibly a new peer-reviewed journal on migration and human security; (b) organization of events such as biweekly seminars and dialogues; (c) research projects, such as the current project on concepts of humanitarian law and migration, as well as global migration governance, and (d) new ways to make its archive on the Italian-American migration experience in the United States publicly available. Together with the IOM in New York, the Center was planning to hold a conference on mainstreaming migration into development planning in the spring of 2012.

The Hellenic Migration Policy Institute (IMEPO) stated that Greece was experiencing a steady inflow of irregular migrants. Given the economic situation in Greece, this was rather surprising; it seemed to be related to the Arab Spring, with the majority of migrants coming from the Middle East and Northern Africa. For migrants from that region, Greece had become the de-facto entry point to the entire EU. Such migrants would often move to other countries within the EU, but after being detained by the local authorities they would be returned to Greece, which was then responsible for returning them to their countries of origin. Further, many migrants had applied for asylum and were now awaiting decisions on their applications in Greece. The growing number of undocumented migrants and asylum seekers in Greece was therefore adding to the country's economic and political problems, and despite repeated requests to the EU, there had been little support.

For many years, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) had provided humanitarian assistance, protection, humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy, support for integration and reintegration, and health and social services to vulnerable migrants. The 2007 IFRC declaration entitled "Together for humanity" reaffirmed the role of national societies in providing such assistance. The 2009 IFRC policy on migration provided guidance to national societies assisting migrants and set standards for better coordination of IFRC's activities with those of other actors. The thirty-first international conference of the IFRC, held in Geneva in 2011, adopted a resolution calling for (a) better access of all migrants, regardless of their status, to the legal system; (b) improved border procedures ensuring safety, well-being and dignity of migrants; (c) concerted collaborative efforts between Governments and other stakeholders to fight xenophobia and promote diversity, non-violence and social inclusion, and (d) enhanced partnerships between all stakeholders, focusing on the humanitarian assistance and protection of vulnerable migrants.

The International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) reported that a new scientific panel on international migration had just been formed. It was composed of seven international experts on international migration and was planning to hold scientific meetings and training workshops in collaboration with partner organizations from 2011 to 2014. Regarding meetings at the international level, the panel was planning to organize a conference on Turkish migration in Europe, to be held in the United Kingdom in December 2012, and to participate in the 2013 High-level Dialogue and the 2013 international IUSSP conference in South Korea.

The Open Society Foundations described its international migration initiative addressing inequality, exclusion of, and discrimination against migrants over the course of their migration experience. The initiative focused on improving transparency and accountability in migration policy and on promoting equality and justice for migrants. The regional foci were Central Asia, South East Asia and the Middle East. To meet these objectives, the initiative collaborated with partner organizations to build a network of programmes advocating for and supporting improvement in the quality of life of migrants around the world. Some of these activities focused on pre-departure training and support of migrants once they had arrived in countries of destination.

The Laboratory of Population at Rockefeller University reported on ongoing research and development of new migration assumptions for the projection of future populations. The Population Division's *World Population Prospects* currently assumed that recent trends of net migration would continue until 2050, but a gravity model based on probabilistic assumptions might yield more realistic projections than those produced by the Population Division's linear approach.

The Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN) reported on its research and advocacy work in international migration. Various Scalabrini Migration Centers monitored migration flows and policies in order to support policymakers at national and international levels. Based on this work, SIMN had authored a study on international migration in the Western Hemisphere, providing an overview of international migration levels and trends as well as migration policies for 34 countries. In 2010, SIMN published the first volume of studies on public policy and international migration in Latin America, with a focus on Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico. Since 2009, SIMN had organized an annual international forum on migration and peace which took place in Mexico City in 2011. The meeting convened representatives of the United Nations, other international organizations, civil society, academia, the media and the private sector to discuss the multifaceted implications of safe migration. The objective of these activities was to promote partnerships and synergies between different stakeholders in the field, with a view to promoting safe and human-rights centered international migration.

The University at Albany, State University of New York (SUNY) reported on its research on global mobility regimes, a new all-inclusive concept of international migration consisting of a subset of mobility regimes such as those related to international travel, labour migration and refugee movements. There were few international agreements on these types of mobility, and those few related primarily to refugees. Mobility regimes often overlapped, generating synergies and creating opportunities for cooperation. Information and data on these regimes should be collected in order to obtain an overview of the various types of movement across international borders and to develop appropriate policies.

VII. CLOSING

In closing, Mr. Hovy thanked participants for their presentations and contributions to the meeting. He reminded participants that the General Assembly would discuss international migration and development at its sixty-seventh session and decide on the modalities of the High-level Dialogue. The information presented over the last two days would contribute to the report that the Secretary-General would present to the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly. He also called on participants to start collaborating with Governments preparing for 2013 High-level Dialogue. He then closed the meeting.

NOTES

¹ *Trends in International Migration Stock: Migrants by Age and Sex*, United Nations Population Division, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2010.

² *Internal Migration Flows To and from Selected Countries: The 2010 Revision*, United Nations Population Division, POP/DB/MIG/Flow/Rev.2010.

³ *World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision, Extended Dataset* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.XIII.7).

⁴ *Connecting with Emigrants, A Global Profile of Diasporas*, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development OECD (2012), OECD Publishing.

⁵ For more information on this report, see <http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/foresight/docs/migration/11-1116-migration-and-global-environmental-change.pdf> (March 2012).

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INFORMATION PAPERS

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AGENDA OF WORK OF THE TENTH MEETING

Thursday, 9 February 2012

- I. Opening of the meeting
- II. The Global Forum on Migration and Development
- III. The 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development
- IV. International migration and development: regional dimensions and interagency coordination
- V. Migration and development: Recent contributions to the evidence base

Friday, 10 February 2012

- V. Migration and development: Recent contributions to the evidence base (continued)
- VI. New initiatives on international migration and development
- VII. Closing of the meeting

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