Economic & Social Affairs

NEW TRENDS IN MIGRATION:
DEMOGRAPHIC ASPECTS
New York, 3 December 2012

Report of the Expert Group Meeting

United Nations

This page is intentionally left blank

Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Population Division

NEW TRENDS IN MIGRATION: DEMOGRAPHIC ASPECTS
New York, 3 December 2012

Report of the Expert Group Meeting

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.

Note

The designations employed in this report and the material presented in it do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

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

This publication has been issued without formal editing.

Suggested citation:

ESA/P/WP.236

PREFACE

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat is responsible for providing the international community with up-to-date and objective information on population and development. The Population Division provides guidance to the United Nations General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Population and Development on population and development issues and undertakes studies on population levels, trends and the components of population change, including migration, as well as policies and the interrelationships between population and development.

In preparation for the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Population and Development in April 2013, the Division organized an Expert Group Meeting on "New Trends in Migration: Demographic Aspects" which was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 3 December 2013. The Expert Group Meeting allowed for an exchange of views between invited experts and representatives of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, offices of the United Nations Secretariat and international organizations active in the field of migration. The discussions informed the report of the Secretary-General prepared for and presented to the Commission. Presentations and a webcast of the meeting are available on the meeting's website at http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/EGM_MigrationTrends/MigrationTrends.html.

For further information concerning this publication, please contact the Director of the Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, USA; telephone numbers +1 212-963-3179; fax number +1 212-963-2147; email: population@un.org or migration@un.org.

This page is intentionally left blank

CONTENTS

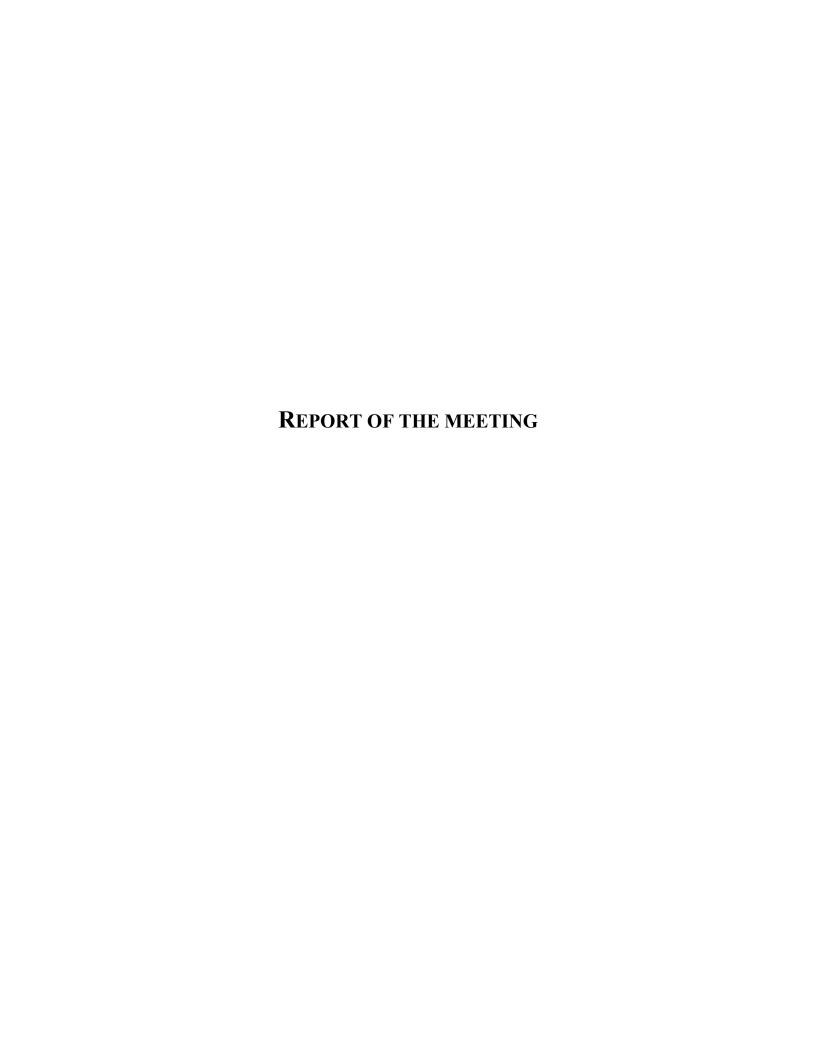*Page*

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

The following abbreviations have been used in the present document:

GDP	Gross domestic product
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

REPORT OF THE MEETING

This page is intentionally left blank

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat organized an Expert Group Meeting on "New Trends in Migration: Demographic Aspects" at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 3 December 2012. The meeting focused on new trends in internal and internal migration and was organized in preparation for the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Population and Development, which was on the same topic and to be held at the United Nations in New York in April 2013.

The meeting attracted about 70 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 population and migration. Also present were invited experts and delegates from Permanent Missions to the United Nations.

I. OPENING

Ms. Francesca Perucci, Chief of the Demographic Analysis Branch of the Population Division of UN/DESA, opened the meeting by welcoming the participants. She noted that discussions and ideas stemming from the meeting would contribute to the preparations of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Population and Development in 2013, which would discuss the same topic. She also underscored the importance of the event for preparing for the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in 2013 as well as for the ongoing discussions regarding the possible integration of migration into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda.

Mr. Ronald Skeldon of the University of Sussex, United Kingdom, gave the keynote address entitled "Global migration: Demographic aspects and its relevance for development". He challenged some of the preconceived notions about migration, such as considering migration a move from one specific origin to one specific destination, or the belief that the majority of people were crossing international boundaries and moving from developing countries to developed countries. Instead, migration had become a complex process, involving more countries of origin, destination and transit, frequently undertaken in stages and involving multiple moves. The distinction between temporary migration and permanent migration had become blurred, as many migrants admitted on a temporary basis remained in the country of destination, while permanent migrants often returned to their country of origin. The migration of highly-skilled persons, student migration and the migration of low-skilled workers represented temporary forms of migration that had increased in recent years. Official statistics often failed to capture the complexity of migration flows, including circular and return migration.

In recent years, migration patterns had become increasingly diverse, and most countries were now concurrently countries of origin, destination and transit. For instance, Europe had transitioned from being a region of origin to a region of destination for international migrants. The paradigm that all migrants originated from the developing regions and gravitated towards the "Global North" – or developed countries – was no longer valid.

As a result of the emergence of new growth poles in the global economy, several countries in the South, particularly in Asia, had become important destinations for migrants. Forecasts of economic growth suggested that those trends might become more accentuated in the future. Demographic aspects were also likely to play a more important role in shaping future internal and international migration patterns. Since those migrating were often young adults, while older persons were staying behind, countries with large youthful populations and those with ageing populations had different migration

experiences. The loss of persons of reproductive age from rural areas had important implications for the future size and age structure of those populations. Urbanization was another important global trend. Cities were the main destination for international migrants, thus internal and international migrants were often heading in the same direction, in particular in the "Global South". In many countries, internal migration increasingly involved movement between cities or urban agglomerations, rather than from rural to urban areas.

There were further linkages between internal and international migration. For example, international migration could create labour shortages in some areas that could be compensated by migrants moving internally and vice versa. Hence, international migration could help reduce the effects of depopulation due to internal mobility. Yet most migration occurred within, rather than across, country borders. While migration could mitigate some of the effects of the demographic transition, including its impact on the age structure of populations, it was unlikely to compensate for cohorts lost due to declining levels of fertility.

Mr. Skeldon concluded his address by remarking that future migration trends would probably differ considerably from current ones. He expected intraregional migration to increase in the future, especially with new destinations emerging in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Regarding the integration of migration into the post-2015 development agenda, he noted that migration was a response to economic and social opportunities, or lack thereof, rather than an engine of development. For advancing the debate on integrating migration into the post-2015 development agenda, it was important to define topics to assess the multidimensional impacts of migration on development, in order to define indicators that could be used in developing a more inclusive framework for the post-2015 development agenda.

In the ensuing discussion, participants called for improving the evidence base on internal and international migration. They also pointed out that environmental change primarily affected internal migration. Regarding the poverty-reducing effect of migration on countries of origin through remittances, it was noted that international migration was highly selective and not all communities within countries of origin benefitted from it. Internal migration was likely to have a greater developmental impact than international migration, since the number of people migrating internally was larger than the number of people crossing international borders.

II. PANEL I: INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Mr. Philippe Fargues of the European University Institute, Florence gave a presentation on "Demographic change and international migration in the Arab region". Due to recent demographic developments, the region was experiencing an unprecedented "youth bulge" with the proportion of young adults aged 20 to 25 to the total population being very high and increasing. A large cohort of young people was competing for employment and income as well as for other scarce resources, and many young people saw emigration as their only option to improve their economic and social well-being. Furthermore, migration also affected demographic behaviours in countries of origin. Migrants not only sent remittances to their families and friends at home, but also transferred values and models of behaviour, or "ideational remittances". Since most migration had occurred from high to low-fertility countries, international migration had contributed to spreading values and practices that affected family formation and fertility. So far, however, too little was known about the role migration played in passing on values and practices migrants had been exposed to in countries of destination to countries of origin.

Mr. Fargues observed that the age profile of migrants had not changed over time: relatively few persons migrated at very young or old ages, while most migrants were young adults. In general, however, the age at family formation had increased and family formation took place after a person had migrated. Therefore, fewer migrants were single and did not have to support their immediate families, except

parents and siblings, in their countries of origin. These recent younger migrants, instead of transferring remittances, would rather invest in their own human capital and also accumulate savings in countries of destination. Recent migrants had also higher levels of education than previously. In response to some of these trends, countries of origin had introduced policies to create a climate favourable to investments by diaspora groups.

Mr. Michael White of Brown University gave a presentation on "The demographic impact of migration: Evidence from Africa". Migration and urbanization were major global trends of the twenty-first century affecting all countries in the world. The processes were linked, and it was important to integrate and coordinate thinking about internal migration, international migration and urbanization. Focusing on the demographic impact of international migration in Africa, international migrants constituted a relatively small share of Africa's total population. The number of refugees, which accounted for a large share of all migrants in Africa in 1995, had declined substantially during the period 2005-2010. Most migration was intra-regional, often within sub-regions. For Eastern Africa and Western Africa, migration within the respective regions accounted for the majority of all migrants.

Mr. White observed that urban areas as centers of economic growth were the main destinations of internal migrants in Africa. Remittances sent by migrants from urban to rural areas had become an effective poverty reduction strategy, yet the relationship between economic growth and urbanization was not well understood. Overall, the evidence indicated that people benefitted from living in urban areas. Average urban incomes were generally higher than those in rural areas. Urban dwellers also had better access to a variety of services, including education, health, transportation, communications, water supply, sanitation and waste management. Because of economies of scale, it was more efficient and cheaper to provide such services to large and geographically concentrated populations than to populations scattered over large rural areas. Thus, urbanization was associated with many positive social and economic outcomes including better child survival and higher levels of education of the urban population. The forces driving internal and international migration flows, including changing economic, demographic, political and social conditions, showed no sign of abating, and both internal and international migration seemed likely to continue or even increase in the future, including in Africa.

Over the years, considerable improvements had been made regarding the evidence base on internal and international migration. The number of countries with relevant microdata available through the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series International (IPUMS-I) of the University of Minnesota's Population Center had increased. Data collection through the Population Division's Global Migration Database had also improved and provided an important source of empirical data on the foreign-born and foreigners for all countries and areas in the world. For the future, it was important to focus on the origin and destination of migrants and collect longitudinal data in order to analyze, for example, the integration of migrants over time and their economic performance in the labour markets. Data on migrants, internal and international, at the sub-national level was also needed to study the links between internal and international migration and settlement patterns.

Ms. Mary Kritz of Cornell University gave a presentation entitled "Globalization of higher education and international student mobility". She observed that according to data provided by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the number of students enrolled in higher education programmes outside their country of citizenship had increased from 0.8 million in 1975 to 4.1 million in 2010. In general, estimating the size of the foreign student population was difficult, because the definition of a foreign student and its measurement varied by country. Overall, countries belonging to the OECD accounted for the majority of countries receiving foreign students with the United States of America, followed by the United Kingdom hosting the largest number of foreign students. Outside the OECD, the main countries of destination were China, Cuba, the Russian Federation, Singapore and the Ukraine. The

main country of origin for such students was China, followed by India and the Republic of Korea. Focusing on tertiary outbound mobility rates —the percentage of a country's enrolled student population studying abroad—revealed a different picture. Based on that indicator, the countries with the highest shares of students abroad were China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Singapore and Uzbekistan.

Ms. Kritz observed that different theories had been put forward to explain differences in student mobility across countries. The first stated that students left their country of origin because of lack of study opportunities, while the second stated that students went abroad to obtain higher wages after they had completed their studies in their countries of origin. The percentage of students abroad was negatively correlated to population size and the supply of tertiary education and positively correlated to the demand for tertiary education and gross domestic product (GDP) per capita adjusted for purchasing power parity. Trends across major areas differed significantly, based also on the indicator chosen. Higher education itself was also changing rapidly. Both the "global South" and the "global North" benefitted from cross-border higher education programmes. The countries of the "global North", exporting some of their higher education programmes, among others, generated revenue and were able to deploy faculty resources more efficiently. Schools of the "global North" also enhanced their international profile and were able to contribute to mutual understanding between countries. Lastly, through these programmes they were able to recruit highly skilled immigrants. For countries of the "global South", offering higher education programmes with the goal to attract foreign students was a cost-effective way of expanding their education systems. They were also able to increase the number of courses and programmes in fields where local human resources were limited, thereby recruiting skilled foreign workers. Through these progammes, developing countries had become regional suppliers of higher education programmes, retaining their own highly-skilled students and generating revenue from international students.

The increasing number of cross-border education programmes in the "global South" was unlikely to affect South-North student mobility given the shortage of such programmes in the "global South". The retention of highly skilled persons after they had completed their studies (stay rates) would likely be different across countries, depending also on the field of study. Some countries which sponsored education of their nationals abroad made their students return after graduation, at least for a certain period of time (i.e. Thailand). In general, most funding of international students, however, was still coming from the immediate families of the students, and countries had little control over the return of these privately-funded students. She noted that developing countries should not encourage their youth and young adults to study abroad, including through sponsorship programmes, unless they had developed mechanisms and incentives to promote their return.

In the ensuing discussion, participants re-iterated the call for better data on internal and international migration. They were skeptical, however, that there were sufficient financial resources to sponsor a world migration survey, as suggested by some academics. Regarding migration in Africa, natural resources in some countries were a strong pull factor that attracted migrants from other parts of Africa. Furthermore, the fact that many countries in Africa shared languages and customs facilitated migration across international borders. Participants noted that there was a strong link between migration and development and research in this area should focus on all areas that faced inequalities regarding income, education or housing. Furthermore, more information was needed on people who remained behind and the effects of remittances on households in countries of origin.

III. PANEL II: INTERNAL MIGRATION

Mr. Zai Liang of the State University of New York at Albany gave a presentation on "Recent migration trends in China: Geographic and demographic aspects and development implications". Internal migration in China had increased significantly in the first decade of the twenty-first century, and the well-being of the migrant population and the people who remained behind, in particular children, had become a major concern of Chinese policymakers and planners. Recent economic growth was mostly built on a growing number of labour migrants who in turn spurred development in rural areas through remittances. In addition, migrants contributed to the transfer of social remittances, such as the exchange of ideas and practices from urban to rural areas.

China's household registration system (hukou), in existence since 1958, was an important concept influencing any analysis of migration in China. According to this concept, a household registration record officially identifies a person as a resident of a particular area which entails certain benefits and privileges associated with that area. In general, people intending to change residence permanently crossing city, town and township boundaries are required to obtain approval from local authorities. A change in residence is considered legal only if it is formally approved and registered with the public security authorities. If a person was residing in a location in which he/she was not officially registered, then this person was considered to belong to the so called "floating population". In general, China differentiated between interprovincial migration and intra-provincial migrants. People who lived in province "A" for at least six months but were officially registered in province "B" were considered interprovincial migrants or part of the interprovincial floating population. People who were registered in county "A" but had resided in county "B" for at least six months were considered to be intra-provincial cross-county migrants. Applying these concepts to the 2010 census showed that China's total floating population had increased from about 80 million in 2000 to 221 million in 2010, or 17 per cent of China's population. The number of inter-county floating population had increased from 79 million in 2000 to 171 million in 2010. Apparently, the floating population within each province had increased which reflected growing economic opportunities within each province and increasing residential mobility in Chinese cities.

The main reason for moving across county or province lines remained related to economic factors, such as the high demand for manual labour. However, compared to 2000, this had become less important while a growing number of migrants moved as dependents and for educational reasons. This finding corresponded to China's recent efforts to expand opportunities for both college and graduate education. Overall, China's four major autonomous municipalities, Beijing, Chongqing, Shanghai and Tianjin all observed high levels of floating population. In addition, the Pearl River Delta and the Yangtze River Delta had always absorbed a growing number of these migrants. In 2000, 35.5 per cent of China's interprovincial floating population chose to live in Guangdong province as compared to 22.1 per cent in the Yangtze River Delta. By 2010, this pattern had reversed with 25 per cent living in the Pearle River Delta and 33 per cent in the Yangtze River Delta. Interprovincial floating population as a share of the total floating population had declined in both areas over the 2000-2010 period.

Another important change affecting migration patterns in China was related to an increase in return migration, often encouraged by local government officials trying to attract return of migrant entrepreneurs. This was supported by China's broader development policy supporting infrastructure investments in western China. With rising salaries in factories in coastal China, Western China had become a new internal business frontier with moderate labour costs and improved infrastructure.

Migrant children, either left behind or migrating with their parents, were the forgotten "story" of China's urbanization. In 2010, the number of migrant children living in urban areas was estimated at 37 million and there were about 60 million children, aged 0 to18, left behind with at least one parent having migrated to a city. The main challenge for these children was related to education. Although national

government policy stated clearly that public schools in destinations were responsible for the education of migrant children, local city governments often resisted this idea and asked the parents for additional fees to cover the education of migrant children. Another important issue was related to college entrance exams which were generally administered at the place where a person had a registered hukou. With a growing number of children living outside their hukou, native children with urban hukou felt threatened by non-local children competing for the same number of college admissions.

Mr. Mark Montgomery of Stony Brook University and of the Population Council gave a presentation on "The urban migration of adolescent girls: Results from poor countries". The presentation was based on findings from a larger project of the Population Council entitled "Girls on the Move" which had examined the social and economic drivers of internal migration for adolescent girls in developing countries, and the links between migration, risk and opportunity. Using data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, International (IPUMS-I), the world's largest archive of publicly available census samples, as well as data from the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) the study had shown that substantial percentages of adolescent girls in cities of developing countries were recent immigrants. However, not all migration was directed from rural to urban areas, and migration from urban to urban areas was also substantial. Although the international community had paid much attention to children migrating to escape exploitation, such as sexual and labour-related abuses, the majority of girls migrated for school- and work-related reasons. In addition, girls migrated to escape hardship, such as neglect and abuse due to poverty or disruption of family structures, and to provide for their family's needs.

Upon arrival, migrant girls often faced a double challenge of having to understand the new environment and constructing new social networks while at the same time requiring access to safe spaces, measures to prevent or reduce isolation, and services that were sensitive to their needs. Interestingly, migrant girls moving without their parents often migrated in groups and also took advantage of the latest communication technology in order to connect with family and friends in the new destination as well as in the areas of origin.

Mr. Montgomery also showed examples of using data from the 2010 census round to map population by migration status and other socio-economic characteristics for developing countries. Such information could be used by planners and development specialist for programme targeting and resource allocation. He called on countries to collect detailed data on their foreign-born populations, disaggregated by age and sex and other socio-economic characteristics and to make such data available at the highest level of spatial disaggregation, respecting the privacy of individuals and taking into account legal and ethical standards.

In the ensuing discussion, participants reviewed recent internal migration trends in China. The financial crisis had affected especially migrant women. Often, they had lost their jobs and were facing difficult times in urban areas without employment; some of them had opted to return home. It was also observed that Chinese migrants studying abroad often moved to neighboring countries after graduation to a third country. Obtaining a visa to study in the United States had become more difficult for Chinese students in recent years, and they were migrating in higher numbers to Australia and New Zealand. Participants also discussed the usefulness of spatially disaggregated data and welcomed recent advances in this area. It was noted that these data were often collected by statistical offices, but not disseminated and analyzed and shared between government entities. National statistical systems collecting population data, including migration data, had to be strengthened to improve policy and programme development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

IV. CLOSING

Mr. Cohen, Chief of the Population Studies Branch of the Population Division of UN/DESA thanked all presenters and participants for their contributions. He then provided an overview of the morning's discussions and added his personal observations. The topic of migration was high on the United Nations agenda, in particular because of the forthcoming forty-sixth session of the Commission on Population and Development in April 2013, the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development to be held in October 2013, and ongoing discussions regarding the integration of migration into the post-2015 development agenda.

Migration and in particular international migration touched on many sensitive issues and often provoked strong emotional reactions, raising issues of national identity, religious and cultural differences, social cohesion, security and welfare. In many countries, migration was highly politicized with countries defining themselves as countries of "immigration" or "emigration". Furthermore, the diaspora had become an important factor influencing political processes in countries of origin. Overall, there was need for dispassionate scientific research in order to inform policy-makers and public debate about migration levels and trends and its links to development.

Migration was the demographic component that was the most difficult to define and measure, since it referred to a change in usual residence over time and space. Given the problems regarding the definition and measurement, it was difficult to produce reliable and comparable estimates of the number of migrants and to develop realistic assumptions regarding future levels and trends.

Migration, internal and international, deserved to be integrated into the post-2015 development agenda. First, it was a growing phenomenon with migration having increased in terms of size, scope and complexity over the last 20 years. Countries that used to be primarily countries of destination had become countries of origin or transit and vice versa. These changes were strongly influenced by a changing global economic system. Second, migration and development were linked and migration could act as an enabler of development. Third, discussions regarding the post-2015 development agenda had stressed that governments were considering not only to focus on the poorest countries, but on all countries in the world. Since migration was linking developed and developing countries, it could significantly contribute to collaboration and partnerships between countries.

Migration could be a positive force for development in countries of origin and destination. Countries of origin would benefit from remittances and knowledge transfers while countries of destination would benefit from additional labour supply complementing native workers. The entrepreneurial spirit for foreign workers would also affect countries of destination in a positive way.

Today's discussions had revealed that migration could take many forms, for example, short- or long-distance, circular or permanent, voluntary or forced. Economic disparities, coupled with underlying demographic factors, such as the ageing of populations and "youth bulges" were the main reasons for people to cross internal and international borders, facilitated by low transportation costs, improved communication networks and diaspora groups helping newcomers or those considering to move. People also migrated for political reasons, by escaping political instability, conflict and natural disasters. Lastly, as demonstrated by some of the presentations, the number of young people migrating for education and training had increased in recent years and this phenomenon had important policy implications for countries of origin and destination.

Overall, migration was a highly selective process with mostly young people and persons in the labour force migrating. Migrants tended to be healthier than non-migrants and were often more educated and entrepreneurial. At the global level, about half of all international migrants were women; however,
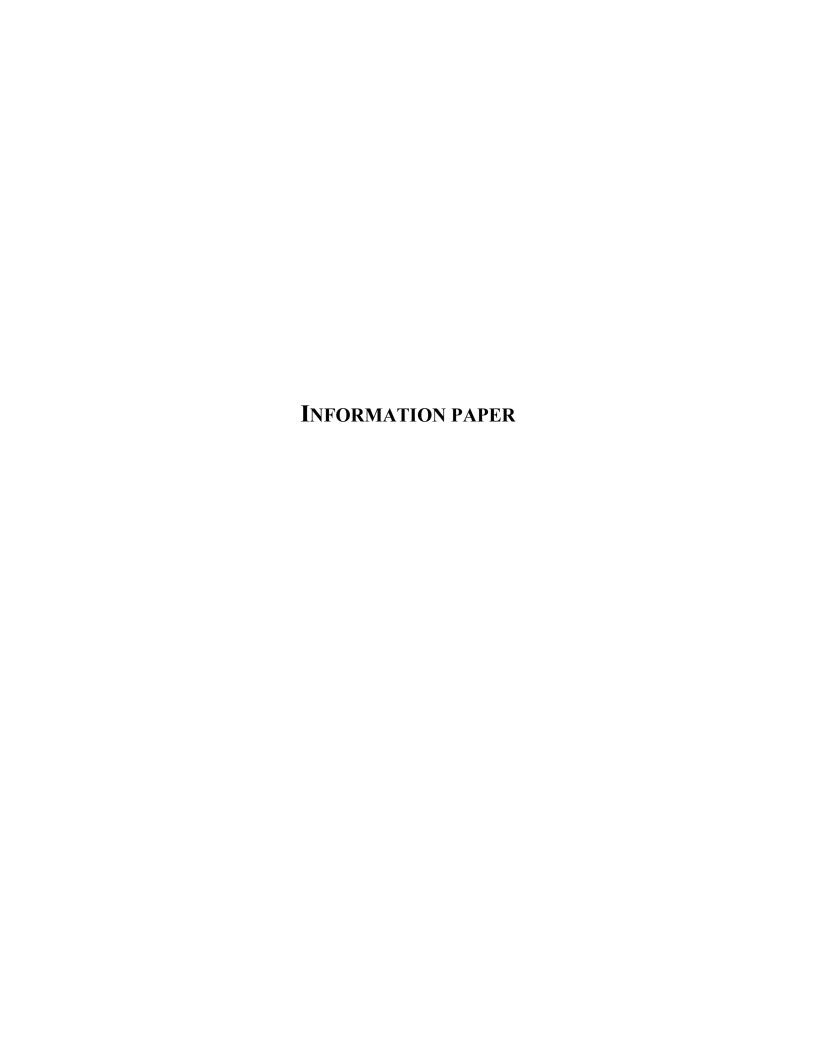
certain migration flows were dominated by men or women. For example, migration flows from South and South-Eastern Asia towards oil-producing countries in Western Asia were often dominated by men who were seeking employment in construction and services industries, including security. Given the selectivity of migration flows, it was important to ensure that laws and policies were in place to address vulnerabilities of particular migrant groups, such as domestic workers.

From a demographic point of view, in some countries, migration was an important component of population change. For example, in some European countries where population was declining due a surplus of deaths over births, net migration, or the surplus of immigrants over emigrants, had become the only source of population growth. However, in the long run, even positive net migration would not be sufficient to counterbalance long-term population decline due to population ageing.

Urbanization, or the growth of the proportion of the population living in urban areas, had become an important demographic phenomenon affecting all countries in the world. It had further demographic effects on a population, such as by changing the age distributions of urban and rural areas, affecting marriage and childbearing behaviour or triggering movement from cities to other countries. Most population growth would be in cities in low and middle income countries – brought about by rural to urban migration as well as differing rates of natural increase. Therefore, urbanization should also feature high on the post-2015 development agenda and in the debate on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 (ICPD+20). The level of urbanization was expected to increase in all major areas, especially in Africa and Asia, with the number of large cities and megacities expected to grow as well.

Mr. Cohen identified two major policy challenges in the field of international migration. First, managing the arrival of international migrants was a major policy concern for many countries. It affected the number of people admitted, but also the composition of the flows. In addition, countries faced a major challenge in terms of integrating international migrants with regard to labour markets, schooling and housing. Overall, it was important that the human rights of migrants, regardless of their migration status, be protected, and that policies were in place to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration flows. For the future, economic and demographic factors influencing migration flows would remain important with new centers of economic activity, for example, attracting migrants to places that were not major destinations of migrants in the past. More research was needed to study the effects of environmental change on migration, but it was important to remember that migration could also serve as an adaptation strategy to changing environmental conditions and natural disasters.

In conclusion, Mr. Cohen reminded the audience that the deliberations from this meeting would inform the forthcoming forty-sixth session of the Commission on Population and Development as well as the 2013 High-level Dialogue. He again thanked all participants and then declared the meeting closed.

INFORMATION PAPER

This page is intentionally left blank

Monday, 3 December 20012

I.   **Opening**
Ms. Francesca Perucci, Population Division, UN/DESA

Keynote address
Global migration: Demographic aspects and its relevance for development
Mr. Ronald Skeldon, University of Sussex

II.   **Panel I: International migration**

Demographic change, migration and development: Recent trends in Western Asia and Northern Africa
Mr. Philppes Fargues, European University Institute, Florence

The demographic impact of migration: Evidence from Africa
Mr. Michael White, Brown University

Globalization of higher education and international student mobility
Ms. Mary Kritz, Cornell University

Chair: Mr. Bela Hovy, Population Division, UN/DESA

III.   **Panel II: Internal migration**

Recent migration trends in China: Geographic and demographic aspects and development implications
Mr. Zai Kiang, State University of New York, Albany

The urban migration of adolescent girls: Results from poor countries
Mr. Mark Montgomery, State University of New York, Stony Brook and Population Council

Chair: Mr. Jorge Bravo, Population Division, UN/DESA

IV.   **Closing**

Concluding remarks and closing
Mr. Barney Cohen, Population Division, UN/DESA

This page is intentionally left blank

ANNEX

This page is intentionally left blank

Resolution 2013/1
New trends in migration: demographic aspects[*]

The Commission on Population and Development,

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[3] and the key actions for its further implementation,[4]

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and the obligations of States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[6] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[6] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[7] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[8] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[9] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[10] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[11]

Recalling further the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[12] and the supplementing protocols thereto, namely, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[13] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,[14] and the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[15]

Recalling the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People,[16]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[17] its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and recalling further the High-Level

---

[*] For the discussion, see chap. II.
[3] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.
[4] See General Assembly resolution S-21/2, annex; *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-21/5/Rev.1); and A/S-21/PV.9.
[5] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).
[6] See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.
[8] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[9] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.
[10] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.
[11] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.
[12] Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.
[13] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.
[14] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.
[15] General Assembly resolution 64/293.
[16] See General Assembly resolution 61/295, annex.
[17] General Assembly resolution 60/1.

Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[18]

Acknowledging that the first High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in 2006 provided an opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and increased awareness of the issue, including the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the Dialogue,[19]

Recognizing the contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to addressing the multidimensional nature of international migration and promoting coherent and comprehensive approaches,

Recalling all General Assembly resolutions relevant to international migration, including those on international migration and development, and on the protection of migrants, in particular Assembly resolutions 63/225 of 19 December 2008, 65/170 of 20 December 2010, 67/172 of 20 December 2012 and 67/219 of 12 December 2012, which are relevant to the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, which will be held during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly and will discuss the overall theme of "Identifying concrete measures to strengthen coherence and cooperation at all levels, with a view to enhancing the benefits of international migration for migrants and countries alike and its important links to development, while reducing its negative implications",

Recalling also the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[20]

Reaffirming the resolve expressed by the Heads of States and Governments to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and members of their families,

Recognizing that the full implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the key actions for its further implementation, including those related to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, which would also contribute to the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action,[21] as well as those on population and development, education and gender equality, are integrally linked to global efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and that population dynamics are all-important for development,

Recognizing also that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and stresses that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

---

[18] General Assembly resolution 65/1.
[19] A/61/515.
[20] General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.
[21] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Recognizing further the responsibility of States to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children,

Acknowledging the important link between migration and development, and recognizing that migration brings both opportunities and challenges to countries of origin, transit and destination to migrants and to the global community,

Reaffirming that development is a central goal in itself and that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects constitutes a key element of the overarching framework of United Nations activities,

Recognizing the importance of preventing and eliminating trafficking in persons, including migrant workers, while assuring the protection of their human rights,

Recognizing also that increased national, bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation and shared responsibility are important to ensure orderly, regular and safe processes of migration and to reduce undocumented or irregular migration,

Recognizing further the importance of having a comprehensive and balanced approach to migration, and bearing in mind that migrants can contribute to the political, economic, social and cultural fabric of countries and the historical, cultural and economic ties that exist among some regions,

Recognizing that remittance flows constitute one of the important aspects of international migration and constitute a source of private capital,

Acknowledging the importance of sustainable integrated urban development in order to respond effectively to the growth of urban populations, while also recognizing that a significant portion of the world's poor live in rural areas and that rural communities play an important role in the economic development of many countries,

Aware that migration has increased in volume, scope, complexity and impact since the adoption of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and that migration is an intrinsic feature of a globalizing world in which economic, social, cultural, demographic, political and environmental factors all play an important role,

Acknowledging the complexity of migratory flows and that international migration movements also occur within the same geographical regions, and in this context calling for a better understanding of migration patterns across and within regions,

Noting that greater internal migratory flows have a significant impact on the distribution and concentration of populations in cities and large urban agglomerations, and recognizing the growing numbers of urban poor who often have no other option but to live in slums,

Recognizing the need to further consider the role that environmental factors may play in migration,

Noting that international migration affects the population size and population distribution of countries as well as their composition by age and

sex, and recognizing that migration flows are important considerations for development planning,

Recognizing that women and girls account for almost half of all international migrants at the global level, that women are increasingly migrating on their own or as heads of households and that while this situation can create opportunities for economic independence and empowerment, it can also lead to exploitation and vulnerability, and violence and abuse for girls, as well as for migrant women and their families, and therefore requires more attention and greater gender sensitivity in all policies and efforts related to migration,

Recognizing also the contributions of adolescents and young migrants to countries of origin, transit and destination, their particular vulnerabilities, circumstances and needs, and their potential to build social, economic and cultural bridges of cooperation and understanding across societies, and in that regard acknowledging the need to consider the socioeconomic circumstances and specific needs of young migrants, including access to education and health services, in order that they may achieve their full potential and contribute to inclusive social and economic development,

Recognizing further that any migrant can be vulnerable depending on the conditions and circumstances of his or her migration, and that these vulnerabilities can be exacerbated depending on a variety of factors such as age, sex, ethnicity and legal status,

Recognizing that young people, including young migrants, are particularly vulnerable to HIV infection because of social and economic factors and other inequities, including stigma and discrimination, gender-based and sexual violence, gender inequality and violations, and lack of accurate information on HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, and access to sexual and reproductive health, including HIV-related services,

Recalling the resolve expressed to provide protection and assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons, of whom a majority are women and children, in accordance with international law, including international humanitarian law,

Recognizing that all migrants have the right to a nationality to prevent statelessness, which can leave migrants particularly vulnerable to arbitrary arrest and detention, exploitation, and other abuses, and that all children, including the children of migrants, should be registered immediately after birth,

Recognizing also that in order to achieve their full potential for economic and social development, migrants need to have access to vital registration services and relevant documentation, education, vocational training, housing, productive employment, and social and health services, including sexual and reproductive health services, with due regard for applicable laws and eligibility requirements,

Recalling the various General Assembly resolutions requesting the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations, in particular the International Organization for Migration, to enhance their cooperation to improve the collection, dissemination and analysis of migration data disaggregated, inter alia, by age and sex,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring and on the monitoring of population programmes, both focusing on new trends in migration,[22] and taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[23]

1.   *Reaffirms* the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[3] and the key actions for its further implementation;[4]

2.   *Also reaffirms* the Beijing Platform for Action[21] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[24] including in the area of migrant women;

3.   *Further reaffirms* the sovereign right of each country to implement the recommendations of the Programme of Action or other proposals in the present resolution, consistent with national laws and development priorities, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its people, and in conformity with universally recognized international human rights;

4.   *Calls upon* States to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants regardless of migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

5.   *Urges* Member States to take effective measures in conformity with international law to protect migrants affected or exploited by terrorism and incitement;

6.   *Also urges* Member States to take concerted actions in conformity with international law to remove the obstacles faced by migrants, including those living in situations of armed conflict or under foreign occupation;

7.   *Requests* all Member States, in accordance with their relevant international obligations and commitments, to promote cooperation at all levels in addressing the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration, so as to foster orderly, regular and safe processes of migration;

8.   *Urges* all Member States to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures and specific policies to prevent, combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons, to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims, in particular women and children subjected to forced labour, sexual exploitation, violence or sexual abuse;

9.   *Encourages* Member States that have not already done so to enact national legislation and take other appropriate measures to combat international smuggling of migrants, including legislative, judicial, regulatory

_____

[22] E/CN.9/2013/3 and E/CN.9/2013/4.
[23] E/CN.9/2013/5.
[24] General Assembly resolutions S-23/2, annex, and S-23/3, annex.

and administrative measures, recognizing that migrant smuggling may endanger the lives of migrants or make them vulnerable to trafficking, kidnapping or other crimes and abuse by organized criminal groups, and to strengthen international cooperation to combat such crimes;

10. *Urges* Member States to safeguard and protect migrants and members of their families from illegal or violent acts, including acts of discrimination and crimes perpetrated on any basis, and to respect their physical integrity, dignity, religious beliefs and cultural values;

11. *Encourages* Member States that have not done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[11] as well as other relevant legal instruments related to labour standards, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote and raise awareness of such instruments;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of, and promote equal opportunities for, internal migrants, to combat all forms of discrimination against them, to provide them with access to education, health care and social services, and to foster social integration, especially for marginalized migrants;

13. *Reaffirms* that there is a need to address and to promote conditions for cheaper, faster, more transparent and safer transfers of remittances, in a non-discriminatory fashion, in both source and recipient countries, and invites Member States as well as the private sector, international organizations, the banking community and other stakeholders, to work towards the further reduction of transfer costs of remittances;

14. *Reaffirms also* the need to encourage opportunities for development-oriented investments in recipient countries by beneficiaries that are willing and able to undertake such actions;

15. *Invites* Governments to encourage diasporas to contribute to the development of their countries and communities of origin, in accordance with domestic legislation, including by facilitating human capital transfer, direct investment, trade and philanthropy, and by ensuring an environment that is conducive to investments and entrepreneurship with easy access to information, networks and infrastructure;

16. *Invites* Member States to take practical measures to enhance the benefits of international migration for development by, inter alia, seeking to ensure the fair treatment of migrants with regard to their working conditions and wages, the portability of pensions and other social protections, as appropriate, and the mutual recognition of diplomas and qualifications, with due regard to eligibility criteria, and in general lowering the costs of migration and promoting circular and return migration;

17. *Calls upon* States to ensure that migration, which affects many areas of development, is integrated into national and sectoral development policies, strategies and programmes;

18. *Reiterates* the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons, especially in the health, social and engineering sectors, affects the development efforts of developing countries and endorses the example of good practice set by the World Health Organization Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel, whereby the international

community is encouraged to support and promote the strengthening of health systems;

19. *Invites* Governments, when developing policies, to take into account the role that environmental factors may play in migration;

20. *Urges* Member States and the international community to give due consideration to the linkages between migration and development in the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, and in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

21. *Urges* Member States, with the support of the international community, to consider population and migration trends and projections in developing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating national, rural and urban development strategies and policies, and to seize the opportunities and address the challenges associated with demographic change, including migration;

22. *Encourages* Member States to promote sustainable and integrated rural and urban development, to strengthen urban-rural linkages and to expand participatory efforts to upgrade slums;

23. *Encourages* Governments to harness the benefits of persons moving to urban areas in pursuit of education, employment or family unity, and to seize the advantages of higher population density, notably higher energy efficiency in transport and housing, as well as cheaper provision of services and infrastructure, while at the same time working to mitigate the adverse impacts of the rapid concentration of populations in cities or metropolitan areas;

24. *Welcomes* programmes that allow migrants to integrate fully into society, facilitate family reunification in accordance with the laws and specific criteria of each Member State and promote a harmonious, tolerant and respectful environment, and encourages host countries to take appropriate measures aimed at the full integration of long-term, regular migrants staying in the country;

25. *Calls upon* States to protect the human rights of migrant children, especially migrant girls, given their vulnerability, particularly unaccompanied migrant children, ensuring that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in State policies on integration, return and family reunification, including repatriation mechanisms;

26. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to incorporate a gender perspective into all policies and programmes on international migration in order, inter alia, to reinforce the positive effects that migration can have for the empowerment of women and the contributions that migrant women can make to the economic, social and human development of their countries of origin and their host countries, and to strengthen actions to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence, coercion, discrimination, trafficking in persons, and exploitation and abuse of women and girls;

27. *Urges* Governments to take into account the best interests of the child by adopting or strengthening measures to promote and protect the human rights of migrant girls, including unaccompanied girls, regardless of their immigration status, so as to prevent labour and economic exploitation,

discrimination, sexual harassment, violence and sexual abuse in the workplace, including in domestic work;

28. *Calls upon* Member States to consider the consequences of humanitarian emergencies for migrants and migration, including for longer-term development, in particular regarding the situation of international migrants affected by acute crises in destination or transit countries, and the impact of return migration, and also specifically considering the role of human mobility in disaster risk reduction strategies, disaster preparedness, national climate change adaptation programmes and sustainable urban planning;

29. *Also calls upon* Member States to increase measures to protect women migrants from violence and harassment, including sexual harassment and bullying, in both public and private spaces, and to address security and safety through awareness-raising policies and programmes;

30. *Recognizes* that migrants and displaced persons in many parts of the world have limited access to health care, including for sexual and reproductive health, and face specific threats to their reproductive health and rights, and calls upon Governments to provide services that are particularly sensitive to the needs of individual women and adolescents and responsive to their often powerless situation, with particular attention to those who are victims of sexual violence;

31. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify efforts to provide migrants with access to health and social services, including sexual and reproductive health services, information and education, and access to services for the prevention and treatment of HIV and AIDS and other communicable or non-communicable diseases, and for the care and support of persons living with these conditions; as well as to implement measures to prevent violence, including sexual violence, and to address the consequences by providing, inter alia, emergency contraception and safe abortion in circumstances where such services are permitted by national law;

32. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to adopt and implement legislation and policies that protect all women migrant domestic workers and to include therein and improve, where necessary, relevant monitoring and inspection measures in line with applicable International Labour Organization conventions and other instruments to ensure compliance with international obligations, and to grant women migrant workers in domestic service access to gender sensitive, transparent mechanisms for bringing complaints against employers, while stressing that such instruments should not punish women migrant domestic workers, and calls upon States to promptly investigate and punish all violations of their rights;

33. *Encourages* Member States to consider identifying and reviewing any remaining HIV-related restrictions on the entry, stay and residence of migrants in order to eliminate the restrictions;

34. *Urges* Member States, with the support of the international community and within their national strategies for the development of statistics, to prioritize the collection and publication of timely and comparable migration data, based on existing standards and guidelines, including data disaggregated by age and sex, and to build national capacity for this work;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine best practices and make recommendations for strengthening national capacities to collect, process and

disseminate migration data, and for using such data for decision-making and informed public debate and dialogue, as part of his report to the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development;

36. *Encourages* Member States to take advantage of advances in methodologies and technologies for data collection and analysis and to collaborate regularly in the collection, processing, exchange and analysis of migration and other relevant data compiled through various data collection systems;

37. *Also encourages* Member States to make migration data available at the highest level of spatial disaggregation possible, in all cases respecting the privacy of individuals and taking into account legal and ethical standards, in order to improve the quality, timeliness and accessibility of data for the purpose of policy and programme development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;

38. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced and comprehensive approach to migration and development, in particular by building partnerships among all relevant stakeholders and by ensuring coordinated action to develop national capacities, including for data collection and for the management of migration in ways that respect and protect human rights;

39. *Stresses* the need to take concrete actions to strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation and dialogue in the area of international migration and development and, where appropriate, to develop and implement national and regional policies and cooperative strategies with the meaningful participation of migrants to ensure that migration contributes to the development of both countries of origin and countries of destination;

40. *Reaffirms* the right of Governments to enforce their migration laws consistent with their international obligations;

41. *Calls upon* Governments of both developed and developing countries to make every effort to mobilize the required resources to ensure that the migration, development and human rights-related objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development are met, and urges Governments and development partners to cooperate closely to ensure that resources are used in a manner that ensures maximum effectiveness and is in full alignment with the needs and priorities of developing countries;

42. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, including the Global Migration Group, within their respective mandates, to strengthen their collaboration and cooperation in the area of international migration, to adopt coherent, comprehensive and coordinated approaches and to include migration issues in their contributions to the preparation of the post-2015 development agenda;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his substantive work on migration and development and, in collaboration with the United Nations system and relevant organizations, including the International Organization for Migration, to continue assessing the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives on migration and development set out in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits;

44.	*Looks forward* to the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, with the aim of identifying concrete measures to harness the benefits of migration and to minimize its negative impacts, which is to be held during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, reiterates the invitation to Member States and observers to participate at the highest possible level, and calls on Member States to contribute through appropriate regional consultative processes to the High-level Dialogue;

45.	*Recommends* in this regard that the Economic and Social Council transmit the report of the Commission on its forty-sixth session to the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development.