SEVENTH COORDINATION MEETING
ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

New York, 20-21 November 2008

United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Population Division

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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

Since 2002, the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat has been organizing annual coordination meetings on international migration. The purpose of these meetings, which bring together representatives of all entities of the United Nations system working on international migration, other relevant intergovernmental organizations as well as the research community, is to review the latest evidence on emerging topics as well as to exchange information with a view to informing the migration debate, enhancing coordination and achieving system-wide coherence.

Since the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, which was organized by the United Nations General Assembly, the coordination meeting has helped migration experts and practitioners to contribute to the follow-up of the High-level Dialogue. By inviting the outgoing and incoming chairs of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), the meeting also provides a unique opportunity for dialogue between the State-led Global Forum process and the United Nations system and for participating entities to contribute to the preparations and the implementation of the outcomes of the Global Forum. Taking advantage of the presence of the GFMD chairs, the Population Division routinely organizes a briefing for Member States in conjunction with the coordination meeting to ensure that the diplomatic community in New York is kept abreast of the latest developments concerning the Global Forum.

The Seventh Coordination Meeting was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, from 20 to 21 November 2008. The meeting was attended by some eighty participants, representing the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, offices of the United Nations Secretariat, including the regional commissions, as well as other relevant intergovernmental organizations, regional institutions and non-governmental organizations active in the field of international migration. Also present were invited experts and representatives of United Nations Member States.

At the meeting, the Chair of the 2008 Manila Global Forum briefed participants about the achievements, outcomes and follow-up of GFMD II, while the Chair of the 2009 Athens Global Forum presented the status of preparations for GFMD III. The meeting also provided a first opportunity for the United Nations system to assess the implications of the global financial and economic crisis on international migration and development. Other subjects covered by the meeting included a new approach for estimating migration flows in OECD countries, an assessment of the attractiveness and accessibility of countries for migrants in relation to their need for migrant labour, migration training and knowledge-sharing at the United Nations, and preliminary findings of the Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research. During the coordination segment, 26 participants took the floor to inform the meeting about current and planned migration activities by their organizations.

The high level of engagement in the annual coordination meeting demonstrates the growing interest of the United Nations system and other entities in international migration, in particular where it concerns the follow-up to the 2006 High-level Dialogue and the engagement with the Global Forum process. As such, it continues to demonstrate the validity of the request of the General Assembly to the Population Division of UN/DESA to convene annual coordination meetings on international migration (A/58/208).

This volume presents the report of the meeting's deliberations as well as a set of papers prepared for the meeting by the different entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

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

The following abbreviations have been used in the present document:

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ALO	Arab Labor Organization
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AU	African Union
CARICOM	Caribbean Community and Common Market
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CELADE	Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre
CMS	Center for Migration Studies
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRDI	Centre de Recherches pour le Développement International
DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
EAC	East African Community
EC	European Commission
ECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
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
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GCIM	Global Commission on International Migration
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
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development in Eastern Africa
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMILA	Investigación de la Migración Internacional en Latinoamérica
INED	Institut national d'etudes demographiques
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPPR	Institute for Public Policy Research
ISIM	Institute for the Study of International Migration
IUSSP	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
LAS	League of Arab States
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys
MIF	Multilateral Investment Fund
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding

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MPI	Migration Policy Institute
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
OAS	Organization of American States
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarians Affairs
ODA	Official Development Assistance
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
RCP	Regional Consultative Process
SADC	Southern African Development Community
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNICRI	United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UN-INSTRAW	United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
UNU	United Nations University
UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
WFP	United Nations World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

PART ONE

REPORT OF THE MEETING AND INFORMATION PAPERS

REPORT OF THE MEETING

The Seventh United Nations Coordination Meeting on International Migration took place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 20 to 21 November 2008. The meeting was organized by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat. The main objectives of the meeting were to discuss the follow-up to the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development; to assess the consequences of the financial and economic crisis on international migration and development, and to exchange information on current and planned activities in the area of international migration and development.

Some eighty participants attended the meeting, including representatives of agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, offices of the United Nations Secretariat, including the regional commissions, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental institutions active in the field of international migration. Also present were invited experts and representatives of United Nations Member States.

I. OPENING

Ms. Hania Zlotnik, Director of the Population Division of UN/DESA, opened the meeting by welcoming the participants. She noted that more people lived outside their country of birth today than at any time in history and that the numbers of people who moved across international borders was expected to continue to increase in the future. International migration had moved to the forefront of national and international agendas. The annual coordination meeting on international migration, convened by the Population Division, was the only system-wide forum where representatives of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) could share information on international migration and discuss emerging issues. The 2008 Coordination Meeting provided an opportunity within the United Nations system to review specific implications of the economic and financial crisis for international migration. The meeting also enhanced coherence between the United Nations system and the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), an informal, State-led process.

Ms. Zlotnik informed participants that the General Assembly, at its sixty-third session, was expected to adopt a resolution on the follow-up to the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development conducted by the General Assembly in 2006.[1] The report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development, prepared for the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, would be presented during the second half of the morning.

Ms. Zlotnik then outlined the meeting agenda and introduced the first speakers, Mr. Esteban Conejos Jr., Under-Secretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines and Chair of the Second Meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and Mr. Athanassios Nakos, Vice-Minister of the Interior of Greece and Chair of the Third Meeting of the Global Forum.

II. THE GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Under-Secretary of Migrant Workers' Affairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, Mr. Esteban Conejos, addressed the meeting and, in his capacity as Chair of the second meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), made a presentation of the outcomes of that meeting, which was held in Manila, the Philippines, from 27 to 30 October 2008. The

theme of the meeting was "Protecting and Empowering Migrants for Development" and it had included two distinct parts: a meeting of civil society held on 27 and 28 October and the intergovernmental meeting held on 29 and 30 October. During the first meeting, 220 representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, trade unions, faith-based organizations and academics, discussed the issues and produced a set of recommendations to transmit to the intergovernmental meeting. The key recommendations that civil society made to Governments were:

- To consider the benefits of migration and resist the temptation to cut migrant numbers in the current economic circumstances;
- To recognize the need for the development of a global architecture to ensure a rights-based approach to migration;
- To re-affirm the commitment to development through realizing the MDGs, full employment and decent work as priorities for development.

Under-Secretary. Conejos noted that the meeting of civil society, known as "Civil Society Days", had been organized by the Ayala Foundation, Inc. and had been broader in scope and achieved a greater degree of engagement than the equivalent meeting held in 2007 in conjunction with the first meeting of the Global Forum held in Brussels. In Manila, the engagement of civil society had been promoted in several ways. First, the meeting of civil society had been extended to two days compared to the single day allocated to it in Brussels. In addition, government representatives had been invited to attend the concluding session of the civil society meeting in order to hear the recommendations made by civil society and react to them. Under-Secretary Conejos himself had led a delegation of government representatives to interact with civil society on the eve of the intergovernmental meeting. This innovation had been welcomed by civil society organizations, which had felt that the time allocated in Brussels for interaction between civil society and Governments had been too short. Under-Secretary Conejos also stressed that, on the way to the GFMD meeting in Manila, three workshops, entitled Voices from the Region and involving representatives of civil society, had been convened to highlight regional perspectives. In Manila, civil society organizations had recognized not only the benefits that migration brought to migrants, but also those that countries of origin and destination could derive from international migration.

The meeting of the Global Forum proper gathered 1,130 delegates representing 163 Member States and observers of the United Nations. The meeting consisted of two plenary sessions and eight break-out round table discussions, including a special session on the Future of the Forum. Several high-ranking officials participated in the plenary sessions, including the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, and the President of the Philippines, H.E. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. The Global Forum was the first global meeting in Asia devoted to an intergovernmental discussion of international migration and development.

The round table discussions were organized around the following topics: (*a*) migration, development and human rights; (*b*) secure, regular migration can achieve a stronger development impact, and (*c*) policy and institutional coherence and partnerships. The ensuing deliberations yielded 33 practical recommendations and possible follow-up actions. Under-Secretary Conejos considered that the Manila Forum's most significant contribution to the overall GFMD process was to emphasize the rights of migrants and discuss ways to empower migrants so that they could contribute to development. This achievement shifted the focus of the debate on international migration away from the narrow perspective centred on the economic costs and benefits of migration toward the wider view that encompassed the wellbeing of migrants and their families, highlighting the human face of migration and development. Under-Secretary Conejos stressed that migrants were motivated to leave their countries primarily to better their own lives and those of their families and not with the intention of promoting development either at home or abroad.

The Special Session on the Future of the Forum had been chaired by the Special Representative to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on International Migration and Development, Mr. Peter Sutherland. Given that Greece, Argentina, Spain and Morocco had already offered to host future meetings of the Global Forum, the immediate future of the GFMD was secure. In addition, in 2008, a light support unit would be established within IOM in order to assist the Chair-in-Office with basic administrative matters. While the Forum was not directly responsible for monitoring the projects and follow-up actions that emanated from its meetings, a website administered by the support unit could help achieve this goal. Under-Secretary Conejos said that the Forum enjoyed the full backing of the Secretary-General, as demonstrated both by his presence in Brussels and Manila and by the important role played by his Special Representative on International Migration and Development. The Global Migration Group (GMG) was an obvious partner both for providing expertise during the preparations of the meetings of the Global Froum and for the implementation of the Forum's outcomes. There was also consensus that the fundamental purpose of the Forum was to provide a place for dialogue among Governments, which in turn needed to be informed by civil society. The need for better communication between the Global Forum and regional consultative processes was emphasized. During the session on the future of the Forum, a call had been made to Governments for them to broaden the donor base, both in terms of funding and in terms of participation in order to dispel any perception that the GFMD was a donor-driven process. In addition, there was general agreement that the Forum and the United Nations served different but complementary purposes. The Forum was a venue for informal discussion of practical solutions to particular problems, whereas the United Nations provided a venue in which to develop normative solutions.

In conclusion, Under-Secretary Conejos expressed the need to ensure continuity in the Forum agenda especially by ensuring that future meetings of the Forum would continue to address the protection of migrants and the need for coherence between international migration and development policies.

Vice-Minister Nakos, the Chair of the third meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development that would be held in Athens, Greece, on 4 and 5 November 2009 spoke next. He announced that the theme for the meeting would be "Integrating Migration Policies in Development Strategies for the Benefit of All". He reported that he had already established a local task force to prepare the meeting and that the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation had agreed to organize the meeting of civil society (Civil Society Days) that, as in Manila, would be held just before the intergovernmental meeting, on 2 and 3 November 2009. While the basic purpose of the Forum was to support dialogue among Governments, the important role that civil society could play was recognized and consideration was being given to ways of enhancing the exchange of views between Governments and civil society representatives. The third meeting of the Forum would maintain the thematic continuity established by the two previous meetings but would delve deeper into the issues already addressed in those meetings. The third meeting of the Forum would, in addition, consider how the current economic and financial crisis was affecting international migration and its relationships with development. Mr. Nakos recognized that the entities constituting the GMG were a valuable source of expertise and acknowledged the useful support they had provided and would likely continue to provide to the Global Forum. He expected the GMG and the GMFD explore together opportunities for further collaboration.

Vice-Minister Nakos expressed gratitude for the Secretary-General's support to the GFMD process and, especially, to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, Mr. Peter Sutherland, who was a key partner in the preparation of the Forum's meetings and made valuable suggestions on the way forward. Vice-Minister Nakos assured participants that, under Greece's chairmanship, the Forum would strive to maintain a close and strong link with the United Nations. He hoped to set high standards for the organization of the third meeting and was committed to transparency and open dialogue. He stressed the need to go beyond declarations and general conclusions, asserting that the success of the Forum depended on finding practical solutions to concrete problems and then implementing those solutions. The third meeting of the Forum would highlight how

international migration could contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs. To do so, it was crucial to ensure that people migrated out of choice and not because of necessity.

In closing, Vice-Minister Nakos pointed out that Greece was a most suitable host for the Global Forum because its history and development were closely tied to international migration. From being a major country of origin for migrants going to all corners of the world, Greed had passed to be an important country of destination. International migration, being a global phenomenon, required a holistic approach, particularly if the synergies between international migration and development were to be leveraged. International migration had to be an integral part of the international development agenda as well as of national and regional development strategies. He expected the third meeting of the Forum to focus on these and other issues and invited participants to provide to the organizers their full support in advancing the substantive agenda of the Forum.

During the discussion, participants thanked Under-Secretary Conejos and Vice-Minister Nakos for their detailed presentations. The representative of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) asked about the follow-up process to the Global Forum. Under-Secretary Conejos replied that the Forum was neither a decision-making nor an operational body. Therefore it was up to interested Governments to follow-up on whatever ideas or suggestions emanated from the Forum. In doing so, Governments would benefit from the expert assistance of entities in the United Nations system and other international organizations. Under-Secretary Conejos added that the full report of the second meeting of the Global Forum, detailing all the conclusions and suggestions emerging from the meeting, would be available by the end of February 2009 and would then be submitted to the Secretary-General for distribution among Member States and the United Nations system at large.

III. FOLLOW UP TO THE HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Philip Guest, Assistant Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs introduced the 2008 report by the Secretary-General on "International Migration and Development". The report's contents were guided by General Assembly resolution 61/208, calling for a report outlining appropriate follow-up options to the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, and resolution 62/270 that requested an evaluation of existing cooperation mechanisms on international migration and development. The report surveyed the work of relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system on international migration and development, and concluded that, as a result of the 2006 High-level Dialogue, work on international migration and development had become more prominent in the work programme of many of the entities surveyed and such work was increasingly being focused on the migration-development nexus. Mr. Guest thanked all participants for providing valuable input for the preparation of the report.

In order to identify follow-up options to the 2006 High-level Dialogue, the Population Division canvassed Member States of the United Nations and observers using a short questionnaire that was distributed through the permanent missions to the United Nations in New York and through the national focal points designated for the Global Forum. As of the 15 July 2008, the deadline for submission of replies, 64 Member States had responded. On the basis of the responses received, three main follow-up options were identified: (*a*) to continue including an item on international migration and development on the agenda of the General Assembly; (b) to give special consideration to ideas and initiatives generated by the Global Forum on Migration and Development in the deliberations of the General Assembly on international migration and development; and (c) to conduct periodically a high-level dialogue on international migration and development in the General Assembly so as to take stock of advances made

by Governments, the United Nations system and other international or intergovernmental organizations at the regional, interregional and global levels. These options were not mutually exclusive.

With regard to the evaluation of intergovernmental cooperation mechanisms, including the regional consultative processes (RCPs), the report showed that intergovernmental cooperation in the area of international migration had increased markedly since the 2006 High-level Dialogue. The report indicated that the success of RCPs depended in large part on the institutional support they had. The report noted, however, that since the RCPs had been operating for a relatively short period, it was still too early to determine their effectiveness in maximizing the positive contributions of international migration to development.

In the ensuing discussion, participants asked how RCPs had been evaluated for the purposes of the report. Mr. Guest replied that there had been no formal evaluation but rather that the main conclusions presented in the report had been inferred from RCP outcomes over the previous two years as well as from background papers on RCPs prepared for the second meeting of the Global Forum. The representative of IOM added that there had been calls for a formal evaluation of the RCPs since the recommendations of the Global Commission on International Migration had been issued in 2005, but that Governments participating in the RCPs were not interested in formal evaluations of processes that remained largely voluntary and informal. In order for RCPs to compare notes among themselves, IOM was planning to convene a meeting of the chairs and secretariats of the major RCPs in early 2009 and to discuss there the results of an evaluation of RCPs that IOM had just completed with the financial support of the MacArthur Foundation.

Participants also remarked on the growing participation of civil society in the Global Forum process and other similar processes and inquired about the expected role of civil society in future high-level dialogues within the United Nations. In particular, the representative of the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) expressed concern that the Secretary-General's report did not cover well the activities of civil society. Civil society organizations were active in both regional and global debates on international migration and had both participated in and led a number of regional consultations, including some in Asia. Mr. Hovy acknowledged the important contribution of civil society to the 2006 High-level Dialogue and said that the activities the representative of ICMC had identified would certainly enrich the participation of civil society in events related to future high-level dialogues.

The representative of the NGO Committee on Migration noted the advances made in the second meeting of the Global Forum in regard of a greater interaction between government and civil society representatives. However, she questioned the process by which civil society representatives had been selected to participate in the Civil Society Days. She hoped that the process of engagement of civil society in those meetings could become more transparent, especially in regard to representation of civil society in the organizing committee for the Civil Society Days where it seemed that non-governmental organizations had a weaker representation than academics. Whereas the latter were good at producing reports they did not necessarily represent the views of other civil society organizations. She called for a bottom-up approach to organizing civil society participation in those processes.

The representative of International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) said that the number of university-based researchers working on international migration had been rising rapidly, as evidenced by the increasing number of papers on the topic submitted to professional meetings. While research activities on international migration were still diverse and driven by the interests of individual researchers, there was no doubt that the evidence on which to base future intergovernmental dialogues was improving. She urged the organizers of the Global Forum to maintain the involvement of academics in the process.

The representative of the World Bank suggested that in preparing for a future High-level Dialogue, it would be helpful to publish well-researched and cohesive reports well in advance of that event so that there could be time to get their messages across to policy-makers. He said that a future World Development Report might focus on migration and he stressed that a few strong reports could help shape the agenda on international migration and development. The representative of the Human Development Report Office noted that the 2009 Human Development Report would focus on migration and human development. The Office had already conducted six regional consultations on the topic, including one following the second meeting of the Global Forum in Manila. Three more regional consultations were planned. The report was expected to be completed in 2008.

In the same vein, the representative of the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University suggested that a research conference and the subsequent publication of its proceedings could be planned prior to the next High-level Dialogue. Supporting that argument, the representative of the Harvard Kennedy School of Government agreed that the academic community had a important role to play both by contributing policy-relevant research and by leveraging the role of civil society.

The representative of Western Union supported the suggestion of publishing reports prior to any future High-level Dialogue. She remarked that businesses had been largely absent from the Global Forum process and that it would be beneficial for the process for that to change. The business community had an interest in supporting a rights-based approach to international migration and could be a useful partner for the implementation of outcomes of the Forum, being willing to work both with Governments and other parts of civil society.

The representatives of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and IOM remarked that very few development practitioners had been involved so far in the Global Forum process and suggested that a greater effort in involving that constituency would also further the objectives of the Forum.

In September 2008, ESCAP had organized a regional High-level Meeting for government officials so that they could be better prepared to address the issues raised at the second meeting of the Forum in November. The representatives participating in both this High-level Meeting and in the second meeting of the Global Forum belonged mainly to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice or Labour. The High-level Meeting in ESCAP had not involved representatives of civil society, except for experts serving as resource persons.

The representative of the Regional Commissions Office in New York reported that the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) had reported holding expert group meetings on different aspects of international migration. Those meetings did not seem to have any links to the Global Forum process, especially because they did not involve a major participation of government officials.

The representative of ICMC expressed appreciation for the collaboration between UNDP and the European Commission in providing funding for co-development projects involving migrant communities in both countries of origin and destination. ICMC had noted a slow but steady increase in the participation of development agencies in discussions of international migration and development. For example, several of the Caritas groups engaged in development activities now expressed interest in international migration, as evident in their participation in the Civil Society Days in Manila.

ICMC had been the only faith-based organization included in the group of 16 non-governmental organizations that had worked with the Ayala Foundation, Inc. in the preparation of the Civil Society

Days in Manila. The representative of ICMC noted that his organization had become involved rather late in the preparation process, so that by the time it joined the organizing committee, most of the decisions regarding the structure of the Civil Society Days, including the designation of paper writers and chairs for the sessions, had already been made. He agreed with the views expressed by the representative of the NGO Committee on Migration that papers prepared by academics did not necessarily reflect the views or perspectives of non-governmental organizations working in the field of migration. He welcomed the strong involvement of labour unions in the Civil Society Days in Manila and welcomed advances made in opening the process of consultation and collaboration between Governments and civil society begun in Brussels. He suggested that one way to build on this progress could be by establishing an "interface" where civil society representatives could meet with government representatives to discuss specific themes during the second day of the Civil Society Days.

The representative of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) noted that the work of UNIFEM on migration had not been mentioned in the 2008 Secretary-General's report on international migration and development. UNIFEM had been working on female labour migration for a long time and had conducted projects in nine countries since 2001. Similarly, the representative of the World Trade Organization (WTO) remarked that omission of the work of WTO regarding Mode 4 of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) in the report of the Secretary-General was regrettable.

In closing, Mr. Guest assured participants that inputs from both UNIFEM and WTO would be sought in preparation of future reports of the Secretary-General. He thanked participants for their contributions to the discussion and took note of the suggestions made for the preparation of a future High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development.

IV. INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION, REMITTANCES AND THE FINANCIAL CRISIS

Mr. Dilip Ratha, representative of the World Bank, made a presentation on a recently issued brief entitled *Remittances: Outlook for 2008-2010*. Starting in the 1990s, remittances to developing countries had been growing at an accelerating pace yet, in the third quarter of 2008, their growth had slowed down markedly. Such slowdown was expected to deepen in 2009 as a result of the global economic and financial crisis, although it was still uncertain by how much the growth in remittances would fall or if the volume of remittances itself would decline. He still expected that remittance flows would remain resilient to the economic downturn because the majority of international migrants had lived a long time abroad and were unlikely to return home in the short run.

Mr. Ratha stressed that the eventual path of remittances depended on the scale, scope and duration of the economic crisis. Its impact, however, could be severe because, in contrast with previous crisis, it had been triggered in the developed world and was seriously affecting the major world economies. Previous crises caused by financial downturns, natural disasters or political conflict had originated in smaller developing economies and when they affected countries of origin, such as Haiti, Mexico, Somalia or Thailand, they had led to a countercyclical increase in remittances.

In November 2008, the World Bank estimated that remittances to developing countries in 2008 would total US$283 billion, still up from the level of US$229 billion estimated for 2006. Mr. Ratha noted, however, that some countries had just revised their remittance estimates. Egypt, for instance, had increased its estimate for 2008 from US$4 billion to US$7.5 billion and Nigeria had raised it from US$3 billion to US$18 billion. So it was premature to draw any conclusions from the global 2008 estimates.

Nevertheless, it was noteworthy that the annual growth rate of remittance flows to developing countries had declined from 18 per cent in 2005-2006 to 7 per cent in 2007-2008. India, China and

Mexico remained as the top three remittance recipient countries, attracting more than US$20 billion each in 2008. Yet none of them had an economy heavily dependent on remittance. In contrast, in smaller economies, such as Moldova, Tajikistan or Tonga, remittances accounted for more than 30 per cent of GDP in 2007 and changes in their volume could have severe economic effects on them.

Mr. Ratha confirmed that total remittances to Mexico had declined in recent months, owing in part to the slowdown in the construction sector in the United States. However, the average amount sent to Mexico per worker had remained at about US$340 to US$350 per month. In times of crisis entrepreneurs generally did not lay off first low skilled workers earning low wages. Furthermore, even during an economic downturn, migrants might consider that they were better off in the countries of destination where they had more opportunities to earn money to help their families than back home. Tighter border controls also reduced their propensity to repatriate.

Mr. Ratha concluded by saying that the global economic and financial crisis would affect remittances, but that the depth and extent of the crisis remained uncertain and that its impact would likely vary by country, geographic region and employment sector.

During the discussion, Mr. Ivo Havinga of the United Nations Statistics Division said that official remittance data tended to underestimate the actual size of remittance flows. Following a request from the G7 countries in June 2004, an international working group was created to improve the quality of remittance data. This working group, known as the "Luxembourg Group", had recommended that three new categories of remittances—personal remittances, total remittances, and total remittances and transfers to nonprofit institutions serving households—be added to the Balance of Payments Manual. The United Nations Statistics Division shared the view of the Group that official remittance data often underestimated the total flow of remittances because not all migration-related transfers were included, especially those between non-profit organizations, which could be high as in the case of the money sent to countries affected by the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. In order to remedy this deficiency, Mr. Havinga suggested combining the data gathered by different organizations. The Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA) in Mexico was cited as an example of a regional effort to improve remittance data. As the regional association of bringing together the central banks of countries in Latin American and the Caribbean, CEMLA had a programme on the measurement of remittances under which reports on how to compile remittance data from various sources were published.

Mr. Havinga agreed with Mr. Ratha that the impact of the financial crisis on remittances would vary significantly by employment sector and migration corridor. He urged that those assessing the impact of the financial crisis on developing countries also consider trends in official development assistance (ODA) and foreign direct investment (FDI), both of which would likely be affected. Mr. Ratha agreed that combining the remittance data from various sources could help fill some gaps.

The representative of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) observed that, contrary to Mr. Ratha's assertion, migrants in the construction sector in OECD countries were normally the first to lose their jobs during economic downturns. The representative of UNDP cast doubts about the tendency of migrants to remain abroad during economic crises because they still hoped to have higher earnings. Mr. Ratha acknowledged that unemployed migrants would likely remain in countries of destination only for a limited time before they returned to their countries of origin. However, when the crisis was as global as the current one, migrants might still consider that they had better prospects in the country of destination than at home. It was still too early to assess its full impact of the current crisis.

The representative of UNIFEM pointed out that the participation of women in labour migration flows to countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council was significant and that, to understand how their

contributions to development differed from those of male migrants, it was necessary to have remittance data by sex of the person making the transfer. Mr. Ratha replied that remittance data were not disaggregated in that way. However, relevant information could be obtained from surveys, which had indeed shown that male and female migrants differed in terms of sending remittances. Whereas men used all available remittance channels, women tended to use only reliable and trusted channels, which were generally more expensive. That was one of the reasons that remittances sent by women were generally lower than those sent by men. The representative of the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) reported the results of an IPPR survey conducted in Jamaica showing that the overall amounts of remittances sent by men and women were about the same, but women tended to send smaller amounts more frequently whereas men sent larger amounts at longer intervals.

Ms. Barbara Span, representing Western Union, made a presentation on the Global Migration Barometer, a study conducted by the Economist Intelligence Unit on behalf of Western Union to assess the attractiveness and accessibility of different countries for migrants and the demand for migrants at the country level to sustain economic growth. The study focused on 61 countries, most of them belonging to the developed world. International migrants were identified according to the definition of long-term migrant provided by the United Nations. A country's attractiveness to migrants was measured in terms of its economic and social conditions. Accessibility to migrants was assessed in terms of ease of admission to a country, possibilities for integration to its society and the characteristics of its legal environment, including public attitudes to migration and the degree to which migrants' rights were safeguarded. In total, 22 indicators were used to gauge both attractiveness and accessibility. Quantitative and qualitative data were then collected and weighted to reflect the relative importance of each indicator so as to derive a composite score for each country. The demand for migrants to sustain economic growth was assessed by using qualitative and quantitative information regarding the demographic situation of a country, an estimate of future labour demand, labour force participation at older ages, the type of public pension system, availability of childcare and existing healthcare provisions.

The study showed that politically stable and democratic countries with high standards of living were the most attractive destinations for migrants, including former colonial powers and their English-speaking former colonies in the developed world. However, most countries attractive to migrants were not necessarily in need of migrants. With the exception of Japan, countries with high demand for migrants were in Western and Eastern Europe, where ageing populations resulted in a high score on the demand for migrants. Australia, Canada, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, New Zealand, Singapore and the United States ranked high in terms of accessibility for migrants. Ms. Span argued that youth-oriented cultures with liberal attitudes towards migrant families, legal environments that ensured the protection of migrants' rights and the existence of pro-immigration policies contributed to the high score for those countries.

During the discussion, participants enquired whether the Barometer could track changes in the attractiveness of countries to migrants over time. Ms. Span responded that the Barometer was not designed for that purpose and added that the weights for the different indicators were selected by external experts. The weights reflected the relative importance of each indicator.

V. RESPONDING TO POLICY CHALLENGES: ESTIMATING INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS

Mr. George Lemaitre of the OECD described one of the recent initiatives of OECD regarding the improvement of international migration data and estimates. He noted that in many of the OECD Member States, migration statistics were generated from population registers and disseminated classified by place of birth, citizenship, sex or age. However, those statistics lacked comparability across countries because of the differences in regulations establishing who could register or deregister. In Germany, for instance, people establishing themselves in the country could register if their stay was longer than 7 days. In Belgium the lower limit for registration was three months and it was four months in Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Such differences produced flow statistics on international migration that were misleading when compared among countries.

Mr. Lemaitre added that most OECD Member States also collected statistics on migrants based on the administrative procedures involved in issuing residence or other types of permits. OECD was working on using data based on residence permits to produce more timely and comparable statistics on international migration flows. He noted that, ideally, the statistics required for the analysis of international migration flows should be disaggregated according to dimensions that were of policy interest, including: (*a*) country of origin, sex and age; (*b*) category of admission (labour, family, humanitarian, etc.); (*c*) possibility of settlement; (*d*) changes in migration status, including regularization of status, and (*e*) skill level. He went on to present certain concepts that were useful in discussing the nature of migration flows. The first was to differentiate between discretionary and non-discretionary migration from a policy perspective, with non-discretionary migration being that segment of the flows that was driven by commitments Governments had already made as, for instance, the admission of migrants under a free movement regime or for family reunification. The second was the distinction between permanent and temporary migration, where he noted that very few countries gave migrants a permanent status from the beginning. Instead, migrants gained "permanency" over time as temporary permits were extended. He referred to that segment of migration that could become "permanent" as "permanent-like".

Mr. Lemaitre then reported on OECD's estimates of that part of migration that was "permanent or potentially permanent", which included persons who had been: (*a*) granted the right of permanent residence upon entry; (*b*) admitted with a permit of limited duration that was renewable indefinitely; (*c*) granted entry under the free-movement regime of the European Union or that between Australia and New Zealand; or (d) changed their migration status from short-term to permanent. The data on those categories of migrants had been disaggregated by category of admission into: (*a*) work-related migration, (*b*) family-related flows, and (*c*) free-movement-regime flows. Permit data by category of admission for the permanent and potentially permanent migrants were available for 18 OECD countries for the period 2002-2006. According to the OECD estimates, those countries had admitted 3.2 million migrants as "permanent or potentially permanent", a figure 19 per cent below the 4 million migrants that the unadjusted statistics showed. Furthermore, in most of the countries considered, the share of migrants admitted under the work-related categories was small compared to the shares of migrants admitted under a free-movement regime or for family-related reasons. That is, for most OECD countries, the non-discretionary part of the migration flow accounted for most of the migration recorded.

Lastly, Mr. Lemaitre noted that there was still inadequate information on migrants changing status and on certain types of temporary movements across borders that were not considered migration, including those of intra-company transferees and service providers. The distinction between high-skilled and low-skilled workers was also not made systematically. These deficiencies still represented important gaps in the availability of relevant data to inform policy-making.

In the ensuing discussion, the Director of the Population Division noted that the analysis of permit data presented by Mr. Lemaitre both made allowance for national definitions and tried to ensure

comparability in terms of a duration of stay criterion, thus following the spirit of the 1998 United Nations *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision I*. She remarked that permit data only reflected the legal component of migration flows whereas population registers could include migrants who were not necessarily in a regular situation. She concurred that the analysis of temporary migration flows and of migrants adjusting their status was important and asked whether OECD would make its estimates available to researchers. Mr. Lemaitre replied that the estimates would be posted on-line after they were analysed to ensure they were correct.

The representative of IUSSP asked about the impact that the adjustment of foreign students to permanent or potentially permanent status had on the OECD estimates. Mr. Lemaitre replied that student retention rates were low: Japan had the highest rate of retention of foreign students after they had completed their studies but in other countries, only between 15 per cent and 20 per cent of students gained permanent or potentially permanent status after they completed their studies. The representative of the ICMC suggested that estimates of migrant workers should include whatever data might be available on undocumented migrants. Mr. Lemaitre replied that only the United States regularly published estimates on the flow of undocumented migrants. In European countries, data that might shed some light on the inflows of undocumented migrants were usually scattered in different ministries or agencies and there had been no attempt to bring them together.

VI. KEEPING MIGRATION IN THE SPOTLIGHT: TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE
SHARING AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Ms. Colleen Thouez, representative of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), presented an overview of the Institute and its work in the area of international migration. UNITAR had the task of training delegates of Member States as well as of building capacity and better understanding with regard to: (*a*) the functioning of the United Nations system; *(b)* international law and policy, including in the areas of international migration, environmental governance, peace and justice; and (*c*) building negotiation skills, capacity for public speaking and the drafting of resolutions. UNITAR organized seminars and workshops and produced courses on the internet (e-learning). The Office collaborated with other United Nations entities as well as with academia, foundations and the private sector.

Ms. Thouez provided an overview of intergovernmental activities on international migration, starting with the establishment in the mid-1980s of the Inter-Governmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Policies (IGC). She noted that the first intergovernmental document focusing on international migration and development was in Chapter X of the Programme of Action adopted by the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). During the 1990s, intergovernmental discussions in Geneva focused on the management of international migration and the protection of migrants, whereas discussions of international migration and development took place at the United Nations in New York. The Berne Initiative, a State-led process that began in 2001, produced the International Agenda for Migration Management (IAMM), a non-binding policy framework intended to facilitate cooperation among States in planning and managing the movement of people in a humane and orderly way. In 2002, a non-paper known as the "Doyle Report", produced by the head of the Office of the Secretary-General, concluded that the discussion of international migration within the United Nations system lacked direction. It recommended the establishment of a Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM), which was set up early in 2004 as an independent effort led by the Governments of Sweden and Switzerland. GCIM issued a report in October 2005 containing six 'Principles for Action' and thirty-three recommendations to guide the formulation of migration policies at the national, regional and global levels. In 2006, the General Assembly conducted the first High-level Dialogue on International

Migration and Development, which gave rise to the State-led Global Forum on Migration and Development whose first meeting had been held in Brussels, Belgium, in 2007.

Ms. Thouez said that UNITAR supported follow-up to the High-level Dialogue through a number of initiatives, such as its collaborative work with ILO, IOM and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in carrying out the International Migration Policy Programme. This programme, which ran from 1998 to 2005, was aimed at building the capacity of Governments of developing countries to address migration and refugee issues. During 2004-2005, UNITAR provided secretariat support for GCIM. In 2005, the Migration and Development Seminar Series was launched to promote policy debate on various facets of international migration among New York's diplomatic community in preparation for the High-level Dialogue. The success of the Series kept it going even after the Dialogue had passed. Looking to the future, Ms. Thouez informed participants that, with the support of the Government of Spain and IOM, UNITAR would extend the Seminar Series to other United Nations duty stations. UNITAR was also offering international migration law courses at United Nations Headquarters and in other United Nations locations. Those courses provided diplomats and other stakeholders with in-depth knowledge of relevant international legal instruments as well as with practical skills on how to implement them. UNITAR was also planning to organize regional workshops to follow-up on the outcomes of the Global Forum on Migration and Development. Lastly, UNITAR was considering developing internet-based learning tools on international migration (e-learning).

Mr. Jimmy Blas, representative of the Philippines, presented a delegate's perspective on the Migration and Development Seminar Series. He said it offered a unique opportunity for delegates to keep abreast of developments in the understanding of the international migration-development nexus and to share experience. The Seminar had been very useful on the way to the High-level Dialogue.

During the discussion, the Director of the Population Division noted that the entire United Nations community had benefited form UNITAR's Seminar Series, not just diplomats. She thought that extending the Seminar Series to Geneva, where Governments focused on many key aspects of international migration, would be very useful. Regarding the historical review of the debate on international migration, she observed that the international migration issues had been addressed by both the 1974 World Population Conference held in Bucharest, Romania, and the 1984 International Conference on Population held in Mexico City. However, international migration issues became an important focus of attention only at the 1994 ICPD partly because of the increasing flows of migrants to high-income countries, including refugee flows within Europe. She said that lack of consensus on how to address a number of international migration issues delayed the holding of a global intergovernmental meeting on international migration until 2006, when the High-level Dialogue was held. The representative of IOM echoed Ms. Zlotnik's remarks regarding the 1994 ICPD, noting that an informal compromise was reached in Cairo regarding the organization of a intergovernmental conference on international migration, but that there was no follow-up until the High-level Dialogue in 2006. He added that the numerous regional dialogues on international migration that followed ICPD were an unintended consequence of the lack of follow-up at the United Nations.

Ms. Thouez concluded by saying that the reports prepared for the Seminar Series and the presentations made could be accessed at UNITAR's website.

VII. THE COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION DATA FOR DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH:
PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

Mr. Douglas Massey, Professor of Sociology at Princeton University, presented preliminary findings from the work of the Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research.

The Commission, supported by the Center for Global Development and funded by the MacArthur Foundation, focused on the state of migration statistics and what types of data were needed to provide researchers and policy-makers an adequate empirical basis from which to assess the impact of international migration on countries of origin and those of destination. Mr. Massey said that despite numerous efforts, international migration statistics remained weak and that there were more reliable statistics on the movement of goods and services than on the movement of people. The Commission had adopted five key recommendations:

1. That censuses include questions on place of birth, country of citizenship and place of residence five years ago. Cross-tabulations of the population by country of birth and country of citizenship disaggregated also by sex, age, place of residence five years ago, skill level and education should be made available.

2. To use administrative data in the analysis of international migration trends, especially data on visas or permits issued, data on border enforcement and population registers.

3. That the three basic migration questions on place of birth, country of citizenship and place of residence five years ago be included in existing survey programmes, including the surveys conducted by Macro International (Demographic and Health Surveys), ILO and the World Bank. That a template to harmonize and facilitate the use and analysis of data produced by the labour force surveys conducted in OECD countries be developed.

4. That access to microdata be provided, a measure that should be easy to implement given that preparation of microdata files has become a low-cost, routine by-product of operations undertaken by national statistical offices. Release of microdata should follow established standards to protect confidentiality.

5. To support the building of capacity for the collection and dissemination of international migration data. To develop a core migration module for inclusion in nationally representative household surveys. To provide training in survey design and analysis.

Mr. Massey said that the report of the Commission was being reviewed by Commission members and should be completed soon. The plan was to distribute it widely among government representatives and in relevant conferences or meeting.

The representative of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) of DESA said that the Division appreciated the efforts of the Commission. He noted that the three key migration questions included in recommendation (1) were also recommended for inclusion in censuses according to the *United Nations Principles and Recommendations for the 2010 Census*, a publication issued to guide census takers. He further noted that the results obtained from censuses could be affected by the definition that each census used for the concept of "usual residence". In addition, in countries where censuses were no longer carried out because population figures were based on population registers, the possibility of recording additional items of information was restricted. He also cautioned about the problems involved in using administrative data whose main purpose was not to generate demographic statistics. According information gathered by the Statistics Division, 60 countries had already carried out their censuses belonging to the 2010 round, which ran from 2005-2014, and that some data from 47 of those censuses were already available. Among those 60 countries, only 35 had recorded information on country of birth and 32 had recorded information on country of citizenship. The Statistics Division was preparing a guide for the release of microdata with a special focus on maintaining confidentiality. Lastly, the census data

classified by age, sex and country of citizenship or country of birth that countries had reported to the Statistics Division could be accessed on the Division's website.

A representative of the Population Divison of DESA said that reliance on survey information on international migrants was problematic because international migrants were rare in many countries. The representative of the OECD said that the survey coverage of international migrants was always problematic but that it had been improving in the case of labour-force surveys conducted in OECD countries. Nevertheless, estimation techniques were needed to fill existing data gaps. He agreed with Mr. Massey that the data on international trade and the movement of goods were better than those on the international movement of persons, partly because there were no problems of defining what was meant by traded goods, whereas the definitions of international migrant varied considerably from one country to another. Because the European Union had mandated Member States to harmonize their statistics on international migration, he expressed hope that better statistics would be available in the future. Regarding the recommendations made by the Commission, he thought that making the labour force surveys more user-friendly was a low-cost activity that could yield many benefits. In addition, promoting the use of data generated by administrative sources, such as population registers or visa and permit systems, was also a fruitful avenue for action.

The representative of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) asked if the Commission had considered the need for data on internal migration. Mr. Massey replied that the Commission had focused only on international migration. However, he added that the U.S. Census Bureau had produced microdata files from the decennial censuses of the United States that allowed the analysis of internal migration. In addition, the Mexican Migration Project and the Latin American Migration Project that he directed had collected complete retrospective migration histories permitting the reconstruction of migration patterns within as well as between countries.

The representative of the World Bank asked how skills and educational levels were defined and whether Mr. Massey had encountered any political problems collecting and disseminating migration data in the countries he had worked in. The representative also asked if Mr. Massey could provide examples of countries that produced reliable international migration data on a regular basis. Mr. Massey replied that the Commission's recommendations did not address the issue of how to define skills or measure educational attainment. He said he had encountered no problems in releasing microdata form the surveys he had carried out in Latin American countries. He thought that Mexico produced reliable data on international migrants through administrative procedures and that in Argentina, the Centro de Estudios de Población had produced a reliable historical series of estimates of international migration to the country.

A representative of the Population Division of DESA noted that, in addition to recommending that countries collect information on international migration, it was important to stress the prompt dissemination of such information. Mr. Massey concurred and said he would mention that point to the Commission.

The representative of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa asked whether Mr. Massey could cite relevant research on African migration. He added that the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) was supporting countries in the collection of migration data and asked if other institutions could also offer assistance to African countries in implementing a system to gather data on international migrants. Mr. Massey replied that, in comparison with other regions of origin, Africa was the source of relatively few migrants to the United States and that few studies in the US focused on migrants from that continent. There were more studies in Europe, such as the one led by the Institute nationale d'etudes demographiques (INED) of France on Senegalese migration to Europe. Mr. Massey noted that African statistical systems were underdeveloped and that it would take time to improve them even if the funds to

do so became available immediately. In the absence of such funding, it was more expedient to study migration from Africa using the data gathered by countries of destination in the developed world.

The Director of the Population Division reiterated that the report of the Commission was still work in progress. She noted that international migration statistics were needed to fulfill a variety of objectives and, to meet some of them, resorting to specialized surveys was the best way of gathering the relevant information. She also pointed out that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), through its project entitled Investigación de la Migración Internacional en Latinoamérica (IMILA), had compiled a database on census data on international migration for Latin American countries that covered over three decades. She suggested that ECA might consider doing the same for censuses of African countries. The representative of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa asked ECLAC to assist in building the capacity of ECA to work on improving the collection and dissemination of data on international migration.

VIII. COORDINATION OF CURRENT AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES IN THE
AREA OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

During the last session of the meeting, representatives of United Nations offices, funds, and programmes and other institutions exchanged information regarding their work in the area of international migration. In total, 26 speakers took the floor. A summary of the interventions is provided below.

A. United Nations Secretariat and other Entities

The representative of the United Nations Population Division reported on the launch of the Global Migration Database, which could be accessed at www.unmigration.org. The database contained a compilation of all the publicly available data on the number of international migrants enumerated by countries via population censuses or population registers. For every census, all tabulations available referring to the population classified by country of birth and those relative to the population classified by country of citizenship were included. Whenever possible, the data classified by either place of birth or citizenship and also by age and sex were also included. Although most of the data included in the database were generated by population censuses or population registers, other official statistical sources were also used, including nationally representative sample surveys. Because the database contains the data as published by national statistical offices, without any attempt at indicating their quality, the database is accessible only to registered users. Requests for registration may be made via the website. Part of the data contained in the database was used by the Population Division as basis for the derivation of a consistent set of estimates of the number of international migrants per country which would be released under the title *Trends in the International Migrant Stock: The 2008 Revision* in 2009. Estimates of the number of international migrants would be provided for the 230 countries and territories constituting the world and would cover the period 1960-2010 at five-year intervals. Work on the preparation of the Global Migration Database by partially supported by UNICEF and UNDP's Special Unit for South-South Cooperation. The Population Division counted with the collaboration of the United Nations Statistics Division, the Population Division of ECLAC, the World Bank, the University of Sussex and the Minnesota Population Center in sharing the data they had compiled or processed. In 2009, the Population Division would also issue the dataset *International Migration Flows to and from Selected Countries: The 2008 Revision*. Lastly, in 2008 the Population Division of DESA had organized an Expert Group Meeting on International Migration and Development in Asia and the Pacific working jointly with ESCAP. The meeting had taken place in Bangkok, Thailand, from 20 to 21 September 2008. It brought together about

30 experts to discuss the linkages between international migration and development in the region. Papers prepared for the meeting and presentations made at it had been posted on www.unmigration.org.

The representative of the United Nations Statistics Division of DESA said that the Division developed statistical methods and standards, carried out the compilation and dissemination of data, assisted in building statistical capacity, and coordinated statistical programmes and activities throughout the United Nations system. Two key outputs of the Division were the *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1* published in 1998, presenting recommendations on how to improve statistics on international migration flows and on the stock of international migrants, and the report entitled *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2*, published in 2008, that defined the core international standards for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses. The Statistics Division had also published the *Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services* in 2002, providing guidelines for the compilation and dissemination of statistics on international trade in services. The Division was currently working on a technical report on the use of censuses and surveys for the generation of statistics on international migration, which also presented best practices for using censuses and surveys to study international migration. The Division compiled data on international migrant stocks primarily via questionnaires sent to national statistical offices. The census data gathered were available through the Demographic Yearbook database, accessible on-line. In regard to capacity-building and coordination of statistical activities, the Division had held a series of workshops on core census topics. Specialized workshops on the measurement of international migration based on a forthcoming handbook were being planned.

The representative of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa noted that international migration had become an important issue for Africa, especially since reports of African migrants seeking to enter Europe became common in the media. He underscored the importance of dialogue on international migration across regions, adding that a dialogue between Northern Africa and sub-Saharan Africa was under way but noting that the dialogue between the European Union and the African Union seemed to be a "dialogue of the deaf". What began as a relatively small flow of Africans migrating to Europe had become a large stream. Healthcare professionals, in particular, were leaving Africa for OECD countries in significant numbers. The irregular situation of migrants from Africa and the participation of women in all types of migration flows from the continent made the consideration of the respect for human rights and a gender perspective mandatory. The representative stressed that African countries required assistance to develop the systems that would yield relevant and timely data on international migration and to conduct the necessary research on international migration.

The representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) said that the Office continued to work with Member States, migrants and civil society to defend the human rights of international migrants and secure ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. As of 2008, the Convention had been ratified by 39 Member States, most of which were developing countries, and ratification by a few more Member States was expected. In November 2007, the Committee on Migrant Workers had considered the report of El Salvador and in 2008 it had considered the reports of Bolivia and Syria. In 2009, it would review the reports of Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia and the Philippines. OHCHR also supported the work of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants. In addition to annual human rights reports, the most recent of which concerned the criminalization of migrants, the Special Rapporteur issued country reports, two of which had been published in 2008 and related to the situation in Guatemala and Mexico. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) had adopted General Recommendation No. 26 on the protection of migrant women. In September 2008, OHCHR with the support of the Government of Mexico had organized a Conference on the Rights of Migrant Children in which the delegations of 26 Government and partner agencies had participated. The Conference adopted recommendations concerning

international migration and children, children left behind, children crossing borders and migrant children in receiving countries.

The representative of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) said INSTRAW focused on the gender dimensions of international migration and remittances. Topics of research included the feminization of migration in the Dominican Republic, the impact of development on gender relations in Colombia, and the impact of migration on food security in the Philippines. A new project entitled Gender and Remittances: Building Gender-Sensitive Local Development would be carried out in collaboration with UNDP, UNFPA and UNIFEM in Albania, the Dominican Republic, Lesotho, Morocco, the Philippines, Senegal and South Africa.

The representative of the United Nations University (UNU) said that UNU contributed, via research and capacity-building, to the solution of pressing global problems of concern to the United Nations, its Member States and peoples. The UNU framework on migration involved building a scientific base, increasing awareness, strengthening international migration policies, and stimulating interest in international migration in the media. UNU maintained a programme on migration and environmental change, and was planning to conduct research on the impacts of the financial crisis on international migration. In late November 2008, UNU would launch the report entitled *Protracted Refugee Situations: Political, Human Rights and Security Implications*, to be followed by a panel discussion on the same topic. Since 2007, the UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) in Bonn, Germany had conducted research on environmental change and forced migration, providing European policy-makers, researchers, educators and civil society with a better understanding of the role of environmental degradation and change in causing forced migration and related societal consequences. The project would analyse the effects of climate change on livelihoods, environmental degradation and migration patterns at the sub-regional or country levels.

The representative of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) reminded participants that there were an estimated 33 million people living with HIV in 2007. The epidemic was growing at a rate of 7,000 new infections per day, with many international migrants among those infected. At the 2006 High-level Meeting on AIDS, Member States had made a commitment to secure universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment and support. Migrants were often at increased risk of exposure to HIV because of their lack of social networks at destination. Language barriers, sub-standard living conditions and sexual exploitation placed undocumented migrants, in particular, at a higher risk of infection. In many contexts, female migrant workers were vulnerable to exploitation and sexual violence. Over 50 countries had rules prohibiting the admission of foreigners infected with HIV. One of these countries, the United States, was working towards repealing the regulations banning the issuance of visas to foreigners infected with HIV. In order to advocate for the rights of people living with HIV who were also migrant workers, UNAIDS, in collaboration with ILO and IOM, had issued a policy brief on international labour migration (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, 2008). In addition, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was developing a safe mobility tool kit for migrant populations.

B. United Nations Programmes and Funds

The representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) stressed the importance of understanding the impact of international migration on children, adolescents and women in the context of globalization and human rights. UNICEF was working on both the humanitarian and the development aspects of international migration. UNICEF supported the compilation of migration statistics at the country, regional and global levels to support evidence-based research. In addition, UNICEF was conducting specialized surveys to study remittances and the social impacts of international migration on

family members of migrants who remained in the country of origin, especially children, adolescents and women. Also of interest to UNICEF was the migration of unaccompanied minors. The UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre in Florence, Italy, was conducting research on the independent migration of minors between and within developing countries and was carrying out work on the improvement of statistics by age in OECD countries.

The representative of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) noted that that women and men were affected differently by the migration experience. Women were more likely to face discrimination throughout the migration process in both countries of origin and destination. UNIFEM was implementing a multi-year programme to empower female migrant workers in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, Indonesia, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, the Philippines and Thailand. UNIFEM was an active advocate for the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and other instruments to safeguard women migrants' rights. In particular, UNIFEM ensured that concern for migrant women was part of the CEDAW review process. At the regional level, UNIFEM provided technical assistance to the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to ensure that gender was mainstreamed in the recently adopted Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers.[3] UNIFEM was working with recruitment agencies in Asia to develop a Covenant of Ethical Conduct and Good Practices of Overseas Employment Service Providers[4] that set standards for the recruitment of migrant workers. At the country level, UNIFEM had worked with the Governments of Indonesia and Nepal to implement policies on female migrant workers. UNIFEM supported associations of female migrant workers in advocating for the protection of their rights. A High-level Forum on Women Migrant Workers, organized by UNIFEM and with the participation of representatives of Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon and the United Arab Emirates in March 2007, had agreed to adopt a unified work contract for migrant domestic workers.

The representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) reported that UNFPA was involved in advocacy and in the provision of technical support to ensure that international migration was recognized as an important factor in development. As chair of the GMG from January to June 2008, UNFPA had led the collaboration between all 14 GMG members to produce a joint report on *International Migration and Human Rights,* which emphasized that respect for human rights was essential for realizing the full benefits of international migration. UNFPA was providing direct financial support for the implementation of the 2010 round of censuses through both its country and regional offices. Headquarters was active in the mobilization of other donor resources for that cause and in the provision of technical assistance.

The representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that UNHCR had developed a Ten-point Plan on Refugee Protection and Mixed Migration, calling for action to address situations where refugees were at risk of refoulement, human rights violations and hazardous onward movements.[2] The Plan stressed the need for cooperation amongst key actors, including governmental organizations, relevant regional and international organizations, as well as local and international NGOs. In January 2006, the High Commissioner had drawn attention to the lack of follow-through in passing from the relief phase of refugee situations to development efforts, one of the most enduring problems in implementing durable solutions in conflict zones. In December 2008, the High Commissioner would convene a Forum on Protracted Refugee Situations. The current economic and financial crisis was likely to affect both refugees and other beneficiaries of UNHCR assistance as a result of cuts in donor funding.

The representative of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) said that UN-HABITAT promoted sustainable towns and cities so that they could provide adequate shelter for all. Much of the organization's work was on Africa, whose population was still mostly rural but was

expected to urbanize rapidly in the future. Internal migrants moved to cities in search of work but, in many developing countries, they usually found it only in the informal sector. Generally, municipal governments were responsible for providing basic services, but they often lacked the financial resources to do so and could not count on the support of central governments. Inadequate housing and lack of basic services were among the most important problems faced by both internal migrants and international in the areas of destination. There was a need for research of the urban dimension of international migration that could be translated into practical strategies to improve outcomes for migrants. The representative concluded by noting that the next Global Urban Forum would be held in Brazil in 2010.

C. Regional Commissions of the United Nations

The representative of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) reported that the number of international migrants in the region had increased from 21 million in 2000 to almost 26 million in 2005, constituting 13.6 per cent of the nearly 190 million international migrants in the world in 2005. CELADE, the Population Division of ECLAC, was working on the following migration-related topics: *(a)* follow-up to the meeting of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development in Montevideo, Uruguay, in 2006; *(b)* follow-up to the high-level Ibero-American meetings held in Spain (2005), Uruguay (2006) and Chile (2007), and *(c)* implementation of a Development Account project on international migration and development in collaboration with all other regional commissions and the Population Division of DESA. The project aimed at strengthening national capacities by improving the quality and availability of data on international migration; enhancing capacities to design and implement migration policy, and promoting cooperation through effective intra-regional and inter-regional networks involving migration experts and government officials in countries of origin and destination who would benefit from the exchange of information, studies, experience and best practices.

The representative of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) reported that the Asia-Pacific High-level Meeting on International Migration and Development was the highlight of its 2008 activities. The meeting, jointly organized with the United Nations Population Division and IOM and hosted by the Government of Thailand, took place in Bangkok, Thailand, in September 2008 and brought together representatives of 22 ESCAP Member States. The meeting served to build the capacity of Member States planning to attend the second meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development that took place in Manila, the Philippines, at the end of October 2008. The High-level Meeting included round tables on: (*a*) remittances for development; (*b*) the social aspects of migration; (*c*) data and research, and (*d*) the situation of migrants in the least developed countries, the landlocked countries and the small island developing States. The outcome of the meeting was a chairman's summary which was also submitted to the second meeting of the Global Forum. ESCAP also collaborated with the Population Division of DESA in organizing the Expert Group Meeting on International Migration and Development in Asia and the Pacific, which was described earlier by the representative of the Population Division. Many of the experts who attended the Expert Group Meeting served as resource persons for the High-level Meeting.

In 2008, ESCAP published the report entitled *Looking into Pandora's Box: The Social Implications of International Migration in Asia*, which addressed the social dimensions of international migration in the region, including gender issues, the impact of international migration on family members left behind and marriage migration. The representative of ESCAP noted that since 2005, ESCAP and IOM had co-chaired the Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration including Human Trafficking, which brought together 15 United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations active in the field of migration in Asia and the Pacific. The group had produced the *Situation Report on International Migration in East and South-East Asia*, which provided country-specific analyses and an

assessment of thematic issues relevant to the region. In 2009, ESCAP was planning to organize an Expert Group Meeting to review the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development as well as the outcome document of the Asia-Pacific Population Conference. Lastly, ESCAP was planning to conduct a study of the impact of the global financial crisis on international migration and remittances in the region and to develop a database on migration flows from selected countries.

The representative of the New York Office of the United Nations Regional Commissions reported on the migration activities of ECA and ESCWA. The lack of reliable data on international migration in Africa contributed to a research vacuum regarding the linkages between international migration and development in the region. In 2006, ECA had issued the report entitled *International Migration and Development: Implications for Afric*a. Since then, international migration had emerged as an important activity for the Commission and had been included in the ECA business plan for 2007-2009. Numerous conferences, meetings and workshops had dealt with the impact of international migration for development. In the fall of 2008, the Sub-Regional Office for Southern Africa (SRO-SA) had undertaken a study on the role of population and migration in enhancing regional integration in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). Future ECA work would focus on the role of international migration in regional integration and development cooperation. Three areas would be accorded particular importance, namely, the role of remittances in development and their links to the financial crisis; capacity-building for management of international migration flows, and regional integration and cooperation.

As in the case of ECA, work done by ESCWA on international migration and development was spurred by the 2006 High-level Dialogue. Since 2006, ESCWA had published a series of reports and policy papers. Currently, ESCWA and IOM were preparing a paper on *International Mobility of Arab Youth in a Globalized World: Trends, Challenges and Potentials*, analyzing the demographic, economic and social factors shaping the migration of young people in the Arab region. ESCWA and the IOM were planning to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) pledging closer collaboration in the area of international migration and development.

D. The United Nations Specialized Agencies

The representative of the International Labour Organization (ILO) said ILO worked to advance opportunities for women and men to obtain decent, productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity. ILO's main objectives were to promote the rights of workers, to encourage the creation of decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection and strengthen dialogue in handling work-related issues. The ILO had developed a migration module for labour force surveys in Armenia, Ecuador and Egypt. The ILO was also working on building the institutional capacity to manage international migration in Western Africa and on the extension of social security to migrants in sub-Saharan Africa. Work in those areas was supported by the European Union and the Government of Spain. ILO's governing body had adopted a Strategic Policy Framework for 2010-2015, in which labour migration had an important place. The Framework stressed a rights-based approach to international migration and the protection of migrant workers. The representative acknowledged that greater coherence was desirable, both within the organization and in working with other international organizations. While the linkages between international migration and development needed to be considered, ILO was not a development agency. ILO had plans to expand operations with tripartite partners; assist Member States in developing policies to make a more productive use of remittances, and analyse the interaction between effectiveness in safeguarding migrants' rights and the development impact of international migration.

The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said that FAO carried out technical projects and published reports and policy guidelines on migration related to agriculture, agricultural policy and rural development. FAO was particularly interested in the role of remittances in supporting rural livelihoods and access to land; on the sustainable management of natural resources to improve food security in rural communities; on ways of strengthening rural enterprises; on measures to safeguard the rights of migrants, including the right to food and the prevention of abuse and exploitation when engaged in agricultural labour; on the productive use of remittances, and improving coherence between policies fostering rural development and migration policies.

The representative of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) reported that UNWTO focused increasingly on the relationship between international migration and tourism. Thus, it was conducting country studies in China, France, Germany, India, Japan, the Philippines, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States as well as in Central America focusing on three key issues: (*a*) the economic impact of international migration on tourism in countries of origin; (*b*) the contribution of migrant workers to the tourism economy in countries of destination, and (c) investments made in the tourism industry in countries of origin as a result of migration. The results of the studies would be published as soon as they were completed.

E. Other Intergovernmental Organizations

The representative of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) reported that most CARICOM Member States were simultaneously countries of origin, destination and transit. CARICOM was committed to freedom of movement, particularly of workers. Migrants within CARICOM were protected by a Charter of Civil Rights. However, CARICOM countries still lacked a common set of standards to assure the portability of qualifications and to coordinate access to social security payments. Although each Member State still had its own migration policies with respect to migration involving third countries, CARICOM was moving toward a common migration policy. Remittances to the region were double the level of foreign direct investment and much larger than official development assistance. The representative said that CARICOM countries were experiencing an outflow of nurses and teachers. Despite the loss of those and other skilled people, CARICOM countries benefited from the support provided by transnational communities. However, when parents migrated leaving their children, problems arose that still posed important policy challenges in several countries in the region. He added that the financial crisis was expected to reduce remittances and that recurring environmental disasters, such as those caused by hurricanes and floods, would likely increase emigration from CARICOM Member States. The involuntary return of migrants who had committed crimes in countries of destination, especially in the United States, was also an emerging problem because the returnees often had little or no connection to the island societies to which they returned.

The representative of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) briefed the meeting on two new regional consultative processes (RCPs), focusing on international migration and development. The Abu Dhabi Dialogue, whose members met for the first time in the United Arab Emirates in January 2008, brought together 11 Asian labour-exporting countries and nine labour-importing countries from the Persian Gulf and elsewhere in Asia. The ministerial-level meeting resulted in the Abu Dhabi Declaration in which participating countries agreed to collaborate to manage temporary labour migration and to maximize its benefits for development. Another regional consultative process was established in the Horn of Africa during an intergovernmental meeting held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in May 2008. The purpose of the meeting was to promote a common position among Member States of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in Eastern Africa and the African Union (AU) on international migration and to facilitate regional dialogue and cooperation on migration policy issues. With the establishment of these to new regional processes, most countries in the world had become part of at least

one regional consultative process. In 2008, IOM had published a number of studies and reports, including the flagship publication *World Migration Report*, which focused on managing labour mobility. A second publication, entitled *Migration and Development: Achieving Policy Coherence* promoted development-friendly migration policies. The *Compendium of International Migration Law Instruments* provided a comprehensive compilation of universal instruments focusing on the rights and obligations of international migrants as well as those of States. The publication entitled the *Human Rights of Migrant Children* provided an overview of the international legal framework for the protection of child migrants. IOM had also published a report entitled *Migration and Climate Change,* which presented possible future scenarios for on the effects of climate change on natural disasters and migration. IOM was working with the Government of Mauritius and the European Commission to establish a circular migration programme between France and Mauritius. In 2009, IOM expected to undertake research on forced migration and humanitarian concerns and the on the effects of the economic and financial crisis on international migration.

The representative of the League of Arab States (LAS) noted that migration was a subject of great importance to the region. Member States included countries of origin, destination and transit of migrants, and therefore faced different challenges and opportunities. The Population Policies and Migration Department (PPMD) of the LAS had established an Arab Observatory for International Migration in order to collect migration data and support capacity-building in Arab countries. In 2008, LAS and IOM had convened the Arab Regional Governmental Experts Meeting on International Migration in preparation for the second meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development. The LAS also organized the Arab Ministerial Meeting for Migration and Expatriates in 2008 to coordinate labour mobility between Arab countries and held an annual capacity-building workshop for Arab government officials working on international migration.

The representative of the World Trade Organization (WTO) recalled that WTO's involved with international mobility was related to Mode 4 of GATS. Mode 4 encompassed movement of two types of persons: service suppliers and employees of service suppliers. It did not involve migrants seeking access to the employment market or measures related to citizenship, residence or permanent employment. In relation to Mode 4, 153 WTO Members States had taken up the Most Favored Nation (MFN) obligation, that is, the principle of not discriminating between trading partners. The Doha Development Agenda was launched in 2001 with the intention of progressively liberalizing the movement of service suppliers. In September 2008, the WTO organized a Symposium on Mode 4 of GATS in Geneva, Switzerland. Regarding the financial crisis, the scope of WTO's research thus far had been confined to trade financing, but could be broadened if the organization received a mandate to study the impact of the financial crisis on the movement of persons.

F. Non-governmental Organizations

The representative of the Center for Migration Studies (CMS) said that CMS published the *International Migration Review*, an interdisciplinary peer-reviewed journal created to encourage and facilitate the study of all aspects of international population mobility, including international migration, ethnic relations and refugee movements. The journal's readership included academics as well as staff of international and non-governmental organizations. There had been a marked increase in the number of articles submitted to the journal in recent years. The journal had a subscription base of more than 1,000 persons and organizations, an increasing number of which were located in developing countries. Thenumber of subscriptions from institutions was also increasing. CMS also convened symposia and meetings on international migration issues. A report entitled *International Migration and Development–Continuing the Dialogue: Legal and Policy Perspectives* was published in conjunction with IOM following a two-day conference held in New York in January 2008.

The representative of the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) said its work focused on different policy-relevant issues in the United Kingdom and elsewhere, with a special focus on international migration. The Institute was currently working with the Global Development Network (GDN) on a project called *Development on the Move: Measuring and Optimizing the Economic and Social Impacts of Migration*. The project had three objectives. The first was to develop new methodologies for assessing the economic and social impacts of migration, taking account of immigration, emigration and return migration. It took a broad conceptual approach to development, including economic and social factors such as gender, education and health systems, as well as governance and values. It studied impacts on migrants, households, communities and countries, using a multi-level methodology developed for that purpose. The second project objective was to improve the evidence on international migration. Country case studies had been conducted over a period of 18 months in Colombia, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Jamaica, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Viet Nam. In collaboration with national statistical offices, data on households with and without migrants had been collected using household surveys. In addition to the surveys, each country report included a review of the existing literature. The third project objective concerned policy impacts and options. Each country report included policy reviews and recommendations. In 2010, a report would be published summarizing the project's findings. Regarding the effects of the financial crisis, a module in the household questionnaire gathered information on household shocks and could be used to assess those effects.

The representative of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) reported that the International Population Conference organized by IUSSP in collaboration with the Government of Morocco would take place in Marrakech, Morocco, from 27 September to 2 October 2009. The Conference would include numerous sessions on international migration. The organizers were expecting between 2,000 and 2,500 participants from at least 150 countries. The Government of Morocco was organizing sessions on migration flows, including migration between Arab States and migration from sub-Saharan Africa. Data and measurement issues had always been a major concern for IUSSP members. In December 2007, IUSSP had convened a Seminar on Indicators of Integration in Social Statistics in Montreal, Canada. The aim of the Seminar was to provide a critical overview of scientific research on migrant integration using quantitative data, to assess the significance and limitations of different indicators of integration, such as intermarriage rates and integration indices, and to demonstrate to what extent those indicators were relevant for the formulation of policy.[5] A Workshop on the Policy Use of Quantitative and Qualitative Indicators of Integration would take place in Paris, France, in May 2009. It would discuss the different approaches to integration in the scientific literature in relation to public policies, as well as the design of quantitative studies to analyse migrant integration. The representative of IUSSP invited participants to access additional information on the forthcoming International Population Conference and other relevant information on the IUSSP website (www.iussp.org).

Mr. Alexander Betts, University of Oxford, reported on the Global Migration Governance Project, a three-year research project funded by the MacArthur Foundation. Mr. Betts identified two gaps that the study would attempt to address. First, from a policy perspective, global migration governance was fragmented and incoherent. Second, from an academic perspective, there had been a lack of political science and international relations scholarship on international migration. The project would address the role and relevance of international institutions for international migration, focusing on the question of institutional choice. How did States decide to work within different frameworks? Did their choices depend on their levels of development or on whether they were mainly countries of origin or countries of destination? The project would also explore the governance of international migration from a comparative perspective. How did the governance of migration differ from that of the environment, climate change or trade? How did the institutional framework vary by type of migration (e.g., high-skilled or low skilled)? The project aimed to inform the debate on the governance of migration and to identify institutional arrangements that were respectful of human rights, politically acceptable and beneficial to all concerned.

The project had three stages. Mapping: what formal and informal mechanisms existed and how did they relate to each other and to wider governance? Consultations: how did States use different institutions and what were the main strengths and weaknesses of those institutions? Dissemination: how could the results of the project be best disseminated to have an impact? Working papers, reports and a book would summarize the findings from the project and be presented at various policy briefings and workshops.[6] Mr. Betts cited two working papers already published: *Towards a 'Soft Law' Framework for the Protection of Vulnerable Migrants* (Betts, 2008a) and *International Cooperation in the Global Refugee Regime* (Betts, 2008b).

IX. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

In her concluding remarks, the Director of the Population Division thanked all participants for their presentations and contributions to the discussion. She noted with gratitude the wealth of information presented and requested that participants identify key messages that could be easily conveyed to Governments. She also expressed concern about a certain tendency to suggest that the economic benefits of international migration were antithetical to human rights. International migration did not occur in a vacuum: it was a response to the human desire to earn better wages, accumulate wealth and improve one's living conditions. Respect of the rights of migrants made destination countries more attractive to them. Without fully safeguarding the rights of migrants, the full economic benefits of migration could not be achieved. She added that international migration presented challenges and opportunities for development and that there was no single solution to the challenges countries faced. She then proceeded to close the meeting.

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NOTES

[1] On 19 December 2008, the General Assembly adopted Resolution A/63/225 on International Migration and Development specifying that a High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development would be held in 2013 and a one-day informal thematic debate on international migration and development would be convened in 2011. For a copy of the Resolution, see Annex I to this document.

[2] For the Ten-Point Plan, see http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/4742a30b4.pdf (accessed 20 April 2009).

[3] For the Declaration, see http://www.aseansec.org/19264.htm (accessed 20 May 2009).

[4] For the Covenant, see http://unifem-eseasia.org/projects/migrant/Docs/Covenant%20of%20Ethical%20Conduct.pdf (accessed 23 May 2009).

[5] For more information on the conference, see http://www.iussp.org/Activities/integrmigr/reportmontreal07.pdf (accessed 23 May 2009).

[6] For the website of the Global Migration Governance Project, see http://www.globaleconomicgovernance.org/project-migration (accessed 12 May 2009).

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INFORMATION PAPERS

Thursday, 20 November 2008

Morning Session: 10:00 – 13:00

I.   Opening of the meeting

II.   The Global Forum on Migration and Development

III.   Follow-up to the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development

Afternoon Session: 15:00 – 18:00

IV.   Migration, remittances and the financial crisis

V.   Responding to policy challenges: Estimating migration flows

Friday, 21 November 2008

Morning Session: 10:00 – 13:00

VI.   Keeping migration in the spotlight: Training and knowledge sharing at the United Nations

VII.   The Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research: Preliminary findings

Afternoon Session: 15:00 – 18:00

VIII. Coordination of current and planned activities in the area of international migration and development

IX.   Closing of the meeting

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PART TWO

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

The work of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in the field of international migration is designed to support global processes of dialogue and sharing of ideas and practices initiated at the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and now continued through the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). The Institute's migration-related training is an example of inter-agency cooperation on matters of critical relevance to United Nations Member States. It falls within the broader mandate of UNITAR to strengthen the United Nations system through appropriate training on social and economic development, peace and security issues.

A. MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR SERIES ORGANIZED BY UNITAR IN COLLABORATION WITH IOM, UNFPA AND THE MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

Through 2008, UNITAR as the main training arm of the United Nations system, supported by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the MacArthur Foundation implemented the Migration and Development Seminar Series at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

Launched in 2005, the series' role is to inform, educate and stimulate critical thinking on migration-related topics among New York's diplomatic community. It brings together various stakeholders involved in migration and development issues —governments, the United Nations and other international organizations, the private sector and civil society, including migrant associations, other non-governmental organizations and academics, and provides an informal platform for dialogue and networking.

Along with its partner agencies, UNITAR collaborated with the Government of the Philippines, the GFMD host in 2008, to identify migration-related priorities on which to train the international community. Since May 2008, the series hosted three seminars on the topics of: Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration; Countering Human Trafficking, and Labour Migration: Protection, Gender and Development. On the subjects of climate change and migration and labour migration, UNITAR and its partners convened informal expert group meetings prior to the respective seminars, which provided an opportunity for exchange of ideas and progress towards an inter-disciplinary understanding and approach to the issues.

In addition, a course on international migration law, facilitated by IOM, complemented the series, examining all international and regional legislation pertaining to international migration, while providing an inter-active and skills-based learning experience for delegates. Two more events are scheduled to take place in 2008: a seminar on Migration Data on 10 December 2008 and a panel discussion on the Political Rights of Migrants, celebrating the occasion of International Migrants' Day on 18 December 2008.

Looking back, the Migration and Development Series in 2008 was well received by the United Nations community and the discussions can be summarized under the following headers:

1. Causes and consequences of migration

When addressing the causes and consequences of migration, it became clear that the links between migration, development and environmental factors are varied. Two years after the High-level Dialogue, which stressed the win-win-win potential of migration for countries of origin, destination and migrants alike, discussions at the series in 2008 converged around the message that migration should not be overplayed as a factor in the development process and migration should be considered a symptom rather than a cause of development failure. It was underlined that the responsibility for development remains with states, not migrants. Migration cannot be the driver of development; rather, policy needs to create other options, including the option not to migrate. This skepticism was partly based on the observation that the transfer of economic and social capital from individual migrants to the wider society remains largely uncertain. Indeed, experts were cautious regarding the degree to which micro-level development gains deriving from migration, i.e. through remittances to individual households, translate into macro-level development and a transformation of society in countries of origin.

Targeted investments in migrants' skills and capacities under temporary labour migration programmes were considered a promising approach if combined with reintegration assistance in countries of origin. In addition, countries of destination should tackle the problem of underemployed migrants outside of managed migration programmes. Measures to reduce the costs for sending and receiving remittances, and support for pooled and matched remittance flows should be accompanied by incentives to reduce dependency behaviour and to create jobs in countries of origin.

While the interlinkages between development and climate and environmental factors are widely recognized, migration remains a mostly unknown variable in this equation. Indeed, the Migration and Development Seminars Series' discussion of this topic highlighted the need for further research on the ways in which environmental factors affect migration, and how migration can have an effect on environmental conditions. Current scenarios about future climate-induced mass migration flows were deemed highly speculative.

Evidence suggests that migration decisions are usually not mono-causal, but influenced by multiple factors. Socio-economic and political conditions in both the country of origin and destination, as well as intervening factors such as immigration policies and transport infrastructures shape migration decisions and outcomes. Since migration is already part of individual and collective adaptation strategies to climate change and environmental hazards, legal frameworks and policies should be designed to accommodate this reality and to ensure that it can happen in a legal and safe manner.

2. Rights, protection and the principle of shared responsibility

A major concern in the debate was the need for greater clarity about the legal frameworks applying and affording protection to those affected by environmental hazards. Human rights instruments and other standards such as the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[1], identify relevant rights and obligations of states and other actors. However, despite the frequent use of terms such as "environmental refugee" or "climate change refugee" in academic and public discourse, the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees does not apply in these cases.

In this context and others, the core responsibility of governments to guarantee, implement and enforce migrants' rights was underlined, even if non-State actors have an important role to play in ensuring that migrants are being protected. Based on the increasingly recognized principle of shared responsibility, clear international and bilateral agreements, for example on labour migration, were deemed essential, not least to mitigate power asymmetries between counties of origin and destination, and to ensure cooperation where incentives are low for receiving countries, e.g. in the case of health worker

migration. In addition, governments should exercise oversight of international recruitment agencies through a licensing and monitoring mechanism. This could help end abusive bond practices by ensuring that recruitment fees are being charged to employers and not to the prospective migrant employee.

While legal instruments should be gender-neutral, policies should be gender-sensitive and take the different situations and needs of male and female migrants into account. In the case of labour migration, this should translate into labour laws covering all forms of work, including domestic work. Also, labour rights should apply to all workers regardless of their status. In the context of the discussions on human trafficking, representatives of the private sector underlined the responsibility of businesses to tackle the demand for cheap labour and end exploitation. Also, shareholders and consumers were seen as important constituencies given their leverage for pressuring companies to manage and monitor their supply chains.

Experts stressed the fact that commitments to protection need to be backed up by adequate and predictable funding. Critical in this regard is ensuring continuity when assistance programmes are being transferred from international to national stakeholders, who often lack support or fail to allocate sufficient resources to effectively maintain operations and services. In addition, funding decisions must be oriented towards the needs on the ground and include the beneficiaries and their families as full stakeholders.

3. Participation, empowerment and the origins of vulnerability

Participation, coalition-building and collective action among a wide variety of stakeholders were seen during the debates as cornerstones of effective protection for migrants and the prevention of human rights abuses, including through human trafficking. Migrant workers must be granted the right to form associations and to participate in the social dialogue between governments, the private sector and trade unions. Migrant women, who often have considerable economic power, still face the challenge of transforming their enhanced provider roles into political power.

Throughout all events, evidence of the enhanced vulnerability facing those who are without voice underscored the importance of representation and participation. Far from being a fact of nature, the vulnerability of certain groups such as minority populations, women, children, the poor, the elderly, etc. to exploitation and abuse is often due to social, cultural, economic and political factors that can be addressed, including violent conflict inequalities, discrimination, lack of access to resources and information, lack of knowledge and skills, limited or no involvement in decision-making, etc. It will depend on the right policy choices to ensure that migration contributes to remedying such ills, rather than aggravating them further.

B. MIGRATION PROGRAMME OF UNITAR IN COLLABORATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN AND IOM

In 2009, UNITAR is relaunching its Migration Programme from its Governance Unit in Geneva, Switzerland. With the support of the Government of Spain, UNITAR and IOM will be implementing a multi-year joint project strengthening the capacities of the United Nations community in the field of international migration and development. The proposed set of capacity-development activities includes: (a) expanding the migration policy series to other United Nations locations and regional commissions; (b) follow-up to the recommendations and actionable outcomes of the GFMD; (c) facilitating the dialogue among regional and international migration policy processes, including regional consultative processes, and (d) strengthening the development dimension in these discussions.

In addition, a number of country-level pilot projects are envisioned. The pilots will explore new areas of activity and innovative approaches based on, and leading to, the development of long-term and large-scale projects at the country level. In addition, it is planned to transfer and apply existing initiatives and good practices from one implementation context to another. Areas for exploration include:

1. Engaging the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission[2] to consider the role of transnational communities in consolidating peace and development in the countries currently under the Commission's consideration and identifying formal avenues for the engagement of transnational communities in United Nations-facilitated peacebuilding processes, including potential interfaces between the United Nations system and transnational community organizations to facilitate participation in reconstruction, peacebuilding, development and reconciliation;

2. Strengthening migration and development data and research through peer-to-peer capacity-building among academic institutions. By bringing together representatives of universities and research centres from more and less developed regions, as well as civil society stakeholders, this project would initiate greater collaboration and capacity-building to collect policy-relevant migration data, facilitate access to and sharing of migration-related data and research and bridge the gap between research and policy.

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NOTES

[1] See E/CN.4/1998/53/ADD.2 (accessed 3 March 2009).

[2] See http://www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding/ (accessed 3 March 2009).

*United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the
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A. FOLLOWING UP THE HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

For many years, migration was considered a mean to alleviate poverty and improve the well-being of households in the developing world. In response to changing global labour markets, the number of female (and male) migrants has increased significantly in recent years, in particular due to the increasing demand for cheap female labour, especially caregivers, from developing countries.

Gender affects every aspect of migration: its causes, patterns, processes and impacts, including the subjective personal experience of migrants. Gender also affects the research priorities, conceptual frameworks and explanatory models of migration scholars and policymakers. Despite the growing importance of female migration and, in particular, the importance of remittances to the economic well-being of many families in developing countries, as well as the ever-growing number of working migrant women, there is little systematic research on the gender dimension of migration and remittances, their impact on community and national development or theoretical models regarding this topic.

In response to this gap in information and understanding, the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW) initiated a series of case studies to analyse gender dimensions of migration and, in particular, the sending, utilization and impact of remittances on community and national development in countries of origin. Specifically, the UN-INSTRAW Gender, Migration and Development Research Programme seeks to increase knowledge and understanding in order to impact policy and programme formulation through a gender analysis in three broad areas:

(a) The feminization of migration in terms of the changing role of women within migratory flows;

(b) How the migration of women is affecting gender roles, power relations and decision-making processes in households and communities of origin;

(c) Policies and programmes aimed at increasing the positive link between migration and remittances, and their impact on development, that include gender perspectives and women's contribution, needs and priorities.

B. ADDRESSING MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT LINKS

The work of UN-INSTRAW is varied, including the development of research material, methodological tools and conceptual and theoretical frameworks that guide an analysis of the relationship between migration and development from a gender perspective and the completion of concrete national-level case studies. Research seeks to generate a better understanding of how gender dimensions (feminization of migration, gender inequalities in access to productive resources, sexual division of labour, gender roles, etc.) affect and determine the interconnectedness of migration and development, taking remittances as the key link between them.

The project of UN-INSTRAW on Gender and Remittances: Building Gender-Sensitive Local Development was set up in the following countries: Albania, Dominican Republic, Lesotho, Morocco, the Philippines, Senegal and South Africa, and produced reports focusing on female migrants and their families, including an analysis of remittance transfers and the impact of remittances on local rural development. In order to carry out these projects, UN-INSTRAW established partnerships with other United Nations agencies and civil society institutions. The methodology and conceptual framework established by UN-INSTRAW was utilized by research teams to collect data and assess the use of remittances in the countries of origin of the migrants. The next step in this project entails policy dialogue carried out by country partners identified by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which use their capacity and local connections to convene stakeholders to begin concrete discussions about policies.

1. Findings

The case studies of UN-INSTRAW show the many ways in which gender directly affects the impact of remittances on different levels of the economy, from the national economy to the individual household. The feminization of migration reflects the new economic roles assumed by women in the migration process. Women are increasingly migrating on their own as main economic providers and heads of households while fewer are migrating as "dependents" of their husbands or male relatives. The steady increase in the number of women who migrate independently can only be understood within the context of the current phase of global capitalist development, in which gender exists as an important variable throughout the process. Women play an important role in the different stages of the migration process, as caregivers for those left behind, as managers of remittances and as emotional supporters of migrants in different circumstances. Therefore, the fundamental role gender plays in migration significantly influences the sending countries and the spending patterns of remittances.

a. Remittances as a substitute for social provisions

Evidence shows that the circle of remittances, investment and development rarely exists. Most of the remittances are used, either by male or female recipients, to guarantee minimum subsistence levels; spending on housing and food. Studies also indicate that remittances are used to substitute social security services which are often not provided by the government in countries of origin. Although it varies between countries, health care coverage is generally deficient in all of the places of origin studied for this project. In order to receive adequate care, households have to pay for private health care services. Therefore, health care becomes a priority expense when monetary resources increase as a result of remittances. Ensuring children's access to higher education is one of the migrants' primary objectives in several of the countries analysed. Remittances serve as retirement funds for parents of migrants, unemployment or disability insurance for siblings, support for widowed mothers etc. Widowed mothers, who historically have been excluded from formal employment, benefit from remittances, as they suffer greater vulnerability in terms of becoming widows and being left behind while maintaining a family without support.

b. Gendered usage of remittances

Women play a key role as recipients and managers of remittances. Data reveal that women use remittances primarily for food and education. This supports the hypothesis that the greater women's control over the household's monetary resources, whether it is as remitters who maintain strict supervision over the use of the remittances they send, or as administrators of remittances received, the greater the tendency to invest in the overall well-being of the household. In this context it is also

important to consider marital status, offspring, education, relationships within the household, sexual division of labour and other sources of income available to the household in order to understand remittance patterns. These factors are part of the social, economic and political contexts in which the household is placed and which influence the different roles each society attributes to men and women.

c. Sending patterns of remittances

The sex of the migrant affects the volume, frequency and sustainability of remittances over time. Although the amount sent by men and women is often the same, women send a larger part of their salary than men. For all of the cases analysed, this implies a greater effort by women, given the wage discrimination which they often suffer in the destination countries. Women's remittance strategy is sustained by keeping a tight control over expenses, while men reserve greater amounts of money for personal spending, and often requires perseverance in their jobs as live-in domestic workers in order to save as much as possible. This strategy of women might be detrimental to their overall well-being negatively affecting advances in their careers as professionals, investments in education or capacity-building or construction of social capital which would allow them to access other labour sectors outside of domestic service and would also allow them be more integrated into the host society. Hence, this strategy implies high costs for migrant women in terms of their personal well-being, even more so than their male counterparts, and responds to the different gender roles within households that often hold women responsible for the well-being of households.

Women also demonstrate a greater willingness to respond to unexpected situations in their households of origin. Additionally, they show a tendency to favour more members of the extended household, as they are often responsible for providing financial assistance to numerous family members. In many cases, such as the Dominican one, supporting the extended family implies prolonging their stay in the destination country beyond the period of time they had initially planned. It also means delaying, if not giving up, certain objectives upon which the migratory project was originally based. In the case study of Filipino migration to Italy, the pressure that women put on themselves in order to cover the extended family's needs leads them to ask for credit. The high interest rates attached to such services put their own survival at risk in the destination country.

Lastly, women prove to sustain their remittance sending practices over a longer period of time. Male migrants tend to leave behind their household of origin much more easily, as they establish new relationships in their destination countries. However, migrant women who opt to separate from their spouse in the place of origin continue to send remittances for the financial support of their children until they are able to reunite with them in the destination country.

d. Remittance flows' impact on the empowerment of women

In the majority of cases, the increased importance of women as financial providers through remittances has led to greater negotiating and decision-making power in their households. However, this positive effect is not so automatic and is often mediated by other factors. On the one hand, women win recognition and bargaining power in the household and community by becoming financial providers. On the other hand, in places where women have fundamentally been the ones to migrate, social perceptions are ambivalent. They range from valuing the role that these women have played in guaranteeing certain levels of well-being, which otherwise would not have been reached, to blaming them for the abandonment of their children and the possible negative effects that this might have on them. Valuing the role that female migrants play as 'saviours', in some cases, such as in the case of the Philippines leads to praising women for their heroism. Yet this feeds into the vision of self sacrifice and self exploitation that reinforces the gendered ideology that a woman's priority is her family, over and above any personal interests she may have.

2. Conclusion

Through the incorporation of gendered analyses, the goal is to increase the effectiveness and sustainability of initiatives that harness the potential of remittances for development; give these initiatives the ability to generate development models within which gender equality is a central objective, and contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The work of UN-INSTRAW influences the institutions and groups that address migration, with the specific goal of systematically incorporating gender issues into the design and delivery of their projects. The initiatives of UN-INSTRAW link applied research with capacity-building and knowledge management in an effort to develop comprehensive programmes that include policy recommendations for future interventions.

C. EMERGING ISSUES AND FURTHER QUESTIONS FOR POTENTIAL RESEARCH

Gender is important for the analysis of remittances, migration and development. The following list provides a summary of future directions for research in this area:

(a) Analysis of the ways in which migration and work policies in developed countries influence women migrants' access to and participation in labour markets, as well as an evaluation of the impact that women's participation in the labour markets has on remittances;

(b) Analysis of the changes, breaks and continuities in gender dynamics and inequalities resulting from women's migration, both in the countries of origin and destination;

(c) Impact of remittance flows on local economies, with a focus on their impact on health, education, food, housing and social protection, while also considering factors that limit or could potentially promote gender-sensitive development. This would include an analysis for the design of concrete interventions to generate sustainable livelihoods from a gender perspective;

(d) Analysis of global care chains. While economic and social gaps are widening in poor countries, there is a crisis in the established reproductive model in developed countries due to ageing populations, the incorporation of women into the labour market and the lack of public services for the care of dependents;

(e) Gender analysis of initiatives, programmes and policies for channeling remittances towards productive investment and community development;

(f) Case studies to analyse remittances and their impact from a gender perspective within specific social, economic and political contexts;

(g) Dissemination of good practices and experiences in the areas of remittances and development with a gender perspective;

(h) Development of guidelines and recommendations for both countries of origin and destination for the integration of gender perspectives into proposals for policies and projects that link remittances and development;

(i) Assessment of the impacts of projects that are being carried out in different places around the world within the co-development framework;

(j) Issues of de-skilling and the needs of the global labour market which limits women's capacities and continues to devalue women's work within households whether paid or unpaid.

POLICY AND PROGRAMME WORK ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT BY
THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

A. INTRODUCTION

The 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development recognized the contribution of international migration to the development of countries of origin and destination. United Nations Member States underscored the need for policy coherence and international cooperation in maximizing migration's benefits while reiterating the importance of safeguarding the human rights of all migrants and their families regardless of their migration status. Participants noted the increased feminization of migration and called for migration policies that address inequalities, especially those arising from racial and gender discrimination, as well as from entrenched poverty. The High-level Dialogue also highlighted the need to address the serious problem of trafficking of persons and smuggling of migrants, as well as the importance of focusing on the social consequences of international migration for receiving countries and families left behind in countries of origin.

B. THE WORK OF UNICEF ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) takes the position that the impact of migration on children, adolescents and women must be understood in the context of globalization and transnational human mobility, as well as examined within the framework of poverty, gender, intergenerational issues and the protection of children's human rights[1]. Some of migration's effects can be captured by economic statistics, whereas social and cultural impacts are more difficult to assess, especially as they relate to women and girls.

Children are affected by migration at multiple levels: when they are left behind by one or both migrating parents, in migrating with parents (or born abroad), or when they migrate alone. In countries of destination, migrants and their families are often vulnerable to discrimination and social marginalization as well as poverty or economic distress, inadequate personal security and challenges to their legal status. Migrant children are more prone to problems related to family separation and limited access to healthcare, adequate education and affordable housing.

Undocumented migrants, particularly children and women, are also more susceptible to human rights violations, including deprivation of liberty. In countries of origin, while remittances have helped in reducing the overall level of poverty and promote economic development, effects of parental absence have created new challenges for families and children left behind, including family instability, increased household burdens and social stigmatization. Studies also suggest that children and adolescents left behind may be at greater risk of psychosocial trauma, violent behaviour, drug abuse and teenage pregnancy. Further, the emigration of highly skilled professionals exacerbates the delivery and coverage of social services in the countries of origin.

As a member of the Global Migration Group (GMG), UNICEF has been collaborating with United Nations partners and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to increase the visibility of children and women's issues in international migration agendas. UNICEF upholds the platform of the GMG in promoting a gender-sensitive approach in assuring the human rights and well-being of children and adolescents affected by migration are considered in policymaking, namely, by: (a) providing

worldwide and in-country leadership in promoting awareness and policy dialogue on migration-related issues; (b) facilitating global and country-level research and analysis; (c) identifying critical issues, challenges, opportunities and best practices, and (d) reinforcing and promoting children's rights, with a focus on the protection and well-being of migrant children and children left behind.

The policy research and analysis of UNICEF at the global, regional and country levels focuses on: (a) the social impact of migration and remittances on children and women left behind in countries of origin; (b) the migration of unaccompanied children, and (c) the situation of migrant children upon arrival at their destination. UNICEF is also promoting comparative analysis and statistical evidence to inform policy development and safeguard children and adolescent's rights in the context of migration. In partnership with governments, civil society and various transnational stakeholders, UNICEF is identifying good practices and lessons learned with which to address human rights and poverty-alleviation challenges linked to migration and its effects on children, adolescents and women in countries of origin, transit and destination.

C. THE INITIATIVES OF UNICEF TOWARDS FOLLOW-UP OF THE 2006 HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE

1. Policy research on the social impact of migration and remittances on children and women

UNICEF is partnering with governments and civil society to ensure that children's well-being is viewed as a central concern of policymakers at the local, regional and global levels. It is intent on delivering sound, evidence-based research designed to clarify both the positive and negative effects of migration on children. This research serves as a platform for the efforts of UNICEF, along with other United Nations agencies and international organizations, civil society groups on the ground and governments to develop action-oriented, gender-sensitive policies that secure the human rights of children affected by migration around the world.

With support from the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation (SU-SSC)[2], UNICEF has carried out policy research and operational activities to assess positive and negative impacts of migration and remittances on children and women left behind. This work is being carried out in partnership with governments, civil society and UNICEF offices in a number of countries, including Albania, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco and the Philippines.

The policy research and operational work at the country level deals with the impact of migration on the rights of children and women through literature reviews, data collection and the assessment of lessons learned and best practices. Additionally, UNICEF is exploring the inter-linkages between migration, poverty reduction and development from a human rights-based, gender-sensitive perspective. This multidimensional approach encompasses the economic, social and legal effects of migration and remittances on the individual child, the family and on the sending community. A number of policy exchanges with national partners and civil society are contributing to a deeper understanding of these issues.

Preliminary findings of policy research conducted by UNICEF are already contributing to an improved understanding of the social impact of migration on children and adolescents. Research carried out by UNICEF highlights that the human cost of migration and especially its impacts on families and children is often severe and may exceed benefits accruing from remittances. Therefore, there is an urgent need to address such human costs via initiatives that build capacity within governmental and civil society institutions that address these issues in sending countries. Other UNICEF research is aimed at creating

awareness of the need for holistic legal and policy frameworks and investment in order to assure the human rights of children and adolescents in at-risk communities.

UNICEF, in moving forward on the mandates of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is also supporting capacity-building and advocacy on the social protection and human rights dimensions of migration as it affects children and adolescents. This includes exchanges between policymakers, stakeholders and other partners in countries of origin, transit and destination (i.e. South-South exchanges). These policy activities have raised the profile of child migration issues at country and regional levels and have strengthened institutional support for sustainable human development and the protection of the rights of children affected by migration processes.

2. Development of a survey instrument to assess the impact of
migration and remittances on children left behind

UNICEF has developed four modules within its Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) to gauge the impact of international migration on migrant sending and non-migrant sending households. In this regard, UNICEF collaborated closely with the International Labour Organization (ILO) in developing the survey instrument and measurement tool. Pilot surveys have been conducted in Albania and Ecuador to test the validity of the modules. Data was collected on the characteristics, life satisfaction, health and remittances of migrant households. Preliminary results from the pilot surveys suggest significant levels of internal consistency and reliability of the survey instrument. Along with United Nations partners and the IOM, UNICEF is supporting the development of national surveys in several countries, including Albania and Morocco.

3. Estimating the number of international migrant children

Although some countries collect information on the foreign-born in censuses, global estimates of the numbers of international migrant children are not available. In order to address this data gap, UNICEF has partnered with the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA) to develop a database containing these estimates. The database will provide comparable global estimates of the number of international migrant children along with special tabulations by multiple age cohorts (for persons aged 0-18) and by gender. These estimates will be essential in understanding migration patterns of children worldwide and for formulating coherent policies regarding migrant children in receiving countries.

4. Policy initiatives with the Global Migration Group

UNICEF is working with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the IOM and the World Bank to develop a *Handbook on Mainstreaming Migration into Poverty Reduction and Development Strategies*. As a practical tool, the handbook will facilitate the efforts of policymakers in integrating migration into national and regional development agendas. The handbook is expected to be available in April 2009.

Additionally, UNICEF has contributed to the GMG report on International Migration and Human Rights. A joint GMG initiative led by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the report provides legal frameworks and key messages regarding the protection of the human rights of migrants, including child migrants. The report was launched at the celebration for the sixtieth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. UNICEF also participated in the International Conference on the Protection of the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration and the Human Rights of Children —sponsored by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Government

of Mexico. UNICEF along with other stakeholders stressed that policy must be shaped in accordance with human rights principles as well as the best interests of the child; it must be developed and implemented via effective inter-institutional coordination, and additionally, an adequate legal framework is essential in protecting the rights of children affected by migration.

5. Research and policy initiatives on the rights of children affected by migration

UNICEF is examining the effects of migration on children from a human rights-based perspective. Within the framework of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and other human rights instruments, the research conducted by UNICEF promotes the protection of the rights of child migrants and children left behind, as well as the prevention of child trafficking. This policy research and exchange of experiences among countries in the South will contribute to the strengthening of legal and institutional frameworks as well as support the efforts of governments and civil society in upholding legislative reform for the realization of the rights of children affected by migration. This also includes working on protecting and respecting the human rights of migrant children, irrespective of their migration status as well as assessing deprivations and inequities by focusing on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In countries of transit and destination, UNICEF is collaborating with the United Nations country team in South Africa and local authorities to address acts of racism, xenophobia and other forms of related intolerance directed at migrants, particularly migrant children and adolescents. In this regard, information and awareness-raising campaigns are being promoted in various countries together with local partners, for instance in Senegal and South Africa.

6. Independent child migration between and within developing countries

Children who migrate and live away from their parents or legal or customary adult guardians are often termed independent child migrants. In seeking livelihoods and other rewards from migration, independent child migrants adopt many adult responsibilities. Although seemingly adult in purpose, they are children with respect to many of their individual attributes, their legal rights and status and in terms of the social protections or restrictions that may apply to them. Research conducted by the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre in Florence, Italy explores the circumstances of such children in developing countries, and analyses the social and economic significance of their migration.

7. A statistical portrait of children in migrant families in selected OECD countries

Migrant children in more developed countries can experience substantial social exclusion, suggesting the need for more strongly inclusive policies and programmes. A study by the Innocenti Research Centre, involving Australia, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, considers the situation of children in immigrant families of different origin based on data from censuses and population registers. The study focuses on the social situation of children with regard to language, civic participation, education, employment, poverty and housing. Through review of existing literature, the initiative also takes stock of factors that may lead to the social exclusion of children in immigrant families.

8. Research and advocacy to fight trafficking of children and women

Many children and women leave their homes in search of a better life only to find themselves deceived or forced by traffickers to work in the sex industry. UNICEF and partners aim to expose the reality of human trafficking and to encourage legal and policy action as well as social mobilization to prevent and address human rights violations.

UNICEF advocates for a protective environment where children are free from violence, exploitation and unnecessary separation from family, where laws, services, behaviours and practices minimize children's vulnerability, address known risk factors and strengthen children's own resilience. This approach is human rights-based and emphasizes prevention as well as the accountability of governments. At the country level, the work of UNICEF aims to prevent and respond to human trafficking by supporting harmonization and reform of national legislation, strengthening institutional capacity and mechanisms for prevention, response and monitoring, promoting social change, providing services to families and communities and supporting regional and cross-border cooperation with governments and civil society partners.

D. EMERGING ISSUES

UNICEF is currently engaged in monitoring global developments as they relate to migration and its impact on the well-being of children —particularly in the context of sustainable development and human rights. Such developments include the current worldwide financial crisis, which might drastically disrupt remittance flows that are often essential to family well-being and in some instances support local economic activity. The global economic decline is likely to put pressure on countries of origin in terms of the provision of social services, and this may negatively affect the circumstances of children and families left behind. The loss of jobs by migrants in host countries may also lead to large-scale return migration to certain countries. Further, the economic downturn may in some cases exacerbate discriminatory behaviour towards migrant populations. UNICEF, together with GMG partners, is focused on assessing the possible consequences of the global financial crisis on children and adolescents affected by migration in developing countries.

With support from the UNDP/Spain Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund (MDG-F)[3], UNICEF, together with United Nations partners and IOM, has initiated programmes to address youth, employment and migration in several countries, including Albania, China and Paraguay. Recognizing that unemployment and under-employment are often push-factors in motivating young people to find opportunities in other countries, the programmes aim to: (a) make youth employment a national priority in national development plans and frameworks; (b) develop and implement measures to help young people access the labour market, with an emphasis on disadvantaged and vulnerable youth, and (c) strengthen institutional capacity to effectively deliver youth employment interventions. UNICEF and partners take a multi-disciplinary policy approach in addressing challenges of migration and youth employment. The goal is to engage all key stakeholders in developing innovations and good practices at the country level.

Furthermore, UNICEF is actively engaged in addressing the potentially serious consequences of climate change on migration processes and patterns. Population displacement involves many risks, and not only for those who undertake it but also for societies as a whole. There are potentially dire implications for children affected by environmentally-induced migration. Displacement can fragment families, disrupt social networks, interrupt children's education, reduce health care, increase vulnerability to communicable disease, chronic conditions and latent infections, and can expose children and adolescents to sexual violence. UNICEF is initiating preliminary policy research investigating the extent to which migration caused by environmental degradation and climate change affects children and women. UNICEF looks forward to expanding this research and policy work with stakeholders and GMG partners.

[1] See the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

[2] For more information on this unit, see http://tcdc.undp.org/ (accessed 27 February 2009).

[3] For more information on this fund, see http://www.undp.org/mdgf/docs/MDGF-FrameworkDocument.doc (accessed 27 February 2009).

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Migration Statistics on Children

Context

At the beginning of the twenty first century, around three percent of the world population resides outside their country of citizenship. Although international migrants comprise a small fraction of the world population, international migration and its impact in receiving and sending countries is the subject of unprecedented attention at the policy level.

Within the migration and development discourse there are at least three main lines of reasoning. Some argue that migration stimulates development while others maintain that migration hinders development. Finally, there are those who argue that the impact of migration on development depends on the time dimension (short vs. long term) and the degree of development of sending and receiving countries.

None of these perspectives, however, takes into account the vulnerabilities and costs for migrants, their families, and their communities of origin beyond the economic impact (i.e. remittances) that migration has on sending and receiving communities. The main reason for the lack of research on the psycho-social impacts of migration on children has been the scarcity of reliable national-level data on the incidence and magnitude of international migration (of adults and children) and of those left behind.

UNICEF Policy Research

Within this context, UNICEF initiated an ambitious research programme entitled "*The Social Impact of Migration and Remittances on Children's Rights and Well-being: The Challenges and Opportunities for the MDGs – A Policy Initiative."* This policy research was aimed at increasing knowledge about the economic and social effects of migration on sending and receiving communities by collecting data on the incidence and magnitude of international migrant children and on children left behind. UNICEF's research is comprised of the following two components:

1. *Estimating the Number of International Migrant Children*

In partnership with UN/DESA, UNICEF is building a comprehensive database to estimate the number of international migrant children. Current international migration statistics does not disaggregate the data by age cohort so currently there are no official data that allow policy makers to formulate coherent policy recommendations for enhancing children's welfare in receiving countries.

This database will provide comparable global estimates of the numbers of international migrant children. With this information, along with special tabulations by multiple age cohorts (0 – 18 years of age) and by gender, UNICEF will be able to make children more visible in migration debates and policies.

2. *The Impact of International Migration on the Left-Behind*

In collaboration with the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation of UNDP, UNICEF initiated policy research and pilot survey work on the impact of migration on the left-behind in Ecuador and Albania in order to formulate a common methodology for gathering reliable data that captures both the positive and negative effects of migration on children left-behind.

Results of this initiative will not only allow policy makers to estimate the numbers of children left-behind, but they will also provide them with a cross-national, cross-cultural methodology to be used in conjunction with UNICEF's Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). Moreover, findings from this research will facilitate the policy dialogue on the impact of international migration on the material as well as immaterial impacts (e.g. quality of life) of migration on children left behind. Interested stakeholders will have far more exact and detailed information with which to develop strategies at the local and national levels that address the plight of children left-behind.

Component 1: Estimating the Number of International Migrant Children

The scarcity of reliable national-level data on international migration has motivated UNICEF to establish a partnership with UN/DESA to estimate the incidence and magnitude of child migration internationally. At the operational level, this initiative continues to benefit from a fruitful collaboration with the World Bank and the University of Sussex, primarily through the contribution of data.

Data Collection

Data collection is a vital part of the project, ensuring that the maximum amount of empirical data is taken into account when estimating the number of international migrant children. In the past few months, hundreds of new tabulations have been added to the database. In total, the database contains now more than 3,600 different tabulations on the international migrant population, by gender, age and country of origin. Roughly one-third of these tables have information by age and gender.

Data Verification

A key aspect of the project is verification of the empirical data collected. Data verification entails multiple processes. First, the data points entered into the database should be the same as those found in official publications and reports. Second, a comparison of different data sources for specific countries and time frames will result in validating some data sources and rejecting others. Similarly, an analysis of time series (also for specific countries) will be made. Checks that have so far been carried out include verifying the accuracy of totals by sex, age and country of origin. Particular attention was devoted to verifying the census dates reported in the database. The exact census dates will are important for harmonizing reference points for all data to mid-year.

Data Harmonization

A key objective of the initiative is to harmonize international migration data reported by different countries. However, this is a significant challenge, considering that countries use a wide variety of definitions and reporting formats. Some initial steps to harmonize the data were taken during the reporting process. In particular, considerable time was devoted to improve coding consistency for international migrant countries of origin.

Estimation Process

Estimating the number of international migrant children depends on accurate estimates of the total number of international migrants. Currently, the Population Division is undertaking the revision of the 2005 estimates. This revised assessment will serve as the baseline from which to estimate the number of international migrant children and will ensure a correspondence between both sets of estimates. Considerable progress has been made in the revision of the 2005 data sets. As a first step, an "input table" was created, containing all the empirical data from the database that will be used in the estimation process. This "input table" was compared with that for the previous round of revision, with the 2005 estimates as well as with preliminary 2008 estimates.

Global Migration Research Database (GMRD)

In view of the unprecedented demand for accurate, up-to-date and policy-relevant data on international migration, the Population Division has developed a password-protected, web-based interface with which to access information contained in the database. During the test phase, access will be provided to key partners within and outside the United Nations.

It is important to note that estimating the number of international migrant children only tells half the story. In order to formulate coherent policy recommendations that enhance children's welfare, it is necessary to also estimate the numbers and prevalence children left-behind. Only then can full picture of the positive and negative effects of migration be realized.

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Component 2: The Impact of International Migration on the Left-behind

UNICEF pilot surveys implemented in Ecuador and Albania constitute the first efforts to measure the number of children left-behind. Also, in gathering quantitative and qualitative data on the impact of migration on these children's well-being, we have made important strides in comprehensively assessing the impact of migration on sending-country households, particularly on children left behind.

An important feature of the instrument used in these measurement efforts is that it is grounded in UNICEF's Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) methodological scaffolding, and hones in on international migration's material and psycho-social impact on the left-behind. This instrument and the methodology it espouses complement traditional MICS modules focusing on other important issues (such as education, child discipline, household characteristics and child labour, among others), and serve to broaden MICS's scope and richness.

Survey Topics

The pilot modules tested in Ecuador and Albania, devote specific attention to health (non-disease-specific, in order to assess health-related quality of life), life satisfaction, migratory processes and remittances. These modules will provide added versatility to MICS, thereby allowing researchers to leverage a wide variety of modules (in multiple combinations) as desired, to suit their specific research agendas.

The health module provides a basic measure of health-related quality of life for clinical and economic appraisals. This module combines five dimensions (mobility, self-care, general activity, pain/discomfort, and anxiety/depression), allowing the formulation of a single profile and a single index value for non-disease-specific health status.

The life satisfaction modules centre on gauging individuals' perception of well-being based on his or her values and life priorities. This module will supply information beyond traditional economic and/or

material indicators, providing researchers and policy makers with a more complete picture of the impact of migration on those left behind.

The migration and remittances modules use proxy respondents to gather general information regarding each household member living abroad. These modules collect information on place of residence, the migratory process (how and when they left their country of origin, time-frames for travel, etc), on primary occupation before and after migrating, as well as some data on general (material) characteristics of the household prior to migration. In addition, the international migration module provides information on patterns of communication between migrants and those left behind. The international remittances module focuses on collecting information on migrants' remitting behaviour (frequency of remittances, how they send money, average amount remitted) as well as on the purposes and uses of remittances.

The Ecuadorian and Albanian Experiences

In partnership with Ecuador's (INEC) and Albania's (INSTAT) census offices, and with other interested stakeholders, qualitative and quantitative field work at the country level has been finalized. In both Ecuador and Albania a series of focus groups with children and adults of migrant and non-migrant households were conducted.

As a result of this work, the survey instrument was upgraded, thereby improving its validity. In Ecuador and Albania, adults from non-migrant households were virtually unanimous in stating that the family unit, in its totality, tends to be most affected. Marriage bonds are also frequently affected by migration, to the extent that migrants sometimes establish new emotional ties abroad, often at the expense of their interaction with families back at home. At the same time, members of migrant households, including caretakers, reported high levels of stress deriving from added responsibility assumed in overseeing the well-being of nephews or grandsons left under their supervision.

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Preliminary Results of the Pilot Surveys in Ecuador and Albania

The following graphs illustrate the impact that migration has on child life-satisfaction for children of migrant and non-migrant households. Overall, the results of the pilot survey in Ecuador suggest that migration, on average, has significant impacts on child life-satisfaction. On the other hand, in Albania, the data suggest that children from migrant households seem to be less satisfied; however the differences are not statistically significant. The pilot study's small sample size was not sufficient to extrapolate general findings for the overall population. Yet the hints of significant patterns are recognizable and justify further research in the hope that definitive conclusions – with major implications for policy – may be drawn.
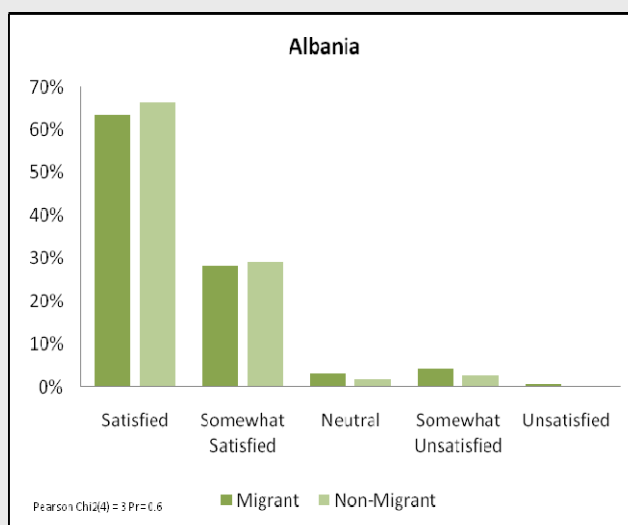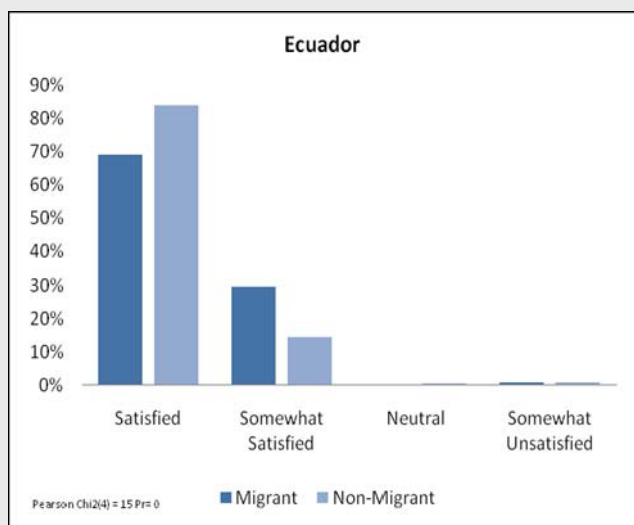
Preliminary Results

In Ecuador, nearly equal numbers of the focus group's participants recognized that migration has both positive and negative impacts. Children between and 10 years of age were more inclined to point to the positive impacts of migration than dwell on its negative impacts. By contrast, older participants were more likely to reference migration's negative impacts than its positive impacts.

The positive impacts of migration were linked to the material benefits resulting from remittances. As with their Ecuadorian counterparts, children in Albania between the ages of 8 and 12 were more likely to highlight the positive economic aspects of migration than its negative impacts. Although older participants mainly highlighted migration's economic benefits, they were more specific in describing its negative impacts on the left-behind.

Next Steps

These methodological results, which are being validated by a group of experts on the subject, point to the need to assess migration's material and psycho-social impacts on the left-behind among migrant families – as compared to conditions in non-migrant households. Thus far, there is substantial evidence to suggest that the impact of international migration extends beyond purely material impacts.

UNICEF's current research is focusing on expanding its methodological work in order to produce into more substantive data. UNICEF is also working with the Global Migration Group (GMG) in bringing together government partners and stakeholders to address the gaps in information and paucity of data on the effects of international migration on children and adolescents.

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United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

This paper is divided into three parts. The first provides an overview of the work of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the second highlights its body of policy and programme work on international migration in Asia, and the third situates the work of UNIFEM in the context of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development held in New York in 2006, the Global Forum on Migration and Development held in Brussels, Belgium in 2007 and in Manila, the Philippines in 2008.

A. OVERVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATION

The United Nations Development Fund for Women is the women's fund at the United Nations. It is mandated to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in the national, regional and international agendas and in the work of the United Nations system. The goal of UNIFEM in its strategic plan for 2008-2011 is to facilitate the implementation and accountability on national commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment in three core areas: (a) promoting women's economic rights and security; (b) eliminating violence against women, including halting the spread of HIV/AIDS among women and girls, and (c) promoting gender-responsive democratic governance in stable and politically fragile countries.

B. THE PROGRAMME ON EMPOWERING WOMEN MIGRANT WORKERS IN ASIA

1. Background

Given its mission and mandate, and in response to the feminization of migration flows in Asia, UNIFEM has been implementing the UNIFEM Asia Pacific and Arab States Regional Programme on Empowering Women Migrant Workers in Asia since 2001. The programme seeks to empower women migrant workers by strengthening policies and institutional and social environments in favour of women migrant workers —especially female domestic workers— to claim their rights and entitlements. Currently in its second phase, the programme works in partnership with national governments, regional intergovernmental mechanisms, civil society, the private sector and other international organizations in nine countries in the region —Bangladesh and Nepal in Southern Asia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Philippines and Thailand in South-Eastern Asia, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China in Eastern Asia, and Jordan in Western Asia.

2. Key results of the programme

At the global level, UNIFEM advanced the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and various other non-CEDAW mechanisms which address women migrants' rights. In particular, CEDAW adopted general recommendations on migration due to advocacy work by UNIFEM, such as convening regional and global multi-stakeholder meetings, including the involvement of the then Special Rapporteur on Migration, Ms. Gabriella Rodriguez, and providing technical assistance to the drafting of the recommendations. UNIFEM also made sure that

concern for women was integrated into the CEDAW review process. Seven of the nine programme countries (whose reporting cycle to the CEDAW Committee coincided with the programme time frame) reported on women migrant concerns, and these concerns were followed up by the CEDAW Committee. Addressing women migrants' concerns was new to the CEDAW review process and resulted from programme advocacy and capacity-building with governments and non-governmental organizations on the use of CEDAW to address women migrants' concerns. The programme also developed two important publications on CEDAW and migration. The first was a review of how migration was addressed within the CEDAW process and the second showed how the Convention could be effectively invoked to address the rights of women migrants. Lastly, governments and non-governmental organizations in Asia were trained on how the Convention could be effectively invoked to address the rights of women migrants. In the next step, training modules will be developed with national partners to ensure that these training modules are used in national institutions.

At the regional level, UNIFEM was involved in a multi-stakeholder policy dialogue among and between countries of origin and employment focusing on the protection of women migrant workers. The following lists examples of this work:

(a) ASEAN Declaration on Promoting and Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers and Their Families was engendered. UNIFEM supported consultations among countries in Asia in this regard and provided technical assistance to engender the Declaration;

(b) UNIFEM, in collaboration with the ASEAN Task Force on Migration ensured that gender concerns were adequately mainstreamed into the human rights instrument that is being developed for migration;

(c) Labour Ministers of four Governments in Western Asia —Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon and the United Arab Emirates— publicly committed to introduce a Special Unified Working Contract for Migrant Domestic Workers at the High-level Regional Governmental Forum on Women Migrant Workers, Human Trafficking and Labour Reform co-organized by Jordan's Ministry of Labour and the United Nations Development for Women–Arab States Office held in Amman, Jordan, from 27 to 28 March 2007. This working contract is to be modeled on the legally enforceable Special Unified Working Contract for Migrant Domestic Workers introduced by the Ministry of Labour in Jordan;

(d) Upon request from the Thai Ministry of Labour, UNIFEM assisted in preparing a draft amendment to existing labour contracts for migrant workers in Thailand. The collaboration between UNIFEM and the Thai Government was the result of a regional meeting of South-Eastern and Western Asian countries of employment organized by the Thai Ministry of Labour and UNIFEM in Bangkok, Thailand, in December 2005. The purpose of the meeting was to share good practices on protecting women migrant workers; advocacy efforts are currently underway for adoption of this proposed contract;

(e) The Regional Consultation of Recruitment and Placement Agencies on Good Practices to Protect Women Migrant Workers, supported by UNIFEM, was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 14 to 15 November 2005. The participating national associations of recruitment and placement agencies adopted the Covenant of Ethical Conduct and Good Practices of Overseas Employment Service Providers. [1] The Covenant commits agencies to support human rights instruments, uphold laws and adopt good practices for recruitment. Follow-up to implement this covenant is under way;

(f) UNIFEM contributed to engendering the report of the Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM) through active participation in the regional hearings of the Global Secretariat

on Migration for the Asia Pacific and the Arab region and the Expert Group Meeting on Gender and Migration organized by the Secretariat of GCIM in Geneva.

At the national level, UNIFEM was involved in the following projects:

(a) UNIFEM analysed trends in female migration, including policy reviews and published its findings for five of the eight programme countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Nepal);

(b) Based on the before mentioned studies, gender-sensitive national legislation promoting and protecting the rights of women migrant workers passed in two countries (Indonesia and Nepal), gender-sensitive provincial bills and draft village ordinances were passed in one country (Indonesia) and government consensus on the need for legislation to protect women emigrant workers was reached in two countries (Cambodia and Lao People's Democratic Republic);

(c) UNIFEM assisted the Jordanian Government to amend its labour laws to recognize domestic labour as work and incorporate the protection for migrant domestic workers into the new law;

(d) Jordan introduced a Special Unified Working Contract for Migrant Domestic Workers with substantive rights provisions, and efforts are under way to develop appropriate monitoring mechanisms regarding these new working contracts;

(e) Jordan also introduced regulations for recruiting agencies to protect female labour migrants from abuses;

(f) Resulting from a multi-media campaign and other advocacy activities organized by UNIFEM on behalf of women migrant workers, the Government of Nepal partially lifted its ban on women migrating to countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council allowing female migrants to leave the country if they were taking employment in the formal sectors of the economies of these countries;

(g) UNIFEM assisted to mainstream gender concerns into Nepal's Tenth National Development Plan with corresponding budget allocations;

(h) As a result of public awareness campaigns, including radio programmes and newspaper editorials disseminating information to migrant workers and employers, policy change regarding migrant workers was implemented in four countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Jordan and Nepal). In these countries, UNIFEM also provided assistance to migrant workers;

(i) Public service announcements on migration aired free on BBC, CNN and Star World Satellite TV and translated into Lao, Thai, Khmer and Bahasa Indonesia, and also aired on national television networks. These announcements were received positively and viewers requested information on the programmes;

(j) Pilot projects on gender-sensitive rights-based pre-departure training programmes were implemented in three countries (Cambodia, Indonesia and Nepal);

(k) With the help of UNIFEM, migrant worker associations and networks in Indonesia and Nepal worked closely with local governments to gather sex disaggregated data, to organize pre-departure and community awareness-raising workshops for migrants, to advocate for local ordinances with budget allocations to assist migrants in the local communities and to handle grievance cases for migrants claiming rights and entitlements.

C. Participation of UNIFEM in preparation for the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in New York in 2006

As part of the regional preparations for the High-level Dialogue, UNIFEM made a presentation on Asia's Perspectives on the Gender Dimensions of International Migration at the sixty-second Commission meeting of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 6 to 12 April 2006.

UNIFEM also participated in the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector on international migration and development, held in New York on 12 July 2006 as part of the preparatory process of the High-level Dialogue. The interventions by UNIFEM during the General Assembly hearing focused on promoting a comprehensive rights-based approach to international migration, particularly for women, highlighting challenges at the policy level. Good practice policy and programme initiatives by UNIFEM and other actors in this field were presented and their replication in other contexts was promoted.

UNIFEM further organized a side event at the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly on Building Partnerships for Decent Work: Advancing the Rights of Women Migrant Workers. Bringing together partners under its Asia Pacific Programme on Migration, the panel event: (a) highlighted trends in women's migration; (b) showed examples of collaboration between non-governmental organizations and migrant women's associations with recruitment agencies ensuring engendered rights-based migration practices, and (c) demonstrated the application of the Covenant of Ethical Conduct and Good Practices adopted by national associations of recruitment and placement agencies at their regional consultation meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, in November 2005.

Public service announcements on migration were aired during the High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development in 2006 in different Asian countries. For example, Star World Satellite TV provided free airtime for three weeks, Channel 11 of Thailand provided 19 television spots and Channel 7 of Thailand provided free airtime for announcements as well; UBC Cable of Thailand aired 1323 free television spots; CTN, TV3, TV5 of Cambodia aired 21 spots; TVK, TV9 and TV11 of Cambodia aired six spots each; Lao National TV aired 48 spots and there were eight spots by Trans TV of Indonesia and 25 spots by Metro TV Indonesia and QTV Indonesia.

D. The participation of UNIFEM at the Global Forum on Migration and Development

UNIFEM participated in the Global Forum on Migration and Development held in Brussels, Belgium, in July 2007, and was especially involved in the following two round table discussions: (a) the role of other than government partners in strengthening the developmental contribution of temporary labour migration, and (b) increasing the micro-impact of remittances on development. In each session, UNIFEM provided a 10 minute slot for interventions from the floor to highlight gender dimensions of the above concerns, drawing on the good practice of countries in the region and the UNIFEM Migration Programme.

UNIFEM also supported migrant non-governmental networks participating in the Global Forum in Brussels. These non-governmental networks organized events focusing on rights' violations of women migrant workers and good practice policies and programmes in this field. The events also discussed the application of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) including advocacy for the adoption of the CEDAW general recommendations on migration.

As a prelude to the Second Global Forum in Manila, the Philippines, in 2008 UNIFEM co-organized an International Conference on Gender, Migration and Development: Seizing Opportunities and Upholding Rights in Manila, the Philippines, from 25 to 26 September 2008. The meeting was co-organized with the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women, the Government of the Philippines and other organizations, such as the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Lola Grande Foundation, the Migrant Forum Asia, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Women and Gender Institute.

The objectives of the conference were to:

(a) Facilitate the exchange of knowledge and best practice in promoting opportunities and gender equality for women migrants, enhancing their contribution to development and upholding their rights and those of their families;

(b) Infuse a gender perspective and rights-based approach to policies, programmes and services on migration;

(c) Contribute to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the deliberations and outcomes of the Second Global Forum of Migration and Development held in Manila, the Philippines, from 27 to 30 October 2008.

The specific role of UNIFEM at the Second Global Forum was to: (a) initiate partnership between UNIFEM and the Government of the Philippines, i.e. through the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW); (b) forge partnership with other interested agencies; (c) provide financial and technical assistance (such as drafting the concept note, programme and conference statements, making plenary presentations on CEDAW and migration, and consulting with co-convenors, such as the Filipino Department of Foreign Affairs and the Filipino Department of Labor and Employment on how the conference would inform GFMD outcomes); (d) conduct workshops during the conference, and (e) help summarize and present workshop recommendations.

The International Conference on Gender, Migration and Development: Seizing Opportunities, Upholding Rights (ICGMD) adopted the Manila Call to Action (see page 76). In a summary statement issued by the ICGMD it was pointed out that female labour migration had become a long-term and enduring, structural phenomenon in Asia and other major areas of the world, with women constituting about 50 per cent of the overseas migrant workforce (United Nations Development Fund for Women, 2005). The majority of these women were migrating independently, largely as a part of a family survival strategy to seek remunerated employment overseas. In countries such as Indonesia and Sri Lanka, and until recently the Philippines, women made up an overwhelming majority of the official labour out-flow. Most women migrant workers continued to work at the lowest end of the labour market in the informal manufacturing and service sectors, with the largest concentrations in domestic work and entertainment where they often suffered human rights violations. Although women migrants contributed significantly to national development in both sending and receiving countries, their contribution was not always fully acknowledged.

Further, the statement pointed out that female migrants faced vulnerabilities and discrimination at all stages of the migration process. At the point of recruitment and pre-departure, they often had less access to information, education and training compared with men, reinforcing vulnerability to trafficking. Women had been reported to be confined, physically and sexually violated by recruitment agencies prior to departure in pre-departure training centers. During transit, they were vulnerable to abandonment, physical and sexual abuse as well as appropriation of money and travel documents by their escorts or brokers. At the destination, they suffered disproportionate labour market discrimination. Women's jobs

like domestic work were not defined as work and domestic workers were denied labour protection. Large numbers of women were recruited into sectors providing intimate services which invaded a woman's privacy and well-being in ways different from men working at construction or manufacturing sites. Convergence of living and work sites, the privatized nature of work and work linked to criminal networks enhanced surveillance of women, curtailed rights to privacy and liberty, lengthened the workday and reduced access to external assistance in comparison to men. Lower-paying jobs, debt bondage, lack of rest days are some of the other violations female migrant workers often endured. Many of these women had limited access to health services or reproductive health care and suffered injuries resulting from physical and sexual violence, domestic accidents and trauma from abuse; some even had to undergo compulsory pregnancy and HIV/AIDS testing. The statement further said that upon return to their countries of origin, their relationship with their husbands or family had often suffered as a result of migration and they were at times stigmatized within their communities. Many lacked access to and control over savings and remittances, spent their savings on conspicuous consumption or invested in productive assets in the name of male family members.

In light of the above, the statement urged governments to take immediate action in the following areas:

(a) Pre-departure: build capacity of women migrants to cope with potential exploitation through awareness-raising on migration realities for women and pre-departure orientation programmes; provide rights-based, gender-sensitive pre-departure training; adopt and enforce regulations for recruitment agencies using incentives and disincentives and introduce compulsory registration for outgoing migration using incentives appropriate to men and to women;

(b) On-site: enforce minimum labour standards that protect national and overseas migrant workers; include domestic workers under existing national laws or introduce protective legislation and legally enforceable government contracts for them, with appropriate monitoring and grievance redress mechanisms; reduce restrictions on migrant workers to socialize, associate and organize; ensure migrants' access to emergency health and legal services; ensure participation of migrants in social security and health insurance schemes; and improve services of diplomatic and consular missions to protect and assist migrants, especially women migrant workers;

(c) Return and reintegration: provide socio-economic, legal and emotional support services to women migrant workers; establish remittance channels that are safe, simple, accessible and affordable to both women and men migrants; enhance returnee migrants' skills and productive investment opportunities that are gender- and market-responsive; provide support services to children and families left behind; and ensure that women migrants are represented on policy making bodies.

1. Strategy to engender GFMD outcomes

Strategies forged with the Filipino Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) and the Filipino Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE) to influence outcomes of GFMD included:

(a) ICGMD Manila Call to Action received at the closing ceremony by the Chair-in-Office of the GFMD with the public commitment to include it in the Filipino statement and present a paper in Round table 1.1 of the GFMD on Protecting the Rights of Migrants: A Shared Responsibility;

(b) One-page summary of ICGMD issues and key recommendations prepared by UNIFEM and submitted to the Filipino DFA and DOLE to be incorporated into the Filipino statement and paper for Round table 1.1 of the GFMD;

(c) One-page summary of ICGMD issues and key recommendations prepared by UNIFEM for incorporation into the speech of the Filipino President and Vice-President at the GFMD;

(d) Advocacy with governments to ensure that gender concerns were addressed in statements, round table discussions and recommendations;

(e) Advocacy with and support to specific civil society events on gender.

2. Participation in the GFMD

UNIFEM participated in the Global Forum in Manila, the Philippines, in 2008. The strategy for participation developed by the ICGMD in consultation with the Filipino DFA and DOLE a month prior to the Global Forum, yielded the following recommendations:

(a) The speech of the President and Vice-President of the Philippines should include strong references to the ICGMD and the key recommendations of the Manila Call to Action;

(b) The key note statements and the official paper of the Filipino Government at Round table 1.1 should call attention to gender issues and should make gender-sensitive recommendations;

(c) Official government statements and interventions from France, Greece, Mexico, Nepal, the Netherlands, Norway and the Philippines should include references to the protection of women migrant workers;

(d) The statement of the civil society at the Global Forum should focus on gender-sensitive policies, especially legal protection to migrant domestic workers;

(e) The Manila Call to Action should be distributed at the Global Forum.

NOTE

[1] For the Covenant, see http://www.unifem-eseasia.org/projects/migrant/Docs/Covenant%20of%20Ethical%20 Conduct.pdf (accessed 26 February 2009).

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United Nations Development Fund for Women (2005). *Claim & Celebrate Women Migrants' Human Rights through CEDAW*. Bangkok: East and South-East Asia Regional Office.

International Conference on Gender, Migration and Development:
Seizing Opportunities and Upholding Rights
Organized by the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women
in partnership with UNIFEM, ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA, Migrant Forum Asia,
Women and Gender Institute and the Lola Grande Foundation
Manila, 25-26 September 2008

PREAMBLE

Recalling the United Nations Conventions and ILO Conventions to which numerous countries are state parties concerning the rights and protection of migrant workers, the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment and the social, economic, political and cultural rights of all citizens in development;

Recognizing the importance of the UN Declaration on the Right to Development and that the achievement of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) requires not only the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment as a specific goal, but the mainstreaming of gender equality issues in all seven other goals;

Noting that while the migration experience can have a positive impact on gender roles and can contribute to the economic and social empowerment of many women and to the overall economic development of the countries where they work as well as to their countries of origin through remittances, still for too many it is a route to exploitation, abuse and denial of human, labour and women's rights;

Recognizing that trade policies play a key role in the gender, migration, development nexus;

Noting the importance of the Global Compact as an instrument for corporate social responsibility in relation to the realization of migrants' human, labour and women's rights;

Recalling that the first Global Forum on Migration and Development held in Brussels in 2007 recognized that gender, migration and development issues needed to be more adequately addressed;

Affirming that migration policies and practices, including their impact on gender equality, are a shared responsibility of sending and destination countries;

Representatives from governments, trade unions, employers' organizations, private sector, civil society organizations including women's and religious associations, academe and international organizations covering 36 countries in 5 continents gathered in Manila for the International Conference on Gender, Migration and Development, call on governments of sending and receiving countries of migrant workers, as well as the private sector, employers, trade union organizations and civil society organizations to commit to the following actions to ensure that national and international commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment are adhered to and enhanced by coherent, fair and gender sensitive migration and development policies and practices:

1.   Support women migrants as key contributors to social and economic development by recognizing their role, placing greater importance on the value and dignity of their labour, especially the labour of domestic workers, and providing them with opportunities to participate in developing policies and programmes related to migration and development;

2.   Pursue decent and sustainable work and pro-poor economic growth strategies, especially in agriculture. Provide an enabling environment for market driven enterprise and private sector development and promote corporate social responsibility, thus creating alternatives to migration and reframing migration as a choice rather than a necessity;

3.   Mobilize industry and business organizations and recruitment agencies in search of talent, skills and labour for the global labour market to adopt gender sensitive approaches so that women as well as men obtain decent jobs in accordance with their skills, facilitate circular migration and "brain gain" from both sending and receiving countries. Encourage the corporate sector to develop policies and practices to ensure human dignity in their workforce and within the fullest possible breadth of their supply chain, and independently audit to ensure and validate human and labour rights conditions, work together with NGOs and governments to address corporate ethics and take action to eliminate forced labor and trafficking, implement training for their supply chain, efficient systems of monitoring the supply chain for transparency, and effective resolution of violations and be transparent with their customers about labor conditions with their supply chain;

4.   Ensure and provide policy and operational support for both men and women migrants themselves to be properly represented and consulted in decision-making on policies concerning the gender, migration and development nexus both in the home and host countries.

5.   Reduce pressure on women to migrate by establishing a system of basic comprehensive national social security and health coverage which can be accessed by all the poor in developing countries, as well as specific support and protection measures for children of migrants workers, which can be financed from general taxation, national budget allocations or special funds;

6.   Identify and apply good practices to reduce women's occupational and labour market segregation. Strengthen mutual skills recognition frameworks between countries and a gender sensitive system of accreditation and certification of academic and work credentials in order to reduce deskilling;

7.   In view of the loss of critical skills from sending developing countries, particularly in the health and education fields (traditionally dominated by women) and engineering and information technology (traditionally dominated by men), ensure that gender, migration and development policies and practices address skills shortages and mismatches in the sending and receiving country so that the attainment of the MDGs is not jeopardized and occupational gender gaps are reduced. Keep better and more relevant data including where job opportunities are and what skills a migrant worker needs to progress in his or her career. Promote co-development schemes and other programmes and models for 'brain circulation" and "brain gain" to mitigate the loss of skills needed in the sending countries for their development;

8.   Enhance the role of government to provide incentives and mechanisms to encourage banks and financial institutions to provide remittance channels that are safe, simple, accessible and affordable to both women and men migrants, both documented and undocumented. Encourage the productive use of remittances maintaining a principle of choice and ensure that women as well as men migrants are equally targeted in programmes to enhance their skills, entrepreneurial activities, financial literacy, savings and their access to credit, land and resources;

9.   Develop and implement gender responsive programmes for socio-economic and psychological support for sustainable re-integration of returning migrants to capitalize on skills they have gained and promote the evolution of gender roles and improve the status of women in the family. For returning migrants with a business orientation provide market information on the demand for services or products for sound business decisions on investments. Provide training on project management and leadership, skills needed to run a business and on how to develop and manage community based programmes. Make it easier for communities to access capital through links to funding sources from social entrepreneurs and public development funds;

10.   Recognize and prepare gender responsive programmes for the relocation and re-integration of persons displaced by climate change;

11.   Recognize the important contribution of the private sector and Diaspora communities to development and support them to better mainstream gender issues in their core business and social programmes;

12.   Promote the equal representation of women and men in national and international consultation mechanisms on migration and development, include gender issues on the agenda of discussions and negotiations and involve the gender machinery of government agencies, civil society organizations, organizations of migrants, trade unions and employers' organizations.

UPHOLDING RIGHTS

1.   Recognize the fundamental human, women's, labour and trade union rights of migrants including their freedom of movement in availing of migration opportunities, to freely associate and organize, to communicate freely with their family members and to retain their identity and travel documents. Facilitate the right to vote in the countries of origin of women and men migrants;

2.   Ratify and fully implement all relevant UN and ILO Conventions, in particular those on migration and gender equality, including the UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families, the ILO Conventions 97 and 143 on migrant workers and the ILO fundamental Conventions 29, 87, 98, 100, 111, 105, 138, 182 concerning freedom of association, the right to collective bargaining, discrimination, forced labour and child labour, ILO Convention 181 on Private Recruitment Agencies, the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the UN CEDAW, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Support the adoption of the proposed General Recommendation 27 of CEDAW on women's migration.

3.   Ensure that migration policies, legislation, programmes, budgets and bilateral and multilateral agreements are rights based, explicitly address gender issues, are consistent with international human rights standards, CEDAW concluding comments and jurisprudence created by treaty bodies and are harmonized with gender responsive employment and development policies. In developing such policies address the root causes of migration, both internal and external in view of increasing inequalities within and between countries in the context of globalization;

4.   Promote positive attitudes to multiculturalism, multi-lingualism and diversity and establish culturally sensitive policies and programmes to combat racism, discrimination including on grounds of sexual identity and orientation, and xenophobia related to gender roles assigned by different cultures and religions. Provide centers for migrant where they can seek gender responsive help or protection;

5.	Strengthen capacity of governments, in particular ministries such as labour, immigration, foreign affairs, the interior and labour inspectorates to screen and monitor employer/employee contracts and to address gender issues specific to migrant workers bearing in mind the multiple discrimination experienced by women migrant workers and their concentration in less visible jobs. Increase efforts to monitor and enforce decent working conditions and wages of both women and men migrants;

6.	Establish sex-disaggregated data bases on both internal and external migration. Conduct research on the impact on societies and families of the 'feminization" of migration, the gender dimension of migration policies, including linkages with trade and investment policies, and on the different contributions of men and women to development in both destination and sending countries. Strengthen monitoring on the situation of migrants through sex disaggregated data collection and gender analysis of migration trends and include these in State's reports to relevant UN and ILO treaty bodies;

7.	Discourage sending workers, especially women workers, into vulnerable occupations in countries where they find themselves in situations where their rights and dignity are grossly violated. Promote gender responsive provisions in bilateral agreements and MOUs in favour of women workers and provide alternatives for safe migration or jobs at home;

8.	Improve international cooperation, including through the United Nations, and national efforts to review and ensure that anti-trafficking laws are rights-based, gender-sensitive and in conformity with the Palermo Protocol. Ensure that these are effectively implemented to combat labour and sexual exploitation. Develop engendered national action plans on trafficking and migration. Stop criminalization of trafficking victims and ensure they are not placed in jails but in sheltered housing. Intensify efforts to address commercial sexual exploitation, forced labor and child labour in all destination countries, including through prosecution of perpetrators and corporate social responsibility programmes along the supply chains of business sectors benefiting from income generated by trafficking.

9.	Raise awareness at community levels and through media campaigns on safe migration and ensure protection through better systems for recruitment and monitoring of workplaces and communities where men, women and children are at risk. Provide legal and socio-economic empowerment together with safe voluntary return and reintegration of victims of trafficking and develop protocols and measures to guarantee specialized assistance for trafficked and repatriated children and adolescents. Prosecute traffickers and exploitative employers and provide for payment of compensation to trafficked persons. Provide assistance without conditions such as the requirement to testify. Take account of trafficked men and transgendered individuals in the trafficking discourse;

10.	Develop and sustain programmes in both home and host countries that provide holistic support to those migrants and their children who have survived domestic violence, rape, sexual assault, harassment, and/or exploitation; threats of honor crimes, forced or child marriage, female genital mutilation, and other forms of gender-based violence. Ensure that migrants who have suffered gender-based violence are eligible for immigration remedies and support services in the host country that will protect their safety there and ensure that they will not be forced to return to situations of persecution in their home countries;

11.	Recognize domestic work as work in international and national laws. Support the formulation and adoption of an international ILO convention on domestic workers and amend national legislation to specifically recognize their human, social, labour and trade union rights and protection on the same basis as other workers. Introduce effective monitoring and grievance/redress mechanisms to address violations. Ensure decent treatment, standard contracts and provide legal and accessible migration channels for domestic workers. Provide channels for assistance to domestic workers such as SMS system for fast transmittal of help messages to NGOS and government authorities;

12.   Increase efforts by governments in destination countries to create mechanisms that regularize undocumented migrants, consistent with human rights protection and gender-sensitive standards, and which address the particular situation of women migrants, domestic workers, women workers in services, and the children and families of migrants, so as to better defend their rights and improve their access to public services for themselves and their families;

13.   Improve services of diplomatic and consular missions to ensure protection and respect for human, women's and trade union rights of migrant workers from their countries. Include gender sensitive counseling and psychological services for abused and trafficked migrants in their own language. Ensure that women are also appointed to key positions in the missions and that the staff are trained on applying a gender lens in regard to migrants' rights and assisting them in conflict and crisis situations;

14.   Adopt measures at national level and in bilateral agreements and standard contracts to ensure equal treatment and opportunities in terms and conditions of employment. Ensure access of migrant workers to support services in crisis situations and access to sexual and reproductive health services. Facilitate participation of migrants in social security and health insurance schemes taking into account the particular situation of women migrants deriving from their occupational and legal status. Increase gender sensitive access to treatment for migrant workers with HIV/AIDS and ensure their reintegration;

15.   In destination countries, recognize the right of migrants in an irregular situation and stateless men, women and children to have access to emergency health and legal services, with specific assistance to women in regard to their reproductive health needs and rights. Ensure that pregnancy and childbirth, especially of undocumented women migrants is not used to repatriate and deport them back to countries of origin;

16.   Discontinue the practice of deportation for unaccompanied and undocumented migrant children who may then risk being sexually abused and trafficked and develop a rights-based approach to the treatment of their cases;

17.   Conduct public awareness raising campaigns in both sending and receiving countries on migrants' rights, safe migration, the realities of the social costs of migration and the sexual abuse of migrant children by relatives, including through the media. Make pre-departure briefings for migrants gender sensitive with the inclusion of information on their human, labour and reproductive rights, their rights in employment contracts, self protection measures, how to access services to report abuses and to seek support and redress, HIV/AIDS prevention and illegal practices of recruiters and traffickers. Provide for language training and awareness on cultural differences before departure;

18.   Promote safe, legal migration through stricter regulation and monitoring of recruitment agencies, supporting them to adopt codes of ethics and to provide rights-based, gender sensitive pre-departure training and promote the inclusion of anti-trafficking efforts in the corporate sector;

19.   Adopt and enforce ethical policies on placement fees in origin countries for greater accountability, taking into account the low earnings in occupations where women are concentrated. Publish placement fee rates and inform woman and men migrant workers from sending countries as to what would be a reasonable fee. Work toward abolition of fees to be paid by migrant workers which effectively keep them in bondage and require the employer to pay costs;

20.   Provide for family reunification, going beyond traditional patriarchal family forms, or other measures to uphold the rights of accompanying children irrespective of their parent's migration status, especially as regards their birth registration and access to education and health care. Provide access to

psycho-social support programmes for children of absent parents and raise awareness and capacities of fathers to effectively engage on domestic work and child care;

21.   Reduce restrictions on migrant workers in destination countries to socialize, associate, organize and join trade unions and migrant organizations. Support partnerships between trade unions, migrant and Diaspora associations of sending and receiving countries and ensure they are gender responsive;

22.   Examine laws and policies to ensure that there is a balance of both reward to good practice and cost to bad practice, with the end goal of enabling good CSR practice. Develop policies that hold corporations accountable for their supply chains – especially in respect to forced labor and trafficking – such as annual reporting on labor conditions in the supply chain and oversight to ensure accurate reporting. Address the relationship between trade, women and migration issues in order to develop further policy. Promote multi stakeholder partnerships between governments, NGOs, corporations, trade unions and academia to further the research agenda related to corporate social responsibility and its relationship to migrant women, forced labor and human trafficking and engage more strategically with corporations to address these issues;

23.   Strengthen organizations of migrants and trade unions of migrant workers. Provide for their legal registration and recognition and ensure freedom by migrants', workers' and civil society organizations to operate, represent and promote the rights of migrants.

POLICY AND PROGRAMME WORK ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

United Nations Population Fund

A. INTRODUCTION

International migration is an integral part of the global development process. The complexity of the phenomenon is such that international migration can no longer be considered peripheral to the mainstream of population and development policy. The High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York in 2006, affirmed that international migration could be a positive force for development if well channeled and supported by appropriate policies. Indeed, formulation of sound migration policies as well as building national capacities to meet the challenges of international migration could significantly increase the benefits and minimize the risks for countries of origin and destination as well as for the migrants themselves.

B. FOLLOW-UP TO THE HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE: ACTIVITIES ADDRESSING KEY ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

International migration has important implications for population dynamics and thus for the core mandate of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The approach of UNFPA towards policy and programmatic interventions in this area is rights-based and culture- and gender-sensitive. UNFPA provides directed policy, advocacy and technical support to ensure that international migration is recognized as an important factor in development. With its network of country offices worldwide, UNFPA is positioned to make a significant contribution to enhancing awareness and increasing national capacity to address the challenges of international migration and to support countries in their efforts to integrate migration issues into national development plans, including poverty reduction strategies.

As Chair of the Global Migration Group (GMG) for the period January to June 2008, UNFPA initiated a collaborative effort analysing the challenges of protecting the human rights of international migrants which resulted in the publication *International Migration and Human Rights: Challenges and Opportunities on the Threshold of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (Global Migration Group, 2008). Each of the 14 member agencies of the GMG contributed to this publication by providing inputs based on their respective mandates and expertise. The report points out that migrants are human beings with rights which States, exercising their sovereign right to determine who enters and remains in their territory, have an obligation to protect. It underscores the fact that fundamental human rights are non-negotiable and that an individual's immigration status is irrelevant in this respect. International migration, development and human rights are inextricably linked. Respect for the fundamental rights of migrants is essential to reap the full benefits of migration. Cooperation between governments in countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as non-governmental organizations, civil society and migrants themselves is essential to ensure that international human rights' instruments are implemented and that migrants are aware of their rights and obligations. Groups with special needs, including migrant children, female labour migrants in the informal sector, trafficking victims, irregular migrants, as well as refugees and asylum seekers are in particular need of effective protection.

UNFPA is supplementing its Policy Guidance Note on International Migration, which outlines the Fund's strategic direction in addressing international migration and suggests a number of future activities of UNFPA in this area. Concept notes are being prepared to address the linkages between international migration and gender, human rights, population ageing, HIV/AIDS and climate change.

Globally, UNFPA supports initiatives towards increased availability, dissemination and utilization of disaggregated data on migration for evidence-based policy dialogue, development planning and programme formulation. At the country level, UNFPA encourages its country offices to support activities that promote the establishment and maintenance of reliable databases on international migration and development. It also supports the enhancement of national capacity to integrate migration policy issues into national and sectoral development policies, strategies and programmes, including poverty reduction strategies.

UNFPA encourages its country offices to support operational research that fosters understanding of migration processes, including female migration, and addresses the needs of migrants, especially sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, as well as studies that focus on: (a) the relationship between migration and development; (b) the root causes of migration; (c) the impact of migration on gender equality and women's empowerment; (d) measures to prevent human trafficking, especially of women and girls; (e) the human rights of migrants; (f) the challenges of irregular migration, and (g) the impact of migration on the environment.

UNFPA continues its collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and offers seminars on key migration issues for government delegates at the permanent missions to the United Nations in New York. These seminars are intended to provide government officials with a better understanding of the relationship between migration and development and a forum for discussion of important topics of concern to countries of origin, transit and destination.

The Fund is participating in the new European Commission–United Nations Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI)[1], which supports small-scale actors to contribute more fully to linking migration and development in line with international policy frameworks. The Joint Initiative seeks to help these groups, including local authorities, non-governmental organizations and transnational community organizations, to become more active and effective and to ensure that key stakeholders are fully informed of best practices in this area. It will provide an open forum to share news and information, collate information about existing migration and development initiatives, develop skills and provide mutual support.

C. EMERGING ISSUES IN THE AREA OF
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Among the issues of concern to UNFPA are the following:

(a) Migration as a force for development. Migration is increasingly seen as a development force, not a development failure. Remittances sent by migrants to their families often exceed official development assistance (ODA) and constitute the single largest source of financial flows to developing countries, exceeding foreign direct investment (FDI) flows in many countries. Migrants are also important "vehicles" for transmitting social remittances including new ideas, products, information and technology. However, while migration can aid development and reduce poverty, it can also broaden social inequity, particularly in sending countries. Discussions of the benefits and costs of migration typically focus on economic aspects. However, there are significant social costs of migration that are not always obvious: children without mothers,

husbands without spouses, elderly relatives without anyone who will care for them. The migration of mothers often results in children dropping out of school or finding themselves in situations of neglect or abuse. The separation of spouses, parents and children has implications for family stability that are felt in both countries of origin and destination;

(b) Female migrants. Migration is not a gender-neutral phenomenon. Men and women who migrate face different opportunities, risks and challenges, including vulnerability to human rights abuses, exploitation and discrimination. Gender sensitivity must figure prominently in all aspects of migration policy formulation, planning, programme delivery and monitoring. Protection of human rights and access to legal and health services, including reproductive health services, are especially important when it comes to addressing the challenges faced by migrant women;

(c) Human rights. Migrants are human beings with rights which States, exercising their sovereign right to determine who enters and remains within their territory, have an obligation to protect. Respecting and protecting the human rights of migrants enables them to contribute more fully to development. Women are especially vulnerable to exploitation and human rights abuses and need special protection. Among the main challenges in the protection of the human rights of migrants are the ratification, implementation and enforcement of existing human rights instruments. A particular challenge is to address the lack of adequate policies, mechanisms, monitoring and standards pertaining to female migration to ensure that discrimination and gender inequality is not perpetuated;

(d) Human trafficking. Widespread discrimination and violence against women and restrictive immigration policies that limit opportunities to migrate safely and legally fuel the trafficking trade. Trafficking is very closely tied to sexual exploitation and abuse, and many victims are forced into sex work against their will. Although awareness and action against trafficking is growing, there is an urgent need to do more to end this crime. Greater cooperation between and within countries is essential in order to bring traffickers to justice and to provide services and human rights protection for victims. In order to be effective, a comprehensive policy response should be multi-pronged and should include prevention, protection of victims and prosecution of perpetrators;

(e) "Brain drain". The emigration of highly educated and highly skilled people drains developing countries of much needed talent and hinders development efforts. The demand for skilled migrants in receiving countries, together with push factors in countries of origin, have driven increasing numbers of highly skilled workers abroad. A number of developing countries are experiencing deficits in the health care system, which are exacerbated by the emigration of doctors, nurses and other health personnel. A significant challenge is to provide decent work and decent working conditions in countries of origin to help stem the "brain drain". Another opportunity for development in countries of origin is to encourage the return of skilled migrants;

(f) Global financial crisis. The recent economic downturn has important implications for future migration flows. As more countries are affected by a recession and as unemployment rises, migration policies may become more restrictive and public perception of migrants may become more negative. In the hardest-hit sectors of the economy, migration flows have already shown signs of reversing themselves and this, in turn, has affected the flow of remittances in a number of countries;

(g) Climate change. Due to the inevitable effects of climate change, the number of migrants is expected to rise over the next decades. Both gradual deterioration of the environment and sudden environmental events such as tsunamis, trigger migration flows. While it is difficult to project the exact number of people who would be forced or would choose to migrate as a result of

environmental factors, the large number of migrants expected in the future calls for appropriate policies and programmes to address the challenges of such movements. Women are especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Climate change magnifies existing inequalities. More women than men suffer injury or die in natural disasters because they are not warned, cannot swim or cannot leave the house;

(h) Migration data. Good-quality and timely age and sex disaggregated migration data are essential for evidence-based policy dialogue, development planning and programme formulation. More emphasis should be placed on capacity-building for collecting and disseminating data, including census and survey data that provide an accurate picture of the magnitude of migration flows and research that enhances understanding of the root causes and impacts of migration.

UNFPA will continue to focus its activities on data collection, research and capacity-building at the country level. The Fund will also continue to provide policy, advocacy and technical support at critical policy, programming and monitoring levels to ensure that international migration is recognized as an important factor in development.

D. CONCLUSION

International migration cannot be a substitute for development. However, it must be an integral part of the development agenda. Making migration work for development requires cooperation and collaboration between sending and receiving countries. The Global Forum on Migration and Development is an important "vehicle" for such cooperation. By engaging in non-binding consultations and sharing experiences and good practices in an informal and voluntary setting, governments and civil society will be in a better position to ensure a triple-win situation in which countries of origin and destination and migrants themselves benefit from migration.

The inter-agency Global Migration Group (GMG) continues to play an important role in ensuring effective follow-up to the High-level Dialogue and in facilitating the work of the Global Forum on Migration and Development. A more active GMG with clear rules of operation and a results-oriented focus will be in a better position to provide direction and leadership in a system-wide context; identify critical issues, challenges, gaps and best practices, and promote interest and dialogue on migration-related issues.

UNFPA looks forward to continue working with its GMG partners, United Nations Member States, United Nations agencies and other international organizations to address the increasing challenges of international migration.

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NOTE

[1] For further information on the Joint Initiative, see http://www.migration4development.org (accessed 9 January 2009).

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ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION: FOLLOW-UP TO THE 2006 HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

A. INTRODUCTION

This paper describes follow-up activities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) regarding the implementation of recommendations of the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. The paper also presents key aspects of the international migration and development nexus in Africa, and highlights some emerging issues of critical importance for ECA member States.

B. FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

ECA participated in several regional and global activities on international migration and development in preparation for the 2006 High-level Dialogue. This included an international symposium on international migration and development jointly organized by the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Government of Italy in Turin in June 2006. During the symposium, ECA organized a session on international migration and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Africa, in order to enhance understanding of the migration and development nexus.

The High-level Dialogue played a key role in the activities of ECA on international migration in the region. In 2006, the Regional Commission undertook a major reform of its programmes and resources and prepared its report *International Migration and Development: Implications for Africa* (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, 2006). The report, which was launched in New York at the occasion of the High-level Dialogue, shows the importance of international migration flows within Africa compared to migration flows of Africans to other parts of the world. It calls for better management of migration at all levels —country, regional and global. This requires formulation and implementation of migration policies based on effective and sound political and economic governance as advocated by the African Union (AU) and its New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) programme.

The 2006 reform process was guided by the following four major challenges:

1. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through strategies to promote sustainable and equitable growth and development;

2. Promoting regional integration to overcome the limitations of small and fragmented economies;

3. Harnessing the benefits of globalization by articulating viable policies and strategies;

4. Strengthening institutions and capacities for management and good governance.

In the context of these four challenges, international migration emerged as an important activity for the Commission. It has been included in the ECA business plan for 2007-2009, which calls for monitoring social development, including the follow-up to the 2006 High-level Dialogue.[1]

The reform resulted in placing greater emphasis on international migration as an important area for harnessing human and financial resources in support of the countries in the region. International migration has been included in the strategic framework and budget for sub-programme 10 on Social Development for 2008-2009 and 2010-2011. The Commission will continue to produce biennial reports, convene expert group meetings, establish data and information banks and conduct research on international migration and development in Africa.

As a follow-up to the High-level Dialogue, ECA and its subregional offices have partnered with various governments, the African Union Commission, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development in Eastern Africa (IGAD), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) in South Africa on the following activities in the region:

1. A four-day conference on Population and Development in Africa: Research and Policy Dialogue for Action in Mafikeng, South Africa, from 5 to 8 March 2007. This conference called for dialogue on research in migration, urbanization and development, with emphasis on the opportunities offered by migration, whilst recognizing the importance of the human rights of migrants. Also, it called for collection, analyses and sharing of migration data;

2. The Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Development-Fortieth Session of the Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 29 March to 1 April 2007. This Conference especially addressed the importance of remittances for development in Africa;

3. The first joint annual meeting of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development that took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 26 March to 2 April 2008. This meeting called for reducing the costs of transferring remittances so as to increase mobilization of financial resources for development;

4. The workshop on Migration and Economic Development in Africa, jointly organized by the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), IOM and TRUSTAFRICA, held in Dakar, Senegal, from 17 to 19 March 2008. The workshop focused on support for African countries in the formulation of their national migration policies with special emphasis on integrating migration into national development strategies. About 86 participants attended the workshop, primarily from Western and Middle Africa, including government representatives, representatives from various regional research institutions, United Nations organizations, universities, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations and embassies[2]. Discussions centred on: (a) incorporation of migration in poverty reduction strategy papers; (b) regional and interregional strategies; (c) national policies and strategies in the field of migration and economic development, and (d) population mobility and physical conditions in Africa. ECA delivered a presentation on the regional dimensions of international migration, and presented the activities so far undertaken in this field by the Commission;

5. ECA organized a workshop with the AU, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and IOM in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 12 to 14 May 2008. The workshop was part of the cooperation activities of ECA on migration management in the IGAD region. ECA made a presentation on International Migration and Development: Implications for Regional Cooperation and Integration;

6. The ECA Office for North Africa (SRO-NA) organized an Expert Group Meeting on International Migration and Development in North Africa in Rabat, Morocco, from 19 to 20 March 2007. The meeting adopted recommendations on how to improve the integration of

migration issues in the North African development process. Special attention was paid to migrants' financial transfers and competencies with the aim to strengthen the positive contribution of North African migrants. The plan of action was addressed to governments, private sector, universities, parliamentarians, financial system representatives, civil society organizations, particularly migrant organizations, as well as to international, regional and sub-regional development organizations;

7. The ECA Office for Southern Africa (SRO-SA) undertook a study on the role of population and migration in enhancing regional integration in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) regions in September-October 2008. The study focused on the growing realization that achieving regional integration in Africa would require sound population and migration policies that could facilitate free movement of persons and factors of production within and across borders. The findings of this study were presented at a regional workshop, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 1 to 3 December 2008.

C. ASPECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT NEXUS IN AFRICA

International migration involves a wide range of voluntary and forced cross-border movements within Africa, as well as regular and irregular migration flows to destinations within and outside Africa. Usually, young and well-educated persons have the highest propensity to migrate. Recent research shows that the number of female migrants has increased. The different motivations to migrate arise from complex factors such as lack of employment opportunities, income inequality and unequal distribution of wealth, conflict and economic and political instabilities.

Africa is experiencing many challenges in the area of international migration. The outflow of skilled workers exacerbates the shortage of labour in nursing, engineering, information technology and mining. While dealing with problems related to financing for development, Africa struggles to address urgent issues such as poverty, HIV/AIDS and the achievement of the MDGs.

Moreover, Africa is witnessing rapid urbanization and experiencing regional integration through, *inter alia*, regional economic communities, the AU and NEPAD. Rapid urbanization will require greater investments in the social and physical infrastructure in urban areas, in particular for water, sanitation and affordable housing.

Countries in Africa have responded to international migration issues in different ways. Often, African countries fail to coordinate or lack policies to respond to these problems altogether. Existing policies are often not enforced, and some policies are so strict that undocumented migration is often the only possibility for those seeking employment abroad. International migration is hardly recognized in national development plans and strategies. A major obstacle to furthering the understanding of the international migration development nexus is the lack of adequate data. In addition, there is a research vacuum on the linkages between international migration and development. Analyses of the social and economic impacts of emigration require accurate and detailed data and information, which is currently not available in the majority of African countries.

International migration is increasingly gaining attention among African leaders. The free movement of people and skilled labour and the right of residence and establishments are central to the Abuja Treaty, the Pan-African international agreement signed in Abuja, Nigeria, on 3 June 1991 and the treaties of the regional economic communities. Also, the constitution of the AU recognizes the role of

migrants and considers them an integral part of national human resources. The NEPAD illustrates the ability of governments in Africa to put forth an innovative regional development framework. The framework document acknowledges the link between international migration and development in Africa and calls for improvements in health and education services, as well as for harnessing financial resources, including remittances, for Africa's development.

ECA focuses on the role of international migration in regional integration and development cooperation between countries. Research undertaken by the Commission defines international migration as part of regional integration, which calls for alleviation of the obstacles to trade liberalization, markets and the free movement of people between countries (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, 2004). Regional integration through the regional economic communities is an integral part of the AU Charter.

Some measures to promote labour mobility and free movement of people between countries have been undertaken by some of the Regional Economic Communities. The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) —all have protocols and treaties on free movement of people and the right of residence in any of the member countries. ECOWAS has ratified its protocol on the free movement of persons, residence and establishment[3] and SADC countries allow their citizens visa-free entry for 90 days. However, the implementation of these protocols requires political will, which is largely lacking. Moreover, cooperation between countries and economic communities on free mobility of labour has been hindered by security considerations, lack of employment opportunities and competition for limited job opportunities.

The thinking of ECA on international migration and development is conditioned by the need to uphold the following key elements:

1. The human rights of international migrants and their families. Bilateral and multilateral agreements between sending and receiving countries must promote respect for human rights, including the right to affordable and accessible health services and healthy working and living conditions;

2. Cohesion and tolerance nurtured through highlighting the importance of integration and respect for diversity and multiculturalism;

3. Contribution to development, which extends beyond economic gains to include social welfare, cultural enrichment, health promotion and political stability;

4. Constructive engagement of member States. International migration should be brought to the arena of international development cooperation;

5. Coherence and harmonization of policies. There is need to improve the governance of international migration through harmonization of the policies and procedures of government ministries and departments;

6. Capacity-building is needed for maximizing the potential human and financial gains of international migration for development.

D. Emerging issues

As a result of the High-level Dialogue, human rights and regional integration have emerged as important topics directly related to migration. The High-level Dialogue has triggered demand for constructive engagement in dialogue on the links between international migration and development, to bring this nexus closer to the area of national development, regional economic and development integration and international development cooperation. Constructive engagement between countries and regions will lead to harmonization of national policies and regional frameworks. Also, the countries need to initiate programmes on human capital development, especially in the areas of health and education, in addition to partnerships in the areas of trade and financial systems.

Such initiatives can enhance the development impact of migration. For instance, transfer costs of remittances can be reduced by enacting agreements between the different parties involved and by establishing an integrated payment infrastructure. Developments of human and institutional capacities are essential for regional integration and development in Africa. Building such capacities requires long-term investment and the implementation of regional mechanisms and frameworks embodied in the NEPAD initiatives.

Development in Africa requires peace and stability, for which cohesion and tolerance are important. International migration involves people of different cultures. Therefore, the countries will need to formulate programmes to nurture respect for human rights, including the rights of international migrants and their families, multiculturalism, tolerance and social integration. This is important for achieving social harmony, peace and stability at the sub-regional and regional levels.

E. Conclusion

International migration and development in Africa is increasingly gaining attention in ECA sub-programmes and activities. Since the 2006 High-level Dialogue, ECA has continued to work closely with regional and other partners, such as the AU, IOM and IGAD, to assist African countries in harnessing the development potentials of international migration. The Commission is seeking to strengthen and promote the understanding of the international migration-development nexus and the resource potentials of international migration for development in Africa. More specifically, the following are three activity areas on which the Commission will focus in the future:

1. Role of remittances for development;

2. Capacity-building for better management of migration flows;

3. Migration and regional integration.

The 2006 High-level Dialogue revealed the need for African countries to:

1. Explore new approaches for harnessing migration resources and potentials for development;

2. Develop migration policies and foster partnerships on migration that are sensitive to the regional development needs;

3. Build institutions and human capacity to manage migration through development of migration data and statistics, proper keeping of migration records, harnessing research activities and feeding research results into decision-making processes, and monitoring and upholding the rights of migrants and their families;

4. Develop mechanisms to build synergies between migration policies and national development planning.

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[1] See United Nations Economic Commission for Africa ECA Business Plan 2007-2009.

[2] Among the organizations represented at the meeting were: the African Foundation for Development (AFFORD), the Centre de Recherches pour le Développement International (CRDI), the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CENSAD), the Institut fondamental d'Afrique noire (IFAN), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

[3] See Protocol A/P.1/5/79 relating to the free movement of persons, residence and establishment available at http://www.ecowas.int (accessed 13 January 2009).

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ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND
THE CARIBBEAN IN THE AREA OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION,
HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Based on extensive experience conducting research, providing assistance and engaging in capacity-building, the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) —Population Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)— has drawn up a work plan on international migration, human rights and development in line with the following objectives:

1. Following up resolution 615 (XXXI)[1] adopted at the meeting of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development in Uruguay in 2006;

2. Following up the mandates established at the high-level Ibero-American meetings;

3. Leading the development account project on migration and development in collaboration with the other regional commissions and the Population Division of the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs.

A. FOLLOW-UP TO RESOLUTION 615 (XXXI) OF THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF
THE COMMISSION MEETING OF ECLAC IN 2006

The documents presented at the thirty-first session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) which took place in Montevideo, Uruguay, from 20 to 24 March 2006 were summarized in the publication *International Migration, Human Rights and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: Summary and Conclusions*[2]. The papers compiled in this document investigate the trends and problems associated with international migration and provide advice to governments in the region on how to address the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities of international migration for development, within a human rights framework. The main message from ECLAC to the governments in the region is that international migration is both a development and a human rights issue, which requires implementing integrated actions within the Latin American and Caribbean context, broadening the free movement of people, maximizing the positive aspects of migration and protecting the human rights of all migrants.

Resolution 615 (XXXI) of the thirty-first session of the Commission supports the work done by ECLAC and calls for the countries in the region to ratify and adhere to international instruments related to international migration. It also establishes the creation of an inter-institutional group, coordinated by ECLAC, to monitor topics related to international migration and development in the region. The preparations for the implementation of this mandate started in 2007 and several United Nations agencies and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) were invited to participate.

ECLAC also published the book *International Migration, Human Rights and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*[3] that was presented in a preliminary form at the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development held during the thirty-first session of the Commission of ECLAC in Montevideo, Uruguay, in 2006.

ECLAC, through CELADE, has actively followed the Ibero-American Summits of Heads of State and Government, including those of Salamanca, Spain (2005), Montevideo, Uruguay (2006) and Santiago de Chile, Chile (2007). Those meetings recognized the importance of international migration within the Ibero-American community. ECLAC has established a relationship with the Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB), particularly through agreements and collaboration. In response to its mandate, ECLAC provided support for the organization of the Ibero-American Meeting on Migration and Development held in Madrid, Spain in July 2006, and the Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development (FIBEMYD) held in Cuenca, Ecuador, from 10 to 11 April 2008, which resulted in the launch of a migration plan known as the Cuenca Plan. At both events, the Commission proposed to place human rights at the core of the discussions on international migration among origin, transit and destination countries. This proposal recognizes the positive contribution of migrants to development, promotes full respect for migrants' human rights and advocates a central role for migrants in the migration process. It also calls for the identification and dissemination of best practices in the field of international migration.

At the seventeenth Ibero-American Summit held in Santiago, Chile, in 2007, the Heads of State and Government decided to include the following paragraph in the Declaration of Santiago, "… in accordance with the agreements of the fifteenth and sixteenth Ibero-American Summits, the member countries hereby adopt the text of the Multilateral Convention for Social Security and commit themselves to carrying out the internal procedures necessary for its prompt entry into effect".[4] ECLAC presented a study at this Summit on the estimated number of direct and indirect beneficiaries of the Convention. This document was well received and approved by the attending Heads of State and Government. The Programme of Action agreed at the seventeenth Summit instructed the Cuenca Forum to "devise an action programme on migration that, in keeping with the Montevideo Commitment on Migration and Development, promotes the protection of the human rights of migrants".[5] Article 48 of the same document requests that ECLAC, "in the framework of its powers and mandate, continue to support the Ibero-American Secretariat in the implementation of that Programme of Action".

In compliance with the provisions of the Montevideo Commitment and in close coordination with the Ibero-American Secretariat, CELADE conducted two studies that were presented at the 2008 Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development: a diagnosis of international migration in Ibero-America, with special emphasis on the marked increase in international migration in recent years and its demographic effects; and a study of the social and economic effects of migration in three destination countries in Ibero-America (Argentina, Costa Rica and Spain).

Some 400 people participated in FIBEMYD, including delegates of 22 Ibero-American countries and other countries, such as the Philippines and the United States of America, experts, academics, and representatives of international organizations and civil society. Senior officials of the Government of Ecuador, the Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Secretary-General of the Ibero-American Secretariat, the Director of CELADE and the Director of the Ibero-American Social Security Organization attended and spoke at the opening ceremony, which also included recorded greetings from the Presidents of Honduras and Spain. A tripartite agreement among SEGIB, ECLAC and IOM to follow up the Forum was signed.

In October 2008, ECLAC, together with SEGIB and IOM, presented the book entitled *I Foro Iberoamericano Sobre Migración y Desarrollo: Unidos por las Migraciones* (Ibero-American Secretariat, 2008). This book summarizes the work and results of the FIBEMYD meeting. The launch was held in

Madrid and attended by Ms. Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC.[6] The book was also presented at the eighteenth Ibero-American Summit held in San Salvador, El Salvador, from 29 to 31 October 2008, at which the Heads of State and Government reaffirmed their commitment to the Cuenca Plan.

C. THE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT PROJECT ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

During the 2009-2010 biennium, ECLAC, through CELADE, will lead the development account project Strengthening National Capacities to Deal with International Migration: Maximizing Development Benefits and Minimizing Negative Impact. The regional commissions (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)) and the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) will execute the project.

The objective of the project is to strengthen national capacities to incorporate international migration in national development strategies in order to maximize the benefits and minimize the negative effects of international migration. At the end of October 2008, upon receipt of the first allocation of funds, preparations started with the regional commissions and United Nations' partners for the initial meeting to launch the project.

The specific objectives of the project include a focus on female migration and promoting cooperation through an intra- and interregional network for the exchange of information, studies, policies, experiences and best practices between countries and regions.

The project's expected beneficiaries are governments, international and intergovernmental agencies, research centres, academic institutions, non-government organizations and civil society organizations working in migratory affairs.

D. INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

In recent years the number of Latin American and Caribbean migrants has increased from a total estimated 21 million migrants in 2000 to almost 26 million migrants in 2005, representing 13 per cent of the 200 million international migrants in the world estimated for 2005.

International migrants represented about one per cent of the total population in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2005 (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, 2006). Latin American and Caribbean emigrants represented four per cent of the total population in the region in 2005. That is to say, for every international migrant in the region, four emigrants are found outside of the region. The exceptions to this pattern are Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Costa Rica in Latin America, and Bahamas, Barbados and Puerto Rico and other island states in the Caribbean. In these countries, the proportion of international migrants in the total population is close to 10 per cent and in some Caribbean island states, the proportion is even higher.

The statistics indicate that a high proportion of Latin American and Caribbean people are residing outside their country of origin. Many Caribbean countries have more than 20 per cent of their populations living abroad, while in Latin America, these percentages fluctuate between 8 per cent and 15 per cent. This is the case of Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua and Uruguay, among others.

E. WOMEN AND MIGRATION: THE MANY FACES OF VULNERABILITY

Throughout the region, Latin American women have progressively increased their participation in migration flows, migrating to different places, for different reasons, by themselves, with their families or to reunite with their families abroad. This topic has been extensively analysed by ECLAC through studies conducted by CELADE. These studies have focused not only on the vulnerabilities associated with diverse forms of discrimination against female migrants, including sexual and labour exploitation, but also on the successful integration of migrants in host countries, which potentially contributes to diminishing gender disparities.

In fact, in the receiving countries of Latin America, female migrant workers do find opportunities for integration into the labour force, but these opportunities tend to be restricted to the domestic work sector. This points to the emergence of a transnational labour market composed of networks of women who work as housekeepers, personal caretakers, street vendors, waitresses and bartenders and perform other activities. The feminization of the labour market and its transnational character are phenomena that have been simultaneously increasing in the region. The labour market, in its demand for cheap and flexible labour, makes use of labour identities anchored in gender relations, which constitutes an object of concern for the design of policy instruments.

Undocumented female migrants are potentially more vulnerable than female migrants with documents because of their great exposure to social risks, such as poverty, unemployment and subordination in their homes. They have less individual and institutional support for counteracting these risks and are victims of a stigma that leads to the perception that, due to the lack of opportunities in their countries of origin, they are willing to be smuggled or trafficked for any activity. The conflation of gender, ethnicity, nationality and lack of documents can lead to the most extreme human rights violations.

F. THE STATUS OF MIGRATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Many countries of the region have ratified the Palermo Protocols to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children and the protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, which were adopted by the United Nations in 2000. There is also a specific programme for the protection of migrants within the framework of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Summit of the Americas process. While there is a follow-up process for the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the delay in the ratification of the Convention suggests that it has yet to be recognized as a core instrument of migrant protection.

At present, in Latin America and the Caribbean, the 1990 Migrant Workers Convention has been ratified by Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. If the Convention is not ratified widely, the rights of migrants could be at risk in many countries. Civil society organizations have played a leading role in protecting the human rights of migrants and in the provision of assistance.

In the view of ECLAC, steps need to be taken to raise awareness of the 1990 Convention and to demonstrate its validity as part of the history of international rights in order to eradicate the prejudices that tend to create opposition to its adoption. Fulfilling this task is imperative for laying the groundwork for the construction of a realistic and effective platform for the protection of migrants in the region.

STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF
THE RIGHTS OF ALL MIGRANT WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES
(OCTOBER 2008)

Country	Signature	Ratification	Country	Signature	Ratification
Albania		2007	Jamaica		2008
Algeria		2005	Kyrgyzstan		2003
Argentina		2007	Lesotho		2005
Azerbaijan		1999	Liberia	2004	
Bangladesh	1998		Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		2004
Belize		2001	Mali		2003
Benin	2005		Mauritania		2007
Bolivia		2000	Mexico		1999
Bosnia-Herzegovina		1996	Montenegro	2006	
Burkina Faso		2003	Morocco		1993
Cambodia	2004		Nicaragua		2005
Cape Verde		1997	Paraguay	2000	2008
Chile		2005	Peru		2005
Colombia		1995	Philippines		1995
Comoros	2000		Sao Tome and Principe	2000	
Congo	2008		Senegal		1999
Ecuador		2002	Serbia	2004	
Egypt		1993	Seychelles		1994
El Salvador		2003	Sierra Leona	2004	
Gabon	2004		Sri Lanka		1996
Ghana		2000	Syria		2005
Guatemala		2003	Tajikistan		2002
Guinea		2000	Timor-Leste		2004
Guinea-Bissau	2000		Togo	2001	
Guyana	2005		Turkey		2004
Honduras		2005	Uganda		1995
Indonesia	2004		Uruguay		2001

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[1] For a copy of resolution 615 (XXXI), see http://www.eclac.cl/pses31/noticias/paginas/8/24208/615(XXXI) Migration.pdf (accessed 5 March 2009).

[2] See LC/G.2303 (SES.31/11).

[3] See LC/G.2358-P.

[4] For the full text of the Declaration of Santiago, see http://www.segib.org/documentos/28/esp/decsantiago.pdf (accessed 23 February 2009).

[5] For the full text of the Programme of Action, see http://www.segib.org/documentos/28/esp/programa_accion_ dec_santiago_1.pdf (accessed 23 February 2009).

[6] See p. 61 for Ms. Bárcena's speech at that meeting.

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[The First Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development: united by migration]

Madrid, 10 October 2008

Enrique Iglesias, Secretary-General of the Ibero-American Secretariat;
William Lacy Swing, Director General of International Organization for Migration;
Trinidad Jiménez, Secretary of State for Ibero-America;

On behalf of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, I would like you to know what a tremendous source of satisfaction it is for us to present this book here today along with you. This study synthesizes the valuable efforts and contributions made by the first Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development, held in Cuenca, Ecuador, on 10 and 11 April last year.

Given the Commission's ongoing commitment to researching and addressing the issues involved in international migration, human rights and development in Latin America and the Caribbean, participating in the Ibero-American Forum has been a top priority for us. This commitment also forms part of the heritage of critical and innovative work on social and economic development that has shaped the history of ECLAC.

We know today that migration, like many other social phenomena, has several different faces. As ECLAC has consistently pointed out in different discussion forums, while it is true that migration brings with it opportunities for development for the nations involved, it also entails risks for migrants themselves and losses of human and social capital for the countries of origin. The great potential embodied in this multifaceted phenomenon poses major challenges for the countries of Ibero-America. It also commits us to addressing the subject through dialogue and cooperation, however, and action in this area will have to look beyond the crisis currently affecting the world economy and the international financial system.

Allow me to share some thoughts with you from our regional viewpoint. In the 1990s, as the result of a careful analysis of the situation, ECLAC drew attention to a historic paradox that had emerged and which became particularly apparent in the early 2000s: at a time when the world is more interconnected than ever and when financial and trade flows are being liberalized, formidable barriers to the free movement of persons persist. These are especially notable in our region. This observation has led us to highlight that migration is in fact being formally excluded from the current globalization process, an idea which we continue to develop today.

We have stressed, for example, that little value has been attributed to migration as a force for strengthening economic and labour, social and political, cultural and value-based ties around the world and that multiple factors, starting with development asymmetries and the demand for migrant workers, are driving this phenomenon. The analytical work of ECLAC has stimulated debate about one aspect of migration in particular: the juxtaposition of the motivation to migrate and restrictions on it place many migrants in positions of vulnerability. Migration therefore needs to be viewed as a human rights issue and to be incorporated as much as possible into the agendas for cooperation within the region and elsewhere.

I should point out that this task, which has yet to be fully completed, has met with mixed success. The idée-force underpinning ECLAC thinking on migration and development has paved the way for many

of the initiatives flourishing today: agreements need to be reached to establish a framework of governance for migration.

Progress along this path has been slow. The first decade of the twenty-first century is already drawing to a close, yet we have not seen (nor do we foresee) even a basic step towards liberalization in the area of mobility, and, indisputably, many Latin American migrants still find themselves in vulnerable positions whether prior to emigrating, during their journey, when trying to integrate in the host country or, increasingly, during repatriation.

Worryingly, even though migration has begun to receive more attention in cooperation agendas, action is not being translated into real progress. There has been a tangible shift in how the tensions and inconsistencies surrounding the role of migration in globalization are being viewed. Now, however, we seem to be confronted with a new paradox, one that the Ibero-American Summit seems to be addressing in a timely manner and that ECLAC will continue to examine in close detail: the higher up migration is on international agendas, the more migration-related issues seem to arise. Migration thus runs the risk of becoming stigmatized, and the positive facets that have always been associated with the free movement of people are in danger of being overlooked.

In what way do the discussions on globalization and international migration today differ then from those of a few years ago?

ECLAC has indicated at several intergovernmental forums that migration is an increasingly complex phenomenon and that various aspects of international migration are becoming key issues on development agendas at both the regional and the national level. Hence the flurry of interest in performing detailed studies, reaching agreements and designing policies on the subject and the emergence of migration as a recurring topic of discussion in countries around the world. Now is the time to seize the historic opportunity that has arisen to address the issue. The initiative taken by the Cuenca Forum has been exemplary in this respect.

Commendable efforts are being made by the countries of Ibero-America to provide institutional responses to international migration within a framework of rational action and respect for human rights. Although the specifics of each case have differed, the progress made has been both notable and tangible. Governments now need to intensify these efforts and invite civil society and international agencies to participate in the preservation and defence of those rights.

Over the years, the strategic role that migration plays in economic and social development, which is clearly exemplified in our Ibero-American community, has been explicitly acknowledged.

The overlap between migration and development received special attention at the previous three Ibero-American Summits of Heads of State and Government. It is also reflected in the Commitment of Montevideo on Migration and Development that was adopted at the sixteenth Ibero-American Summit held in Uruguay. This instrument constituted a landmark agreement in the treatment of migration issues (and their links with development and human rights) within the Ibero-American community.

As the Governments stated in the Commitment, priority now needs to be awarded to addressing the interplay between migration and development through a global approach that fosters closer bilateral and multilateral cooperation in a number of areas, most notably in: remittances; the orderly management of migratory flows; the promotion and protection of human rights; the prevention of, and fight against, the smuggling and trafficking of migrants; undocumented migration; the promotion of a multilateral dialogue; and the participation of civil society.

Hence the importance of the establishment of the Forum, which is the most appropriate and adequate instance for exchanging experiences of joint action among the countries of Ibero-America and for building ever stronger modalities for cooperation that will make it possible to continue the implementation and follow-up of the mandates of the Salamanca Declaration, the Montevideo Commitment and the Programme of Action of the Santiago Declaration.

In this framework, the implementation of the Cuenca Progamme of Action will make it possible to take advantage of, and to boost, the vast stock of good practices that exists in the countries of Ibero-America, while at the same time seeking out suitable policy responses to meet the complex challenges that migration and development pose to our nations.

Before closing, I would like to use this occasion to highlight the joint work carried out by SEGIB, IOM and ECLAC within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Tripartite Agreement, which represents a hugely valuable contribution in terms of inter-agency cooperation in the performance of activities under the Cuenca Programme of Action.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to working within the framework of that Agreement and to furthering the follow-up activities of the first Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development.

Lastly, let me reiterate, as we did in Cuenca, that international migration poses a major challenge to the democracies of Ibero-America. The failure to integrate migrants represents a serious shortfall in terms of the democratic quality, plurality and inclusiveness of our societies. This shortfall needs to be addressed by all the social and State agents involved because it institutionalizes the exclusion of migrants from the reach of public policy, blocks their access to citizenship and impedes the full exercise of their rights. The integration of migrants into society, on the other hand, strengthens the democratic nature of our societies, increases social cohesion, facilitates and stimulates a sense of belonging in the host country and promotes the recognition of migrants as members of society with equal rights.

Thank you very much.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE 2006 HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

A. INTRODUCTION

As follow-up to the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) convened a series of inter-governmental forums where members and associate members engaged in discussions and the exchange of experiences on migration and development.

The third session of the Committee on Emerging Social Issues of ESCAP, held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 12 to 14 December 2006, considered regional challenges in managing migration for development as one of its agenda items and examined key issues of international migration in the Asian and Pacific region. The Committee recognized international migration as an emerging issue and requested ESCAP to coordinate regional follow-up to the High-level Dialogue. It urged ESCAP to provide a forum for regional dialogue and to facilitate discussions on the multidimensional aspects of international migration and its linkages with development.

The ESCAP Commission, at its sixty-third session held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, from 17 to 23 May 2007, considered the challenges and opportunities of international migration and development, with particular emphasis on the situation of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states. The Commission adopted resolution 63/7 which provided further mandate for the work of ESCAP in this particular area, and called on the Secretariat to compile and analyse information on international migration, continue to provide a forum for dialogue among members and associate members, and to convene a high-level meeting on international migration and development, preferably in 2008.

In response, ESCAP, in collaboration with the Government of Thailand, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Population Division, organized the Asia-Pacific High-level Meeting on International Migration and Development in Bangkok, Thailand, from 22 to 23 September 2008. The meeting was attended by 22 representatives from ESCAP members and associate member states. While providing a forum for dialogue, the meeting also served as a regional preparatory meeting to the second Global Forum on Migration and Development, which was held in Manila, the Philippines, from 27 to 30 October 2008.

During the Asia-Pacific High-level Meeting, four round tables were held that focused on: (a) remittances for development; (b) social dimensions of international migration; (c) migration in least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small islands developing states, and (d) data and research on migration. Countries participating in the meeting recognized the need to better ensure the rights and welfare of migrants. Some countries of origin also shared their experience in providing protection for migrant workers living abroad. Concern was expressed about the large number of undocumented migrants in the region. It was noted that international migration was an intrinsic part of development, resulting from economic and demographic disparities between countries. It was also stated that international migration was a growing phenomenon in Asia and the Pacific. Participants adopted a summary of the major outcome presented by the Chair of the meeting.[1]

B. RECENT ACTIVITIES ADDRESSING THE MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

ESCAP has undertaken several activities to advance the understanding of migration and development, including its linkages, in the region.

As a preparatory activity for the *Situation Report on International Migration in East and South-East Asia,* ESCAP organized a policy dialogue on international migration and development in East and South-East Asia in Bangkok, Thailand, from 8 to 9 November 2007. Resource persons delivered lectures on a wide range of migration issues. In addition, government representatives gave country-specific presentations. Attended by government officials from 12 countries in the subregion, the workshop enhanced the understanding of migration issues, promoted constructive dialogue and provided an effective venue for the exchange of good practices.

The social dimension of international migration receives marginal attention in the migration debate. In order to fill this research gap, ESCAP produced a report entitled *Looking into Pandora's Box: The Social Implications of International Migration in Asia* (ESCAP, 2008a). The study highlighted the increasing scale of female migration and migration of highly-skilled professionals in the region. It also addressed the protection of the rights of migrants and the provision of access to basic social services by looking at both countries of origin and destination.

Most recently, ESCAP and the United Nations Population Division jointly organized an Expert Group Meeting on International Migration and Development in Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand, from 20 to 21 September 2008. During the meeting, experts from academia and practitioners from non-governmental institutions and organizations of the United Nations system discussed regional migration trends and patterns, migration policies and cooperation mechanisms, labour migration, and the link between international migration and development. Participating experts also examined the availability of migration data and concluded that coverage, comparability and timeliness of migration data needed to be improved in order to better understand international migration flows and their links to development. Participants emphasized that these links were not straightforward. The management of migration flows, in particular of labour migration, was also debated.

Together with other regional commissions of the United Nations and the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), ESCAP will participate in the Development Account project Strengthening National Capacities to Deal with International Migration: Maximizing Development Benefits and Minimizing Negative Impact. The project aims at strengthening national capacities by: (a) improving data quality and availability on international migration; (b) increasing institutional and human capacities to design and implement migration policies, and (c) promoting cooperation through an effective intra- and inter-regional network for the exchange of information, studies, experiences and best practices among countries of destination and origin.

In order to monitor migration flows within the region, ESCAP established a database on labour outflows from a selected group of countries. Depending on data availability, attempts will be made to compile similar data, classified by sex and skill level of migrants and destination country.

C. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL PARTNERS

ESCAP continues to coordinate its activities on international migration with relevant United Nations agencies and bodies in order to avoid duplication of efforts and promote cooperation of activities at the regional level. Since 2005, ESCAP has been co-chairing, along with the IOM, the Regional Thematic

Working Group on International Migration including Human Trafficking, whose members consist of 16 United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations.[2] The group met four times each in 2007 and 2008 and shared information on recent activities undertaken by the various organizations.

Under the leadership of ESCAP, the Regional Thematic Working Group produced the *Situation Report on International Migration in East and South-East Asia*, which identified recent levels and patterns of international migration at national and subregional levels in the region (Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration including Human Trafficking, 2008). The report, launched in October 2008, provides an overview of the multidimensional aspects of international migration. It provides a regional perspective on migration, including comparative information and statistics and covers cross-cutting topics such as gender, health and regional cooperation.

D. EMERGING ISSUES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

1. Robust flows of migrant workers and remittances

Key source countries of labour migration in the region have registered sharp increases in the outflows of migrant workers since the turn of the century (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 2008b). In 2006 alone, over one million migrant workers left the Philippines. Annual labour migration from Bangladesh, mainly to the countries in Western Asia, some of them members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and Malaysia more than doubled, from 103,000 persons in 1990 to 252,000 persons in 2005, while in 2007 the numbers surged to over 800,000 persons. Indonesia sent over 712,000 workers abroad in 2006. Between 2000 and 2006, an annual average of 204,000 labour migrants left Sri Lanka, the majority of whom for a destination in the GCC countries. It is likely that such robust outflows of migrants are associated with the recent construction boom in the GCC countries, especially in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, and the ensuing demand for workers.

In tandem with the increase in the demand for labour migrants, the Asian and Pacific region also experienced notable increases in remittance flows. The region remains one of the largest recipients of recorded remittances. In 2007, remittances sent by migrants to countries in the ESCAP region exceeded US$121 billion, up from US$110 billion in 2006, and more than twice the level reached in 2000 (The World Bank, 2008). In 2007, of the top 10 remittances recipient countries in the world, three were from the ESCAP region —China, India and the Philippines. Remittances to these countries accounted for more than half of the remittances received in the entire region. Significant remittance flows were also recorded in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan and Viet Nam. As a share of GDP, remittances were significant in several countries of origin, particularly in smaller economies such as Tajikistan (36 per cent), Tonga (32 per cent), Kyrgyzstan (27 per cent), Armenia (18 per cent) and Nepal (18 per cent). According to the World Bank (2008), after several years of strong economic growth, there has been a slowdown in remittance flows to developing countries, and it is expected that this trend will deepen further in 2009.

2. The global financial crisis and international migration

The recent global financial crisis is likely to affect cross-border mobility of people living in the region, but the empirical data to study such impact are not yet available. The effects may depend on the length of the crisis and may differ by sectors and sub-region.

Once the financial crisis leads to significant job losses, demand for foreign labour might decrease or governments might facilitate the return of migrants upon the completion of their contract. A slowdown in the economies of the GCC countries may occur with decreasing oil prices and might in turn lead to a decline in the number of construction projects being pursued, hence decreasing the demand for migrant

workers. Furthermore, employers may take advantage of the situation to reduce migrant workers' wages or benefits to alleviate their financial burden.

However, it may be useful to remember that the Asian economic crisis in 1997 did not change the fundamental trend toward greater mobility within the region. The labour recipient countries which were affected by the crisis (for instance, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea and Thailand) continued to rely on unskilled migrant workers in export-oriented industries.

The impact of the financial crisis on the volume of remittances is also not straightforward. It is known that remittance flows tend to be more stable than capital flows and that they tend to be counter-cyclical, i.e. increasing during economic downturns or after a natural disaster in the migrants' countries of origin. The study also shows that the volume of remittances depends more on the stock of migrants than on the flows. Hence, even if the flows would decline due to the financial crisis, the volume of remittances may not be affected.

3. Marriage migration on the rise

Migration for the purpose of marrying a foreign partner, known as "marriage migration", is on the rise in the region. Japan, the Republic of Korea and Taiwan Province of China have all experienced a significant increase in international marriages, often between foreign women and local men. For example, in the Republic of Korea, 14 per cent of marriage ceremonies performed in 2005 took place between a Korean national and a foreign spouse (Kim, 2007). Many foreign brides come to the above countries from neighbouring developing countries —China, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

One important factor contributing to this trend is the sustained level of urbanization, coupled with impending depopulation of rural areas owing to low fertility and population ageing. In countries affected by these trends, men living in rural areas and involved in farming are often unable to find brides because local women increasingly prefer urban lifestyles. It is thus becoming more common for rural men to search for foreign brides.

However, the complexities of finding a foreign bride are myriad. The involvement and proliferation of brokers and private agencies fostering marriage migration has raised concerns over fraudulent marriages and the trafficking of women. Facing restrictive policies, aspiring migrants may use marriage to gain residence in another country. Employers may also use marriage as a recruitment strategy. For receiving countries, the existence of spouses and children of internationally married couples often raises questions about settlement, integration and the future of multiculturalism.

NOTES

[1] More information on the meeting and a copy of the Chairman's Summary are available at http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/cache/offonce/pid/1674?entryId=20080 (accessed 22 January 2009).

[2] The Regional Thematic Working Group consists of the following international and intergovernmental organizations: ESCAP (Co-chair), International Organization for Migration (IOM) (Co-chair), International Labour Organization (ILO), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarians Affairs (OCHA), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank.

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FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES
OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA
RELATED TO THE 2006 HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

As a follow-up to the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) has issued several publications, and has actively participated in meetings on international migration and development. ESCWA is planning future activities related to international migration, including a joint United Nations project on national capacities to deal with international migration. ESCWA is planning to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in the near future.

A. COMPLETED AND CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF ESCWA RELATED TO
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The following lists various reports recently issued by ESCWA on international migration and development. It also mentions meetings in this field in which ESCWA participated.

- Wallchart on *International Migration and Development in the Arab Region*

  This wallchart, issued in 2007, is based on background papers of the Expert Group Meeting on International Migration and Development in the Arab Region, which was organized in collaboration with the United Nations Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and held in Beirut, Lebanon, from 15 to 17 May 2006. It was prepared in light of the regional and global events undertaken to account for the various dimensions of international migration, including the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development held in New York, from 14 to 15 September 2006. This wallchart highlights the social, economic, political and demographic aspects leading to and resulting from international migration in the Arab Region.

- Population and Development Report, Third Issue on *International Migration and Development in the Arab Region: Challenges and Opportunities*

  The Population and Development Report is one of a series of analytical reports published biennially by ESCWA. The third issue of this report, published in July 2007, addressed international migration and development. It analysed patterns and trends of Arab migration, focusing on the relation between international migration and development and on migrant remittances in the Arab Region. Furthermore, the report analysed policies affecting migration flows adopted by sending and receiving countries over time, in light of economic, social and political changes in the region.

- Social Development Bulletin, Fourth Issue on *International Migration and Development in the Arab Region*[1]

  This bulletin was issued in December 2007. It examined the relation between international migration and development, highlighting the activities of ESCWA in this area. It analysed the patterns and trends of Arab migration as well as migration policies adopted by Arab countries.

The bulletin also explained how international migration can be viewed as an opportunity for equitable social and economic development.

- Fact-sheet on *International Migration and Development in the Arab Region*

  This fact-sheet was issued in 2007. It briefly examined current and projected international migration trends in the region, addressing labour migration to the Gulf countries, the impact of migration on the age and sex structure of the population, the impact of migration remittances and the causes and implications of the emigration of highly skilled workers in the Arab region.

- Paper on *Labour Migration in Arab Countries*

  This paper was presented at the Sixth Session of the Social Development Committee, held in Amman, Jordan, from 5 to 7 March 2007. It focused on the economic and social implications of Arab labour migration and analysed national migration policies adopted by labour sending and labour receiving countries.

- Paper on *The Demographic and Socio-economic Implications of the Structural Imbalance of the Labour Force in Gulf Countries*

  This paper was presented by ESCWA to the Forum on the Labour Market in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, organized by the General Secretariat for Development Planning (GSDP) in Doha, Qatar, from 29 to 31 October 2007. The paper consisted of four parts: (a) an analysis of the structure of the national and foreign labour force in Gulf countries; (b) a review of the demographic, social and economic implications of labour migration to the Gulf countries; (c) an analysis of the impact of existing national policies on migration patters, and (d) a presentation of a strategic vision for socio-economic development in the Gulf countries.

- ESCWA also participated in the Workshop on Women and International Migration, organized by the Lebanon Family Planning Association (LFPA) in collaboration with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, in Beirut, Lebanon, on the occasion of the World Population Day on 11 July 2008.

B. PROPOSED FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF ESCWA RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

ESCWA will participate in the Development Account project on Strengthening national capacities to deal with international migration: Maximizing development benefits and minimizing negative impact. This project will be carried out jointly by the five United Nations regional commissions and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) for two years, with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) as the lead agency. The project aims at strengthening national capacities by improving data availability and data quality on international migration, by increasing institutional and human capacities to design and implement policies and programmes and by promoting cooperation through an effective intra- and inter-regional network for the exchange of information, studies, policies, experiences and best practices among countries and regions. The coordinated action of the five regional commissions and DESA, as well as the collaboration with other partners such as intergovernmental organizations, regional development entities and research centers, will help build knowledge and capacities in the field of international migration and its impact on development. The project will highlight female migration in particular.

ESCWA will contribute to a paper on *International Mobility of Arab Youth in a Globalized World: Trends, Challenges and Potentials*. This paper, prepared by IOM, will analyse the underlying demographic, economic and social factors impacting migration in the Arab region, with special emphasis on youth. An analysis of the characteristics of young Arabs and their propensity to migrate will be provided, with a focus on gender, skills and levels of education. Main sending countries, such as Egypt, and receiving countries, such as Kuwait, will be analysed looking at factors such as education, duration of stay, as well as the role of youth in transnational communities. A section of the paper will analyse the impact of migration of young people on development in the Arab region, including the emigration of highly skilled workers. The paper will conclude with policy options for better management of migration of young people, including formulation of integrated policies that build on the individual capacities of migrant youth and address youth participation in the development process and their integration into public life. This paper will be presented during the Expert Group Meeting on Reinforcing Social Equity: Integrating Youth in the Development Process, to be organized by ESCWA in Doha, Qatar, on 8 January 2009.

Lastly, ESCWA and the International Organization for Migration are planning to sign a Memorandum of Understanding in the near future. The MOU will explore various ways of collaboration between ESCWA and IOM in the area of international migration and development.

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[1] See http://www.escwa.un.org/divisions/div_editor/Download.asp?table_name=other_ar&field_name=ID&FileID=376 (accessed 26 February 2009) (in Arabic).

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Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

This paper provides a brief summary of the main activities of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) with respect to migration, development and remittances. These activities are presented in the context of the 2006 High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development and the 2007 and 2008 Global Forum on Migration and Development held in Brussels, Belgium and Manila, the Philippines, respectively.

The Inter-American Development Bank has a mandate to support development and poverty reduction throughout Latin American and the Caribbean. Under this mandate, the IDB supports member countries in social, labour migration and development programmes and directly supports research and technical activities related to migration, remittances and development. The Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF), a private sector grant facility of the IDB, has launched a programme to bring awareness to the economic and development impacts of remittances and has led an effort to reduce the cost of remittance transactions.

In 2007-2008, the MIF and the Social Department of the Inter-American Development Bank continued their work in the area of international migration. On 9 June 2008, a seminar on the social and labour dimensions of migration was held at the IDB Conference Center in Washington, DC in conjunction with an art exhibition sponsored by the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) and the IDB Cultural Center. The art exhibition Far From Home: The Migration Experience in Latin America and the Caribbean featured 24 works from countries in the region and was intended to build awareness of the diverse nature of migration in the region and its distinct human, community and social impacts. The call for artworks on the topic of migration yielded the largest number of submissions from regional artists to date. The initiative, with external support, intended to build a programme of research and knowledge dissemination and best policy practices, and pilot projects to improve and address the human capital dimension of migration, drawing on IDB and external expertise.

This paper summarizes migration activities of the IDB and MIF focusing primarily on the areas of labour and economic development and remittances, and provides a list of currently approved projects, both loan and grant or technical cooperation agreements.

A. OVERVIEW

While almost every region in the world both sends and receives migrants, Latin America and the Caribbean have among the highest rates of outmigration in the world. On average, the net migration rate for Latin America and the Caribbean stands at -2.5 (per 1,000 population) in 2000-2005 compared to 4.6 in Northern America and -0.6 in South-Eastern Asia for the same period (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, 2007). While it is true that the United States of America continues to be the preferred destination for Latin America's migrants, it is often overlooked that there is increasing diversity in the region's migration patterns both to other developed regions and countries (e.g. Japan and Southern Europe) and within Latin America itself —for example of Peruvians to Chile, Colombians to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Nicaraguans to Costa Rica. The current financial crisis has put a focus on the rise of return migration and the need to improve channels of circular migration and reintegration.

B. SOCIAL AND LABOUR MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Since IDB has a mandate to focus on poverty reduction and development, migration has become a cross-cutting topic for social, labour and economic and policy initiatives and activities. The activities of IDB include: (a) loan and grant operations; (b) research; (c) support of national surveys and censuses, and (d) awareness-raising efforts (e.g. seminars, national campaigns). The accompanying table lists current relevant loan and technical cooperation (grant) agreements is presented at the end of this document. For example, the IDB has provided loan support to Mexico's "Tres por Uno" programme, which multiplies each monetary investment by migrants in their local communities by a multiple of three with matching federal, state and local contributions (ME-L1012, US$7 million).

As discussed during the 2006 High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development and the Global Forums of 2007 and 2008, the IDB has focused on the social needs of migrants. This includes: (a) initiatives to combat human trafficking and raise public awareness of cross-border trafficking; (b) pilot programmes to address the worst forms of child labour; (c) regional development and poverty-targeting that include areas of high migrant populations, and (d) improving access to education and health services to the poor.

In addition, IDB has noted an increased interest by governments in the region in programmes relating to migration management. A regional public goods project is currently being developed which will advance the creation of a network of institutions for the protection, monitoring and regulation of migrant workers. Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala and Uruguay are on the coordinating committee for this project.

C. MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND: REMITTANCES AND DEVELOPMENT

For many years, cross-border remittances sent by migrant workers have been part of the migration phenomenon across the globe. The contribution these flows made to recipient families, communities and countries, however, went unnoticed due to the fact that migrant workers existed largely outside the societal mainstream. In 1999, the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the Inter-American Development Bank pioneered the mapping of remittance flows to Latin America, showing that migration played a key role in poverty alleviation and impacted positively on economic development. Since then, the MIF has been very active advocating the reduction of the costs of remittance services. Over the past decade, these costs have decreased from 15 per cent of the amount of money transferred to a current average of about 5 per cent, per transaction keeping a larger share of income in the hands of those who need it most. The most recent MIF remittances survey, released on 1 October 2008, shows that a number of factors, including economic downturns in Spain and the United States of America, have caused previous years' double-digit growth in remittances to the region to cease. The possibility of less prosperous economic times has led the MIF to focus on helping migrants and their families receive greater access to formal financial services to leverage the funds they receive. This approach can help migrants building savings while at the same time banks and microfinance institutions gain access to new sources of deposits.

The MIF continues to showcase these initiatives as it leverages the development impact of remittances through projects that address four main concerns: (a) the reduction of the cost of remitting; (b) the ease and accessibility of remittance transmission; (c) the mobilization of savings through formal financial institutions, and (d) productive investment.

Working together with the private sector, government agencies and non-governmental organizations, the MIF identifies approaches and new business concepts that can be replicated and scaled-up to enhance the effect of remittance flows. Through these initiatives, remittances go beyond simply lifting recipients out of poverty to granting un- and underserved people access to the tools to invest in their future (see table below).

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OVERVIEW OF CURRENT LOAN AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

Country	Project name	Project number	Approval date	IDB contribution (in US$)
Argentina	Expansion and Strengthening of a Microfinance Institution FIE	TC0305019	19-Nov-03	2,590,640
Bolivia	Development of Services to Improve Remittances Access and Management	BO-M1006	28-Oct-05	291,610
Brazil	Remittances and Training for Brazilian Migrants and their Beneficiaries	BR-M1032	27-Apr-06	470,000
Brazil	Investment Fund – REIF	TC0004002	16-May-01	4,374,000
Brazil	Dekassegui Entrepreneurs	BR-M1021	3-Mar-05	3,100,000
Colombia	The Role of Remittances in the Development of Low-Income Housing Market	CO-M1022	15-Nov-06	1,725,000
Costa Rica	Strengthening Management of Migration	TC9911171	16-Dec-99	18,000
Dominican Republic	Remittances and Rural Development in the Dominican Republic	DR-M1006	10-Nov-05	321,500
Dominican Republic	Financial and Business Services for Remittance Recipients	TC0304042	1-Oct-03	840,000
Dominican Republic	Distribution Channels for Remittances	DR0158	30-Apr-03	2,500,000
Ecuador	Supporting the Provision of Transnational Mortgages Loans for Ecuadoran Migrants	EC-M1030	8-Aug-07	5,360,000
Ecuador	Support Micro-Enterprises Utilizing a Line of Credit	TC0105029	19-Sep-01	200,000
Ecuador	Alternative Remittance Distribution Channel for Small Financial Intermediaries	EC-M1022	23-May-07	725,500
El Salvador	Strengthening of Financial Services and Remittances	TC0202014	29-May-02	2,300,000
El Salvador	Remittances and Rural Development in El Salvador	ES-M1002	28-Oct-05	366,000
Guatemala	Enhance Development Impact of Workers' Remittances	GU-M1003	3-Aug-05	5,200,000
Guatemala	More than Remittances	GU-M1004	29-Nov-05	198,000
Haiti	Enhancement of the Remittances Services to and within Rural Haiti	HA-M1007	11-Oct-06	463,020
Haiti	Collective Remittances and Social Service Provision in Haiti	HA-T1059	29-Jun-07	141,000
Honduras	Institutional Strengthening of Credit Unions in Honduras	TC0206015	10-Dec-03	1,425,000
Honduras	Enhance Development Impact of Workers' Remittances	HO-M1006	21-May-08	2,800,000
Mexico	Strengthening Savings and Credit Unions	TC0109002	20-Feb-02	3,500,000
Mexico	Remittances and Rural Development	ME-M1015	20-Jul-06	209,000
Mexico	Pilot Project 3x1 for Migrants	ME-L1012	3-May-06	7,000,000
Mexico	Investment of Remittances	TC0108017	4-Apr-02	460,000
Mexico	International Migration,Remittances and Impact on Rural Communities in Zacatecas	ME-M1014	3-Oct-05	55,000
Mexico	Facilitation of Access to Housing Finance for Recipients of Remittances	ME-M1006	23-Mar-05	3,400,000
Mexico	Capitalization of Remittances for Local Economic Development	TC0106003	12-Dec-01	1,115,000
Nicaragua	Migration Service Support	TC9804297	9-Dec-98	168,000
Nicaragua	Investment in Financiera Nicaragüense de Desarrollo (FINDE S.A.)	TC0203015	30-Jul-03	840,000

Country	Project name	Project number	Approval date	IDB contribution (in US$)
Paraguay	Bringing Unbanked Remittance Recipients into Formal Financial System	PR-M1003	28-Oct-05	222,000
Peru	Support for Returning Entrepreneurs	PE-M1006	7-Apr-04	500,000
Peru	Enhance Dev. Impact of Peruvian Workers' Remittances from JP	PE-M1010	17-Nov-04	7,200,000
Regional Project	Voluntary Return Migration Model Based on Entrepreneurship Development	RG-M1080	15-Dec-06	3,975,000
Regional Project	Promoting Diaspora and Local Support for Productive Initiatives	RG-M1069	22-Mar-06	3,285,000
Regional Project	Mobilization of Remittances through Microfinance Institutions	RG-M1003	28-Apr-04	824,770
Regional Project	Migration and Development: The Latin American Case	RG-T1060	30-Mar-05	369,500
Regional Project	MIF-IFAD Partnership Facility for Rural Private Sector Dev-LAC	RG-M1019	10-Mar-04	300,000
Regional Project	International Migration Symposium	TC0002053	20-Jul-00	337,500
Regional Project	International Migration	TC0206022	4-Sep-02	65,000
Regional Project	Improving Central Bank Remittance Reporting and Procedures	RG-M1059	27-Apr-05	1,306,884
Regional Project	Immigrant Remittance Corridors	RG-M1075	27-Apr-06	150,000
Regional Project	CARICOM - Implementing the Free Movement of Skills	RG-T1293	24-Mar-08	200,000
Regional Project	Application of General Principles for Remittance Markets	RG-M1083	2-Aug-06	1,759,300
Regional Project	Information System for Statistics on Migration	TC0111010	13-Dec-02	66,000
Total: 45 projects (15 countries and 12 regional projects)				**72,717,224**

Haiti	Diaspora Market - Haiti	TBD	TBD	TBD
Mexico	Human Resource Development – Riviera Maya (internal migrants)	ME-M1041	TBD	TBD
Regional	Regional Framework for the Protection, Monitoring, and Regulation of Migrant Workers in LAC	RG-T1514	Expected 12/08	900,000
Regional Project (El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua)	Leveraging the diaspora to increase market opportunities for small producers	RG-M1143	Expected 01/09	2,600,000

CONTRIBUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION TO
THE SEVENTH COORDINATION MEETING

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

This paper builds on the submissions of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to previous coordination meetings. It highlights developments in the activities and programming of IOM in the area of migration and development since the Sixth Coordination Meeting in November 2007. The paper focuses on several key migration and development issues, and provides examples of recent work by the IOM.

A. SUPPORT FOR INTER-STATE DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION

1. Global level

As reported at previous coordination meetings, IOM supported governments in their preparations for the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and related follow-up activities. The Organization views the State-led Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) as an important platform for dialogue and identification of practical and action-oriented ways to address the links between migration and development. IOM is firmly committed to supporting the GFMD and its continued success, as pointed out by the Director General at the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Manila, the Philippines, in October 2008. IOM seconded a migration expert to the taskforce for the GFMD meetings in 2007 and 2008, and will send an expert to the GFMD meeting in Athens, Greece, in 2009. In 2008, IOM responded positively to invitations from the Chair-in-Office and several other governments to contribute to the GFMD meeting in Manila by, *inter alia*, preparing working papers for round table discussions and organizing other input in close collaboration with governments. IOM has offered its full support and cooperation to the Government of Greece, the host of the 2009 GFMD, both in its individual capacity and as a member of the Global Migration Group (GMG).

2. Regional level

In 2008, IOM continued to encourage inter-state dialogue on migration at the regional level, including through its support for several regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs).[1] In 2008, IOM helped establish two new RCPs, both of which focus on migration and development. The first, the Abu Dhabi Dialogue, took place in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 21 to 22 January 2008 and brought together 11 Asian labour countries of origin (all of them member countries of the "Colombo Process"[2]) and nine countries of destination in the Gulf and elsewhere in Asia. This ministerial-level gathering resulted in the Abu Dhabi Declaration[3] in which the participating countries agreed to launch a collaborative approach to improve the governance of temporary labour migration and to maximize its benefits for development.

IOM also helped establish the regional consultative process for the Horn of Africa consisting of six East African countries constituting the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD-RCP). This RCP was established during an intergovernmental meeting of countries in East Africa which met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 12 to 15 May 2008. The meeting was hosted by the African Union Commission (AUC), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and IOM. This RCP will

promote the common position of the IGAD member States and the African Union (AU) as provided in the Migration Policy Framework for Africa and will also facilitate regional dialogue and cooperation on migration policy issues among IGAD member States. With the emergence of these two processes, RCPs now cover virtually all regions of the world.

In 2008 IOM began preparations for a meeting of the chairing governments and secretariats of the major RCPs, to be held in 2009. The consultation will provide a forum for: (a) sharing experiences and information on migration and development-related activities and achievements in addition to activities and achievements in other migration-related areas; (b) exploring what the GFMD and RCPs could learn from each other about best practices in migration governance, and (c) considering how opportunities for greater cross-fertilization of ideas among RCPs and between the GFMD and RCPs might be harnessed.[4]

B. MAINSTREAMING MIGRATION INTO DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND PLANNING

IOM encourages the international community to view migration as an important component of development policies and planning. The organization works to identify migration policies that are development-friendly and include a stronger development perspective in pursuit of targets such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

IOM is collaborating with Ghana and other countries to support their efforts to mainstream migration into their Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and national development planning strategies. In addition, together with partner agencies, IOM is preparing a handbook to guide policymakers through the process of mainstreaming migration into poverty reduction and development strategies. Publication of the handbook is anticipated for spring 2009. Given that migration is a cross-cutting issue, the handbook is targeted at policymakers from different backgrounds whose work affects or is affected by migration. The handbook will also serve as an important reference tool for other stakeholders (e.g. academia, donors, non-governmental organization (NGOs), employers and trade unions) interested in learning more about the interplay between migration and development.

In 2008, as part of its Migration Research Series, IOM published *Migration and Development: Achieving Policy Coherence*. This study focuses on working-level policies and programmes in eight countries of destination and origin, showing how positive migration and development linkages can be realized in practice. The book looks at initiatives taken at different stages of the migration cycle —from departure to return and reintegration back home— which promote coherence and ensure that migration is development-friendly.

IOM also recently published *Migration and Development: Perspectives from the South*, which presents case studies from five major emigration countries (India, Mexico, Morocco, the Philippines and Turkey) and analyses the consequences of emigration for their economies, societies and political systems.

C. CAPACITY-BUILDING, MIGRATION GOVERNANCE AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Capacity-building

Helping governments develop the capacity to realize the development potential of migration is fundamental to good governance. As in previous years, a substantial part of the activities of IOM in 2008 has been devoted to programmes which assist governments to develop the capacity to manage the multifaceted aspects of migration.

One recent IOM capacity-building initiative focuses on Western and Middle Africa. The objective of this initiative is to enhance governmental capacities to more effectively manage migration by preparing national migration profiles for strategic policy development bringing together all information relevant to migration and development in the region. A template and guidelines provide basic frameworks for collection and analysis of migration-related data, allowing for comparisons with key economic sectors and their corresponding indicators to better understand how migration affects national development. Capacity-building seminars are organized for participants in technical working groups in each of the participating countries, including representatives of various ministries dealing with a specific aspect of migration and representatives from local research and statistic institutes.

2. Human rights

Respect for human rights is a key component of migration governance. Respect for human rights of migrants is the foundation for the positive contribution of migration to the development of countries of origin and destination. Equally important, ensuring protection of human rights of migrants is key to making migration a safe, dignified and enriching experience for all migrants and their families.

Since its establishment in 1951, IOM has been concerned about the well-being of migrants, reflected in its activities, projects and programmes. For example, IOM promotes awareness and understanding of international migration law, including human rights of migrants. In this regard, IOM recently published a *Compendium of International Migration Law Instruments*, a comprehensive compilation of universal instruments focusing on the rights and obligations of states and rights and duties of migrants. IOM also published *Human Rights of Migrant Children*, a book which provides an overview of the international legal framework relevant to the protection of child migrants.

In 2008, IOM began preparations for its 2009 International Dialogue on Migration (IDM)[5], which will focus on the following theme: Human Rights and Migration: Working Together for Safe, Dignified and Secure Migration and which will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, on 26 February 2009. The discussions will draw on the research and programmatic experience of IOM gained in preparation for and during the 2008 GFMD held in Manila, the Philippines.

D. LABOUR MIGRATION

1. Temporary and circular labour migration

A growing number of governments in countries of origin and destination have shown interest in facilitating temporary and circular migration, in part because of potential development benefits. The sharing of experiences is vital to identify which schemes work, how these work in practice —particularly at the operational level— and how to address the challenges that such schemes can pose. The following paragraphs provide an overview of two recent examples of the efforts of IOM to facilitate inter-state dialogue on this topic. Another recent example, the Abu Dhabi Dialogue, was mentioned above.

Under the leadership of the Governments of Morocco and Spain and in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), IOM recently developed a *Compendium of Good Practice Policy Elements in Bilateral Temporary Labour Arrangements* as a follow-up activity to the first GFMD.[6] The Compendium and its

complementary analytical paper[7] provide an overview of policy elements in bilateral temporary labour arrangements that can be identified as good practices. Specifically, these are practices which contribute to development and give access to foreign labour markets, at all skill levels, while controlling irregular migration and protecting the human and social rights of migrants.

In addition, IOM recently contributed to a workshop focusing on development benefits through circular migration, organized by the Government of Mauritius and the European Commission (EC). Participants from all over the world participated and exchanged experiences and good practices of concrete policies, legislation and programmes to manage circular migration. Concrete opportunities for the establishment of operational projects involving countries of origin and destination were identified. IOM is working with the EC, the Government of Mauritius and other partner agencies to further develop experience and analysis on circular migration.

2. World Migration Report 2008

The flagship publication of IOM entitled *World Migration 2008: Managing Labour Mobility in the Evolving Global Economy*, provides an overview of current migration flows, with a particular emphasis on economically-motivated movements and discusses policy strategies contributing to the effective management of international labour mobility. The report argues that what is needed for effective migration management are planned and predictable means of matching labour demand with labour supply in a safe, legal and orderly manner in which the rights and the dignity of individuals are also respected. The report both draws on and feeds into other activities and programmes of IOM, including the International Dialogue on Migration (IDM), which in 2007 was guided by the same theme (i.e. Migration Management in the Evolving Global Economy)[8].

E. INTER-AGENCY PARTNERSHIP

IOM is mandated by its member States to address migration in its multiple facets. The Organization recognizes the expertise of other agencies and entities on various aspects of migration and welcomes their involvement in this debate. Especially the GMG can play a key role in emphasizing the benefits of migration, for example by optimizing coherence and complementarities in policies and programming. In 2008, the GMG agencies jointly published a report entitled *International Migration and Human Rights. Challenges and Opportunities on the Threshold of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights* as a contribution to the second GFMD. In addition to cooperation with other agencies in the framework of the GMG, IOM also separately undertakes projects in collaboration with individual agencies and organizations depending on the topic under consideration (see above).

F. THE EMERGING ISSUE OF MIGRATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

IOM has addressed linkages between the environment and human mobility for a long time. The growing certainties regarding the realities of climate change prompted IOM to devote greater attention to migration and environment issues and to their strong links with the Organization's other areas of work, in particular migration and development. In 2008, the work of IOM on migration, the environment and climate change included policy and research activities, direct humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations affected by natural disasters and community projects in areas of high migration pressure, many of which helped communities to strengthen their coping capacity once affected by environmental degradation. These activities were carried out in cooperation with relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental partners from the humanitarian, environment and development communities.

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) has recently begun focusing on migration and displacement as a result of climate change and environmental degradation leading to future humanitarian emergencies. During its seventy-first meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 18 to 20 June 2008[9], the IASC Working Group acknowledged the work undertaken by IOM to improve the understanding of the links between climate change, environmental degradation and population movements. Following a request from the IASC Working Group, IOM, in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons and other interested IASC organizations, convened an Informal Group on Migration, Displacement and Climate Change. IOM hosted two meetings of the Informal Group in 2008 to consider appropriate terminology and typologies on migration, displacement and climate change, and to identify possible operational and analytical gaps in the context of the humanitarian response to such emergencies caused by environmental disasters. The outcomes of these consultations, including a set of recommendations, will feed into the formal discussion at the seventy-second IASC Working Group meeting scheduled to take place in Rome, Italy, from 19 to 21 November 2008[10] and will contribute to a better understanding of humanitarian action, population movement and climate change.

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NOTES

[1] IOM has provided support to most RCPs since their inception. At the requests of governments, IOM has organized meetings from which RCPs developed. In addition, IOM provides administrative support for many of the major RCPs and offers substantive support at the request of participating governments –for instance in the areas of research and information dissemination, policy advice, capacity-building and technical cooperation and project implementation.

[2] For more information on the Colombo Process, see http://www.colomboprocess.org/# (accessed 26 February 2009).

[3] For the Abu Dhabi Declaration, see http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/published_docs/ brochures_and_info_sheets/abu_dhabi_declaration_eng.pdf (accessed 5 January 2009).

[4] The organization of such a consultation was proposed at the 2007 GFMD during Round table 3.3 on regional migration consultation processes and at the 2008 GFMD during Round table 2.2 on managing migration and minimizing the negative impacts of irregular migration and during Round table 3.3 on regional consultative processes.

[5] The IDM provides a forum for governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders to identify and discuss key issues and challenges in the field of migration, in order to explore policies of common interest and the means to cooperate in addressing them.

[6] For the compendium see http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/published_docs/studies_and_ reports/compendium_version_2.pdf (accessed 5 January 2009).

[7] For the analytical paper accompanying the compendium, see http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/ mainsite/published_docs/studies_and_reports/analytical_paper_for_compendium.pdf (accessed 5 January 2009).

[8] For more information on the 2007 IDM, see http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/policy-research/pid/1915 (accessed 5 January 2009).

[9] For more information, see http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/IASCWeb2/pageloader.aspx?page=content-calendar-calendardetails&meetID=1471 (accessed 5 January 2009).

[10] For more information, see http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/IASCWeb2/pageloader.aspx?page=content-calendar-calendardetails&meetID=1472 (accessed 5 January 2009).

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League of Arab States (LAS)

A. BACKGROUND

The Arab Observatory for International Migration was launched by the Population Policies and Migration Department of the League of Arab States (PPMD/LAS) a few years ago with the goal to execute the Arab Declaration for International Migration, adopted by the Arab Social and Economic Council in 2006, with the objectives to:

1. Filling the gap in migration data in the Arab region by continuously compiling and updating such data;

2. Capacity-building and sustaining the technical capabilities of the bodies dealing with migration in Arab countries;

3. Contributing in knowledge transfer in the international migration field;

4. Finding mechanisms to enhance the benefits of migration of highly-skilled migrants to promote the development in Arab countries and the Arab regional integration.

B. ACTIVITIES 2007-2008

1. Advocacy and regional coordination activities

PPMD, in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), organized a Coordination Meeting on Fostering More Opportunities for Legal Migration in Cairo, Egypt, from 8 to 9 October 2008. The meeting was opened by Ms. Aisha Abdel Hadi, the Egyptian Minister of Manpower and Migration and attended by governmental representatives from 15 Arab countries (Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Oman, Qatar, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen), ambassadors from Asian and European countries and representatives from international and regional organizations[1], in addition to a number of Arab experts interested in the field of international migration. The meeting's goal was to exchange information and experience and coordinate and unify the Arab position in preparation for the Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD) held in Manila, the Philippines, in October 2008.

The objectives of the meeting were to:

(a) Evaluate the achievements and follow-up of the first meeting of the GFMD, held in Brussels, Belgium, in 2007, and highlight the different and successful experiences in the field of migration at the regional level;

(b) Exchange information and discuss the most significant developments in the field of migration at the global level as well as in the Arab region;

(c) Summarize common views, suggestions and perceptions on regional issues in preparation for the second meeting of the GFMD, held in Manila, the Philippines, in 2008;

(d) Make suggestions to support the roles and activities of the Arab Observatory for International Migration implemented by PPMD/LAS.

The main outcome from this meeting was the adoption of a text, which was presented in Manila, the Philippines. The paper called for:

(a) Inviting PPMD/LAS to convene an annual Arab Regional Governmental Experts Meeting on International Migration in order to discuss the GFMD's themes, coordinate the Arab vision for the Global Forum and identify best practices, policies and projects related to migration;

(b) Enhancing flexible forms of migration and labour mobility, including creating opportunities for regular migration tailored to the needs and specific demands of economies and labour markets in receiving countries;

(c) Implementing bilateral agreements and collective agreements for mobility of workers, as well as signing new agreements suitable to the needs and objectives of both sending and receiving countries, including new countries of destination;

(d) Supporting partnership with organizations working in the field of migration in countries of origin in the Arab region, including collecting reliable data and assisting in their dissemination. Raising awareness through the media to inform about opportunities for regular migration and the dangers of irregular migration, and strengthening the capacity of institutions which benefit from the revenues of migration and to combat adverse effects of migration;

(e) Encouraging the participation of migrants in development projects and programmes in their countries of origin through facilitating financial remittances, investment opportunities and making use of the skills acquired in the countries of destination.

The LAS organized the Arab Ministerial Meeting for Migration and Expatriates in Cairo, Egypt, from 17 to 18 February 2008. The meeting was opened by Mr. Amre Mousa, Secretary-General of the LAS and Ms. Aish Abdel Hadi, Egyptian Minister of Manpower and Migration. The meeting was attended by migration and labour ministers, parliamentarians and other officials in charge of migration in the Arab countries.

The meeting aimed at:

(a) Informing participants about recent research in the field of migration and development as observed at the global and regional level;

(b) Gaining support of decision-makers for more effective policies to magnify the benefits of migration, especially the migration of experts, and to confront its negative repercussions;

(c) Presenting experiences in the field of migration in Arab countries and supporting coordination, cooperation and exchange in this regard;

(d) Approving strategic and common charters and resolutions to remedy migration issues in the Arab region.

The meeting adopted the following recommendations and decisions:

(a) Request PPMD/LAS to prepare a study on the regional aspects of migration of highly-skilled workers;

(b) Establish an Arabic network for the labour market, which will be implemented by the Arab Labor Organization (ALO), to collect data and statistics on employment of Arab migrants;

(c) Invite the ALO to establish an Arab training center or centers for potential Arab migrant workers in order to increase their technical, professional, cultural and linguistic skills in conformity with international labour standards and in response to labour market demands;

(d) Call on Arab States national committees or national councils to coordinate migration policies at the national level to establish such councils to ensure coordination between the various policies and inputs on migration in order to increase the effectiveness and coordination at the regional and international levels.

The PPMD, in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), organized a workshop entitled The International and Regional Laws of Refugees and Migration Issues, held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, from 21 to 22 October 2008. This project aimed to improve the skills, knowledge and abilities of Arab parliamentarians to manage international migration, magnify its benefits and confront its negative repercussions, through the adoption of appropriate laws and legislations.

The workshop participants made the following recommendations:

(a) The LAS, in cooperation with UNHCR, should convene a meeting of governmental and international experts dealing with issues of migration and refugees to update the 1994 draft Convention on Regulating Status of Refugees in the Arab Countries, guided by relevant international conventions in this area. The experts should also draft a model law in the field of asylum at the national level;

(b) All Arab parliaments should establish parliamentary committees dealing with issues of refugees, forced migration, internal displacement and overall migration. The Interim Arab Transitional Parliament should address topics related to refugees and migrants in the activities of its specialized agencies.

The workshop participants also expressed appreciation for initiatives by Arab States that had resulted in the enactment of national legislation concerning refugees and migrants.

2. Data collection and databases

In 2008, the PPMD prepared the Arab regional report for international migration, which focused on Arab skilled migrants and development. This report addressed the following topics and questions:

(a) Profile of Arab skilled migrant characteristics and what are the levels of Arab skilled migration flows. Which countries attract them? What are their fields of specialization? Are there any specific needs for Arab scientific or professional skills?

(b) Causes of skilled emigration. How are skilled persons encouraged to migrate to another country? Are they directly attracted through job offers or through other channels? Did this migration result from Arabs studying abroad?

(c) Current situation of transnational communities and their involvement in the development of countries of origin. In which ways do transnational communities participate in the development of their countries of origin? What relationships do skilled labour migrants maintain abroad with local communities and home countries? What role do the following factors play in linking countries of origin and destination: remittances, investments, joint ventures, promotion of exports, outsourcing, return for short periods to serve in academic institutions or research centers, participation in think tanks, political participation, etc.

(d) What is needed so that Arab skilled migrants remain involved in the national development and regional integration of their countries of origin? What are the learned lessons from the successful international experiments?

(e) Strategies and policies to mobilize transnational communities. How can a country of origin benefit from its transnational communities abroad and how can it integrate these communities into global development initiatives? What role do civil society institutions, especially Arab professional associations, play abroad? What is the role of professional and scientific organizations and Arab expatriate researchers in technology and knowledge transfer, in national development and regional integration and in bringing transnational communities and countries of origin together? How can one enhance their roles in order to serve local communities?

(f) What are the strategies at the Arab regional level aiming at strengthening Arab scientific transnational communities and regional development? What is the role of destination countries in helping to establish and strengthen transnational communities?

(g) How can one improve the knowledge and information base of scientific transnational communities?

3. Arab Labor Organization (ALO)

The ALO, in its thirty-fifth General Assembly of the Arab Labor Conference, which took place in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, from 23 February to 1 March 2008, recommended the following:

(a) To support Arab temporary migration to Europe and to protect Arab migrants through: (i) the Barcelona process[2], the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, which started in 1995 to strengthen relations between the European Union and the Mashriq[3] and Maghreb[4] regions; (ii) Arab migrant associations in countries of destination, and (iii) non-governmental organizations and other institutions which support migrants;

(b) To organize a forum for those involved in labour mobility in both Arab receiving countries and countries of origin in order to discuss and implement temporary bilateral or multilateral mobility projects;

(c) To adopt the Abu Dhabi Declaration[5] of 2008 on overseas employment and contractual labour for countries of origin and destination in Asia, including countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Further, to implement partnerships between sending and

receiving countries to ensure labour rights and interests of receiving countries as well as a multilateral framework for circular labour mobility;

(d) To draw attention to the issue of irregular migration flows in Arab countries, and support the international effort to combat human trafficking;

(e) To implement the free movement of service provided, as called for by the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) (Mode 4).

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[1] The organizations present were: the Arab Labour Organization (ALO), the Council of Arab Interior Ministers, the European Commission (EC), the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the National Council for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

[2] For more information on the Barcelona process, see http://europa.eu/scadplus/glossary/barcelona_process_en.htm (accessed 19 January 2009).

[3] The Mashriq or Mashreq is, generally speaking, the region of Arabic-speaking countries to the east of Egypt and north of the Arabian Peninsula.

[4] The Maghreb, also rendered Maghrib (or rarely Moghreb), meaning "place of sunset" or "western" in Arabic, is a region in North Africa. The term is generally applied to all of Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia.

[5] For the Abu Dhabi Declaration, see http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/published_docs/ brochures_and_info_sheets/abu_dhabi_declaration_eng.pdf (accessed 5 January 2009).

World Trade Organization (WTO)

A. The World Trade Organization and international migration

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is concerned with the rules of trade among nations. At its core lies a body of trade agreements, of which the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) is one of the main constituents. The GATS provides a set of predictable and legally enforceable conditions for services trade. The Agreement aims to progressively expand trade in services, as a means of promoting growth and development.

The concept of "trade in services" in the GATS is wider than the conventional notion of trade, reflecting the need for physical proximity between provider and consumer in many service transactions. The GATS applies not only to the traditional mode of trade, i.e. cross-border supply ("mode 1"), but encompasses three additional ways of trading services internationally: cross-border consumption ("mode 2"), establishment of a commercial presence ("mode 3") and, significantly, presence of natural persons ("Mode 4").

Mode 4 relates to the entry and stay of natural persons of one WTO member in the territory of another for the purpose of supplying a service. As Mode 4 involves the cross-border movement of people, the GATS is consequently concerned with international migration. However, the GATS is not a migration agreement. Its focus on migration is incidental, as migration under the GATS is not an end *per se*, but rather a means to the end of trading services.

B. Mode 4 and the obligations of WTO members

Mode 4 encompasses the movement of natural persons who are either service suppliers (such as independent professionals) or who are employees of a service supplier and who are present in the territory of another member for the purpose of supplying a service. However, the GATS does not apply to measures affecting persons seeking access to the labour market of the host country, nor does it cover measures regarding citizenship, residence or employment on a permanent basis. The latter exclusion explains why Mode 4 is usually referred to as the "temporary" presence of natural persons.

Under the GATS, all WTO members are bound to respect the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) obligation, which prohibits discrimination between Mode 4 foreign suppliers of different origin.[1] Each WTO member also has an obligation to submit a schedule of specific commitments, where it indicates the sectors in which it guarantees market opening for foreign Mode 4 suppliers, as well as the level of opening granted. There is no prescribed minimum level of sectoral coverage or of market opening that has to be inscribed in schedules.

C. Mode 4 and development

Reducing barriers to Mode 4 trade is expected to produce substantial global economic benefits. It is estimated that an increase in industrial countries' quotas on the inward movement of both skilled and unskilled temporary workers equivalent to four per cent of their work forces would generate an increase in world welfare of more than US$150 billion a year (Winters, 2003). These gains would be shared

between developed and developing countries. Although the type of movement considered in this study is wider in scope than Mode 4, the benefits from greater liberalisation of Mode 4 are nevertheless likely to be significant.

Amongst the potential beneficial effects of liberalising Mode 4 for the country of origin are: (a) reduced pressure on the labour markets and wages caused by high levels of unemployment; (b) inflows of remittances, which are likely to be boosted by the temporary nature of Mode 4 movement, given the inverse relationship between the amounts remitted and the duration of time spent abroad, and (c) technology transfer and development of human capital, as temporary service suppliers make their experiences acquired abroad available to the country of origin upon returning (thus averting some of the costs of "brain drain", typically associated with permanent migration).

Beneficial effects for the receiving country could include: (a) the possibility of addressing labour shortages, while averting some of the social and political costs of permanent migration; (b) alleviating the demographic challenges caused by an ageing population, and (c) reducing the pressure of undocumented migration by providing an alternative through temporary movement.

Mode 4 liberalisation is also expected to generate significant indirect effects on merchandise trade and services trade through other modes of supply, by facilitating cross-border trade as well as investment by skill and technology transfers, development of specific knowledge, creation of networks and overseas contacts and reputation effects (Jansen and Piermartini, 2004).

Furthermore, Mode 4 access conditions in GATS schedules are legally binding and enforceable through the dispute settlement mechanism of the WTO, thus providing foreign suppliers with certainty and predictability. Such a stable regime for temporary movement is likely to be more conducive to regular and return migration.

D. Current Mode 4 commitments and state of play in the on-going negotiations

The level of Mode 4 liberalisation by countries specified in GATS schedules is rather low. Only very few members have undertaken fully liberal commitments in this mode of supply and in most cases admission has been limited to intra-corporate transfers of managers, executives and highly-skilled specialists and to business visitors. Also, access conditions tend to be identical in all the different services sectors included in a member's schedule. In practice, this absence of sectoral differentiation implies that the lowest common denominator has determined access conditions across the committed sectors.

In addition to limiting admission to certain categories of persons, other restrictions frequently encountered in Mode 4 schedules include: (a) short-term durations of stay; (b) quotas; (c) requirements to pass "economic needs tests" or "labour market tests", generally without any further indication as to the criteria of application; (d) pre-employment conditions, and (e) residency and training requirements.

In light of the above, Mode 4 has attracted considerable attention in the current round of WTO negotiations and the Doha Development Agenda (DDA), which was launched in November 2001.[2] Developing country members in particular have identified the movement of natural persons as one of the key areas where they seek improved commitments. Their main interest lies in obtaining better access for

categories of natural persons not associated with the establishment of a commercial presence, such as independent service professionals and "contractual service suppliers" (i.e. persons employed in their home country and sent abroad to supply a service pursuant to a services contract between their employer and a local consumer).

Until the end of 2005, the negotiations in Mode 4, as in all other services areas, proceeded on the basis of bilateral request-offer exchanges. The bilateral negotiating process, however, was considered by many commentators to have yielded very modest results.[3] Out of a total of 70 offers (counting the European Communities as one entity), only just over 30 proposed upgrading Mode 4 commitments.

In spite of the lack of commitments by members, services talks were brought back by the Sixth WTO Ministerial Meeting in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, from 13 to 18 December 2005. In Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China members agreed to intensify negotiations in accordance with a set of objectives, some of which relate specifically to Mode 4 and foresaw the possibility of pursuing the request-offer negotiations also on a plurilateral basis.

In keeping with this mandate, a plurilateral Mode 4 process was launched in March 2006 through the submission of a collective request sponsored by 15 developing countries and addressed to nine developed country members. The focus of the request is on better commitments for categories of natural persons whose movement is unrelated to the establishment of a commercial presence abroad. Least developed countries also submitted a collective Mode 4 request, with a largely similar focus.

The plurilateral negotiating format is presently exhausted. In order to assess its impact on the Mode 4 negotiations, it will be necessary to wait for a new round of offers, for which there is currently no timeline.

Meanwhile, a Services Signalling Conference was held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 26 July 2008. About 32 Ministers exchanged ideas on how their governments' current services offers might be improved in response to requests that had been received, as well as on the contributions they expected from others. Overall, most participants indicated their readiness to improve access conditions for Mode 4. In several statements, these signals were linked to the development character of the DDA negotiations.

E. OTHER MODE 4-RELATED ACTIVITIES

As is the case with many services activities, the measurement of Mode 4 flows poses significant challenges. Even if no clear statistical framework is currently in place to assess the size of Mode 4 trade, conceptual work on the issue is under way by the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services, in which the WTO participates. The Task Force is currently revising the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (United Nations, 2002). Based on the GATS definition, the revised draft manual introduces the statistical conceptualization of Mode 4, proposes a number of relevant transactions in individual services sectors to measure the value of Mode 4 trade and indicates how existing migration and tourism statistics could be used to assess the physical movements and presence of persons.

In addition, at WTO members' request, a symposium on the movement of natural persons was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 22 to 23 September 2008. The symposium, titled Mode 4 of the GATS–Taking Stock and Moving Forward, provided a platform for information exchange and discussion on Mode 4, with contributions from government officials, representatives of international organizations, academic researchers and private sector experts.[4]

F. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Mode 4 occupies a small place on the international migration agenda. The GATS is an agreement concerned with trade in services, not with migration. It covers the cross-border movement of persons only to the extent that such movement relates to the supply of services.

However, the implementation of Mode 4 commitments occurs within the regulatory framework governing migration. One of the major obstacles towards greater liberalisation of the movement of natural persons in the GATS lies precisely in the lack of adequate reflection of Mode 4 concepts in domestic immigration regimes. Trade is not an area that labour or immigration experts would normally be concerned with, the GATS is a relatively complex agreement and there is a conceptual and terminology gap between Mode 4 definitions and immigration regimes. Fostering a better-informed dialogue between the trade and migration communities would be valuable in providing impetus towards greater Mode 4 liberalisation.

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[1] The MFN obligation may be waived under certain conditions. These include the listing of MFN exemptions (a one-off possibility at the time of the GATS entry into force or, if later, of WTO accession) and the membership in economic integration agreements.

[2] For more information on the Doha Development Agenda, see http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dda_e/dda_e.htm (accessed 21 January 2009).

[3] The Chairman of the WTO body overseeing the services negotiations summarized the prevailing sentiment about progress in the negotiations after two rounds of offers by stating that "it was widely acknowledged that the overall quality of initial and revised offers is unsatisfactory. Few, if any, new commercial opportunities would ensue for services suppliers" (WTO document TN/S/20, dated 11 July 2005).

[4] The programme and the material presented at the symposium are available at: http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/mouvement_persons_e/sym_sept08_e/sym_sept08_e.htm (accessed 20 January 2009).

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Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM)

The Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) has an established research and teaching programme on migration and development and on governance of international migration.[1] Over the last several years the project was supported by grants and contracts from the Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF), the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF), the Hewlett Foundation, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the International Development Research Center (IRDC), the MacArthur Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the World Bank Group and the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women.

The Institute conducts policy-relevant research and convenes workshops and conferences on international migration. It undertakes comparative analyses of international migration issues, including various bilateral, regional and multilateral approaches to the study of migration and refugee policy. In addition, the Institute seeks to stimulate more objective and well-documented migration research by convening research symposia and by publishing a peer-reviewed interdisciplinary journal, *International Migration*. These activities provide opportunities for the dissemination of research findings and sharing of research in progress. The ISIM faculty offers graduate courses on migration and development, migration in the Americas, refugee and humanitarian emergencies, refugee law and policy, immigration law and policy, as well as undergraduate courses on the effects of displacement, poverty and structural violence on forced migrants and immigrants, and integration challenges of transnational migrants in Europe and Northern America.

The aim of the Institute for the Study of International Migration is to provide factual and balanced information to help inform policy discussions and to provide policymakers with options for improved policy responses. Two of the five research areas of the Institute are discussed below.

- Migration and Development. The work of ISIM in this area focuses on ways to increase the developmental impact of migration on source countries of international migrants. In particular, this programme examines the impact of worker remittances on economic and social development, the role of return migrants and expatriate communities in stimulating economic growth, democratization and respect for human rights, the impact of migration on demographic trends, the role of migrant women in the development of their home countries and the effects of migration, development, and anti-trafficking and anti-child labour initiatives on children's status and well-being. The projects of ISIM recognize that different forms of voluntary labour and forced migration affect development in home and host countries.

- Global Management of International Migration. A second programme area focuses specifically on the management of international migration. The topic of migration is increasingly part of bilateral, regional and multilateral agendas of governments. ISIM advises governments and international organizations on the most effective mechanisms to increase cooperation in managing migration. ISIM has provided policy research support to the Global Commission on International Migration, which issued its report in 2005.[2] ISIM has also contributed research on the legal framework of international migration to a project organized by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) with support from the Government of Switzerland.

The Institute reaches out to researchers from universities in the United States of America to foster exchange of research and to undertake cooperative projects. Ms. Susan Martin, Director of ISIM, served as President of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration. ISIM provides secretariat services to the association. Ms. Martin is also on the steering committee of the Migration Network of Jesuit Universities. She has also contributed to past and ongoing activities of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD).

Ms. Elzbieta Gozdziak, Research Director of ISIM, served two terms as Secretary and Contributing Editor of the Society for Urban, National, and Transnational Anthropology (SUNTA) and is an executive committee member of the Committee on Immigrants and Refugees (CORI) in the American Anthropological Association. She is editor of *International Migration*, one of the few peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journals in the field of migration.

A. ACHIEVEMENTS RELATED TO MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

In 2008, ISIM completed the following publications:

- *Mexico-U.S.Migration Management: A Binational Approach* (Escobar Latapí and Martin, 2008) with chapters on the causes, impacts and policy responses to migration in Mexico and the United States.

- *Migration in the Lusophone World*, based on a conference held at Georgetown University, with chapters on migration from Mozambique and Cape Verde to Portugal and South Africa.

- Publications on the impact of gender and education on migration patterns, including *A Gendered Assessment of the Brain Drain* (Docquier, Lowell and Marfouk, 2008); *Remittances by the Highly Educated* (Lowell, 2008); *Gender-Specific Determinants of Remittances and Gender-Specific Remittance Mechanisms* (Lowell and Orozco, 2006); and *Women, Migration and Development* (Martin, 2007).

Recently, ISIM was involved in the following research activities:

- Establishment of the Research Consortium on Remittances in Conflict and Crisis, which has stimulated research on the impact of remittances and transnational communities in Haiti, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Sudan, and hosting a meeting on research methodologies, which brought together researchers from more and less developed regions to discuss potential collaborations.

- Ongoing projects on the mobility of health care professionals and social care workers, temporary workers programmes and trafficking in persons.

- A forthcoming report by a nine-person team from Canada, Haiti and the United States for the Inter-American Development Bank on the contributions of Haitian transnational communities to health and educational development in Haiti.

- The journal *International Migration* has recently included articles on transnational families, migration and HIV/AIDS, migration and child labour, return and circular migration, gender and migration, remittances, emigration and foreign policy responses to migration of source countries.

B. ACHIEVEMENTS RELATED TO GOVERNANCE

In the area of migration governance, ISIM undertook the following:

- Organized a major symposium in October 2007 at Georgetown University's Law Center to examine the role international human rights might play in strengthening the domestic protection of the rights of non-nationals.

- Provided expert support to the Global Forum on Migration and Development by: (a) moderating the session on the Civil Society Day at the Brussels Global Forum in 2007; (b) organizing a preparatory experts' meeting to discuss background papers prepared for the Manila Global Forum in 2008; (c) preparing background papers on policy coherence, rights of migrants and irregular migration for the Civil Society Days of the Manila Global Forum; (d) preparing a background paper on policy coherence for the Manila Global Forum; (e) participating in the Civil Society Days and the Global Forum in Manila, Philippines, and (f) serving as Rapporteur for Session 3.2 on Policy and Institutional Coherence on Migration and Development within Government at the Global Forum in Manila, Philippines on 27 October 2008.

- Presented the research agenda stemming from the Global Forum at a symposium organized by the Center for Migration Studies and the International Organization for Migration.

- Published a paper on global governance issues in the Proceedings of the 101st Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law.

- Participated in three major projects on global governance organized by the University of Toronto and the International Organization for Migration (with Mr. Randall Hanson and Mr. Jobst Koehler), Oxford University (with Mr. Alexander Betts) and the University of Albany (with Mr. Rey Koslowski).

C. ONGOING AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

- Migration from Mexico to the United States. ISIM plans to continue its partnership to conduct binational research on migration between Mexico and the United States with three partner institutions in Mexico: Universidad Iberoamericana, Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social (CIESAS) and Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE). Having just published the book *Mexico–U.S. Migration Management: A Binational Approach* (Escobar Latapí and Martin, 2008), ISIM will update the data and analysis on migration patterns, characteristics and impacts on both countries with annual meetings and shorter publications.

- Migration in the Caribbean and Central America. ISIM expects to continue its research and disseminate the findings of previous research on the impact of migration on countries in the Caribbean. Future research will focus on the impact of remittances and transnational communities on Haiti.

- Migration and India. ISIM is advancing its research in India by establishing working relationships with Indian academic institutions, including the Research Programme on International Migration at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), the American Institute of Indian Studies in New Delhi (AIIS), the Centre for the Study of Developing

- Societies (CSDS) and the Calcutta Research Group. Meetings are scheduled with each of these institutions in December 2008. ISIM seeks to advance current research on the impact migration from India has had on economic and political institutions in both India and receiving countries.

- Child labour and migration from developing countries. ISIM is designing a project on the effects of development initiatives, including educational programmes, to reduce child labour, particularly those that result in irregular migration and human trafficking.

- Remittances. ISIM plans to continue its work on the role of remittances in war-torn countries, disaster-prone regions and fragile states. ISIM proposes to continue to serve as Secretariat to the Remittances in Conflict and Crisis Consortium. Research by ISIM in this area focuses on the Americas, including Haiti (as described above). Following the example of Haiti, ISIM plans to investigate the extent to which remittances are used in restoring homes and livelihoods after disasters in other countries in the region.

- Mobility of highly-skilled migrants. ISIM has been undertaking a multi-site study to examine migration of health care workers from Jamaica, the Philippines and Poland to Canada, Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States. The study has examined patterns of recruitment and the networks through which health professionals and social care workers migrate. The work of ISIM on the international mobility of scientists and engineers, with particular focus on information technology, points to the importance of the linkages established between migrants and home country institutions and businesses.

- ISIM also plans to finalize research, undertaken in conjunction with students at the law center, dealing with the effects of United States and Central American anti-gang initiatives on international migration, return, reintegration and human rights.

D. ONGOING ACTIVITIES ON MIGRATION GOVERNANCE

The programme of ISIM focuses on two aspects of migration governance: (a) the legal and normative framework, and (b) the organizational mechanisms for managing international movements of people. Existing international law provides useful contributions to a normative and legal framework regarding: (a) the powers and responsibilities of individual states to manage movement of people across borders; (b) the rights and responsibilities of international migrants, and (c) state cooperation in managing international movement of people. Nevertheless, gaps in international law and norms remain, and tension between facilitation of international migration and control of "undesirable" movements (particularly related to security concerns) continues to cause problems for governments, which are finding it difficult to maintain an appropriate balance. ISIM plans to continue its focus on the intersection of international human rights law and anti-terrorism laws targeting immigrants. Working with the Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC) of immigration practitioners around the country, an ISIM research team has already analysed the right to respect for family life in international human rights law.

Regarding organizational mechanisms for migration management, the work of ISIM will continue to focus on governance at the multilateral, regional and national levels. The Global Forum on Migration and Development, following the work of the Global Commission on International Migration, the Berne Initiative and the United Nations High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, have become important venues for inter-state dialogue. The work of ISIM regarding the Global Forum falls into three areas. First, ISIM proposes to continue to provide expert assistance to the GFMD, with the aim of helping to ensure that the discussions are informed by the best research and analysis. Second, ISIM

will continue to monitor, assess and analyse the impact of the Global Forum on the migration debate and on developing policies aimed at improving migration management. Third, ISIM will bring the Global Forum discussions to a broader audience through the participation of its faculty and staff in other relevant forums. For example, Dean Alexander Aleinikoff from Georgetown University Law Center chairs, and Susan Martin is a member of the Commission on International Migration convened by the World Economic Forum. The first in-person meeting of the Commission was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in November 2008 and its deliberations will continue into 2009. ISIM will also help ensure the dissemination of the Global Forum background papers and reports through *International Migration*.

Further, ISIM will continue its work on national-level governance of migration. Responsibility for managing migration rests primarily with nation-states. Regardless of what types of regional or global governance systems are likely to develop, the national level will continue to be the most important one in managing movements of people. Since a new administration is taking office in the United States, ISIM will pay particular attention to United States policies on international migration as defined by the new administration.

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[1] ISIM currently pursues research in five areas, two of which focus on migration and development and governance of international migration. The other three research areas not discussed in this review include: forced migration and humanitarian emergencies, integration of immigrants and immigration law and policy.

[2] For the report, see http://www.gcim.org/en/finalreport.html (accessed 25 February 2009).

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International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP)

A. BACKGROUND AND RECENT ACTIVITIES

As the international professional association of demographers, the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) works to advance understanding of international population trends and their determinants and consequences. In recent years, international migration flows have increased in scale and now involve many countries as senders and receivers of migrants. Most international migrants are legally admitted by receiving countries for reasons considered in the national interest —family reunification, permanent settlement, temporary work, skills and capacity, humanitarian, refuge, study and regional and international diplomacy, among others. Some migrants, however, arrive without documents or overstay their visas and countries seek guidance on how to deal with these migrants while protecting both the rights of their citizens and the migrants.

1. Immigrant integration in developed countries

The IUSSP Scientific Panel on the Integration of Migrants in collaboration with the Quebec Inter-University Centre for Social Statistics (QICSS) and the Institut national d'études démographiques (INED), with financial support from INED and the Department of Population and Migration (DPM) of the French Ministry of Social Affairs held a Seminar on Indicators of Integration in Social Statistics in Montreal, Canada, from 10 to 11 December 2007, to examine country practices toward integration.

Most scientific research on the integration of migrants makes extensive use of quantitative data, but few studies offer a critical assessment of the significance and the limitations of the indicators that are used. Unemployment rates, segregation indeces, intermarriage rates, social networks, settlement patterns, linguistic maintenance or shift, discrepancies in health status, crime rates and cultural preferences are regularly used as benchmarks for assessing integration or assimilation processes. Typically countries gather data on these indicators through surveys and censuses but there is no agreement across countries in how to define and measure these concepts. Although integration statistics are vital for devising and implementing public policies, they are not as value-neutral as often portrayed. The way they are conceived and developed are frequently policy-driven. As a result, the notion of "indicators of integration" needs to be viewed from a normative perspective. Why and how far census and survey indicators are relevant for the study of integration and to which extent they can be used for policymaking were the main questions dealt with at the seminar.

Papers presented at the seminar highlighted the discrepancy between the policy perspective, which is necessarily normative, the social sciences perspective, which tends to be critical and relatively complex, and the actual statistics and indicators, which are often unsophisticated and disconnected from theoretical and conceptual frameworks used to produce them. Participants stressed several topics that need to be addressed in order to refine integration indicators, including:

(a) Depending upon their destinations, migrants face different structural and policy conditions. Comparative cross-country studies of integration are needed that look systematically at different practices toward integration and how differential practices affect migrant outcomes;

(b) In large countries, geographically speaking, spatial indicators of integration are needed since migrants' reception and outcomes vary depending on where they settle;

(c) Case studies obtain heuristic data on immigrant communities that are difficult to capture with standard statistical indicators. Quantitative and qualitative data can complement each other and improve understanding;

(d) The evaluation of integration processes in host countries requires specification of the pertinent mainstream population. Although integration is treated as a one-way process, mainstream populations also undergo change in response to immigration and globalization and studies are needed of that process as well;

(e) The relative importance of the three main theories of integration (straight line theory, segmented assimilation theory and pluralist integration theory) may differ across countries depending on policy and structural factors;

(f) Although census and survey statistical indicators are not typically designed for policies, carefully designed studies can produce policy relevant findings. Researchers need to keep policy concerns in mind when presenting research findings.

The IUSSP Scientific Panel on the Integration of Migrants will organize a second workshop on the Policy Use of Quantitative and Qualitative Indicators of Integration in Paris, France, from 25 to 26 May 2009. This workshop will focus on the link between theoretical and political approaches to integration in the scientific literature and public policies and the design of quantitative studies devoted to the analysis of integration of migrants. Through a comparison of the main models of integration and leading theories on the issue, the workshop will identify the conceptual shortcomings that result from the absence of a theoretical definition of integration and attempt to build a more thorough understanding of how integration is conceptualized in quantitative studies. This workshop will be jointly organized with the International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion Network of Excellence of the European Commission (IMISCOE)[1].

2. IUSSP XXVI International Population Conference, Marrakech, Morocco

At the invitation of the Moroccan Government, the XXVI IUSSP International Population Conference will be held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 27 September to 2 October 2009.[2] The IUSSP and the Moroccan National Organizing Committee (NOC) will invite members of the international population community to participate in this conference. The conference will include over 180 regular scientific sessions, poster sessions and training sessions, as well as plenary and debate sessions, side meetings and exhibitions. Simultaneous translation in French and English will be provided for all plenary, debate, regular and training sessions. In addition, simultaneous translation in Arabic will be available for all plenary and debate sessions and all sessions organized by the Moroccan National Organizing Committee on population issues in the Arab world. Institutions and others interested in displaying publications, products or services for the population community are invited to do so and can request an exhibit stand by 15 March 2009. The Moroccan NOC has provided space for meeting rooms to institutions working in the population field at no cost. Organizations wishing to reserve space to hold a side meeting should request space before 15 March 2009.[3] The IUSSP expects 1,500 to 2,000 conference participants from over 100 countries.

International migration will receive special attention at the conference. The IUSSP International Organizing Committee has identified six international migration topics for in-depth discussion at the meetings, including: (a) migration and co-development; (b) international labour migration: trends, policies and legal issues; (c) international migration of highly-skilled workers; (d) transnational communities, social networks and international migration; (e) measuring integration: political debates, scientific and methodological issues, and (f) international migration and transnational families and households. The IUSSP expects 12 to 14 sessions to be held on these topics with four invited experts

presenting papers in each of these sessions. In addition, the IUSSP will host a debate at the conference on the pros and cons of international migration and the Moroccan National Organizing Committee is preparing several sessions on international migration to, from, and within the Arab region.

3. Migration and co-development

In 2006, the IUSSP launched a new initiative on international migration and co-development. In background proceedings for the United Nations High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and in a number of other events sponsored by international, regional and national organizations, the argument has been advanced that international migration can be mutually beneficial to both sending and receiving countries. The United Nations Secretary-General reported to the General Assembly in 2006 that "There is an emerging consensus that countries can cooperate to create triple wins, for migrants, for their countries of origin and for the societies that receive them" (United Nations, 2006, p. 5). While there is room for optimism regarding the positive impacts of international migration on sending and receiving countries, the empirical and theoretical basis for these contentions is weak.

The IUSSP has carried out work that sheds light on migration and co-development. In the 1980s, the IUSSP conducted an in-depth review of international migration in different world regions, which concluded that international migration is not a random process that stems from differentials between countries in economic development and population growth, but is closely linked to ties between countries. The IUSSP reported that distinctive international migration systems had evolved in different world regions between countries linked by historical ties, cultural affinities, transportation networks and geographic proximity and that these systems were sustained by migrant social networks and macro institutional linkages (Kritz, Lim and Zlotnik, 1992). Subsequent IUSSP work on international migration refined theoretical and empirical understanding of international migration determinants by reviewing how economic, social and political forces promote migration flows (Massey, Arango, Hugo, Kouaouci, Pellegrino and Taylor, 2005). Based on that review the IUSSP experts concluded that economically-motivated emigration is more likely to occur in countries that have already reached a certain level of development and are advancing economically, rather than in countries that are low on the development scale and experiencing economic stagnation. This pattern occurs because the development process itself is destabilizing and, over the short run, increases rather than decreases emigration pressures. Furthermore, free trade and investment flows can accelerate economic growth among trading partners, leading to alterations in relative prices, wages, incomes and job opportunities. If migration networks link groups of persons adversely affected by development changes to compatriots living in other countries, increased out-migration is likely to result (Massey and Taylor, 2004).

The IUSSP plans to contribute to future discussions on migration and co-development at its 2009 International Population Conference and at other meetings. The IUSSP is currently seeking funding for a seminar on the role that social and institutional networks play in facilitating migration and furthering transnational community exchanges. In today's globalizing world characterized by increasing transnationalism, international population movements and multiple national identities, some experts argue that demographers need to rethink the concept of "national population membership". One idea is to develop and collect data on different concepts of national populations that could be used for different population size estimates. Rethinking of national population membership is needed given that many countries have growing transnational communities, defined as persons born in a given country who reside on a long-term or permanent basis elsewhere but retain close links with their countries of origin. The IUSSP will explore methods for using censuses to assemble counts of populations in transnational communities from a particular emigration country. In order to carry forward this agenda, the IUSSP will draw on its earlier work

from the 1970s which recommended using "place of birth" questions and "relatives living elsewhere" in national population censuses as a means for improving data on international migrants (Zaba, 1986; Center for Migration Studies and International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, 1987). In addition, the IUSSP will explore ways to build data on how transnational community ties contribute to co-development.

B. CONCLUSION

As the international professional association of demographers, the IUSSP is well positioned to contribute to international discussions on international migration and co-development. The IUSSP has 2,100 individual members in 140 countries and works to develop scientific knowledge and data on demographic trends and their relationships to economic and social development and human welfare. The IUSSP does not have a political agenda but seeks to advance policy discussions by contributing empirical data and analyses about demographic, economic, political and social relationships and how these relationships are affected by policy measures. While many IUSSP members have served in policy-making positions in their countries of origin, when they participate in IUSSP activities they do so as professionals working to understand complex relationships. The IUSSP has a long history of working as a neutral expert body and is widely respected by development experts throughout the world.

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[1] For more information on IMISCOE, see http://www.imiscoe.org/ (accessed 2 March 2009).

[2] For more detailed information on the conference, see http://iussp2009.princeton.edu/ (accessed 24 January 2009).

[3] For more information, see http://www.iussp.org/marrakech2009/exhibit.php (accessed 20 January 2009).

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The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

While migration is an age-old phenomenon, its current scale and particular characteristics make it an issue of rising global concern at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Immigration to the United States of America and Western Europe is part of a global system of population movement. Worldwide, some 200 million people are now living outside their country of origin (United Nations, 2006). Today's migrants use contemporary transportation and communication technologies to maintain home country ties with the same technologies encouraging also circular migration. Migration is spurred by economic opportunity, political turmoil, family reunification, war and environmental crisis. Flows of migrants have profound economic, security, social, and cultural effects in countries of origin, transit and destination. While globalization has lowered barriers for the international movement of goods and capital, the movement of people is still officially subject to tight controls.

A. GRANTMAKING GUIDELINES

1. Purpose

In 2006, the Foundation began grantmaking under a new Initiative on Global Migration and Human Mobility. Through this initiative, the Foundation supports a small number of institutions and projects, with the aim of advancing three main objectives: (a) to improve understanding of global migration through support of policy-relevant empirical research and improved sources of data on migrant flows; (b) to encourage better governance of migration at global, regional and national levels, and (c) to stimulate new thinking on broader issues of global human mobility.

2. Strategies

MacArthur will be providing a limited number of grants in the following two areas: (a) governance of global migration, and (b) migration and development.

a. Governance of global migration

Improving governance of international migration focuses on three levels of governance: global, regional and bilateral. The Foundation considers governance of international migration to encompass: (a) the philosophical underpinnings of how migration should be managed; (b) specific norms, standards and principles, and (c) concrete policies, institutions, international treaties and other legal mechanisms that regulate the movement of individuals across international boundaries. Thus, on each level (global, regional and bilateral), the Foundation seeks to advance the conceptual framework, the normative dimension (principles, norms and standards) and relevant institutions.

b. Migration and development

The Initiative on Global Migration and Human Mobility seeks to promote research and policy efforts to better understand the links between migration and development and to help maximize the benefits and minimize the costs of migration for countries of origin and destination and for migrants themselves. The Initiative's work on development focuses on three main areas. The first two represent

the main channels by which migrants impact development, that is, via financial flows and labour mobility. The third, migration data, provides the tool to better understand these phenomena and to improve policy.

Financial flows related to migration include remittances, foreign direct investment and investment in capital markets (such as foreign stock exchanges and bond markets). The Foundation is also interested in non-financial flows that impact development, such as the exchange of ideas, know-how, and cultural and social mores, all of which are transmitted by migrants individually or through broader, organized networks of transnational communities. The economic, political, social and cultural impacts of labour mobility on countries of origin and destination are also of interest to the Initiative.

3. Funding

In order to pursue the goals of the Initiative, the Foundation provides support to nonprofit organizations, including research institutes and universities. Grants are awarded for research and policy studies, dissemination and related activities in the strategy areas listed above. The Foundation is particularly interested in supporting projects that reflect diverse national, institutional, professional and cultural perspectives on global migration.

An organization wishing to approach the Foundation may submit a letter of inquiry informing the Foundation of the proposed project. Sample letters and more information on the Initiative can be found on the website of the MacArthur Foundation[1].

Since its inception, the Migration Initiative has made 47 grants worth US$13.8 million. In addition to project grants on governance and development issues, MacArthur provides substantial support to a small number of leading institutions in the field of migration research and policy analysis. The MacArthur Foundation is the largest nongovernmental donor to the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

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[1] For information on how to apply for grant money, see the Foundation's website at www.macfound.org/migration (accessed 26 February 2009). For further questions regarding this Initiative or the work of the Foundation, please send an e-mail to: 4answers@macfound.org (attn. John Slocum, Director or Milena Novy-Marrx, Program Officer, Global Migration and Human Mobility, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation).

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Migration Policy Institute (MPI)

A. Brief background on the Migration Policy Institute

The Migration Policy Institute (MPI) was established in 2001 as an independent think tank dedicated to the study of the movement of people worldwide. Formerly a programme of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (CEIP), MPI is now an independent migration policy research organization. The Institute aims to meet the rising demand for pragmatic responses to the challenges and opportunities that migration, whether voluntary or forced, presents to countries, communities, and institutions in this ever more integrated world.

Since 2003, MPI has worked to deepen understanding of the broad impact of international migration on the development prospects of countries of migrant origin through its programme area: migrants, migration and development. Despite the growing volume of research on the actual and potential contributions of migrants and migrant communities to sustainable development and poverty reduction in their countries of origin, the research findings have not been systematically translated into policy guidance, and important topics remain under-investigated. MPI interprets the policy implications of research on migration and development in order to draw a more comprehensive picture of migration-development linkages, ranging from remittances to the economic, social and political influences of transnational communities on countries of destination and origin and returning migrants.

B. Follow-up activities to the High-level Dialogue
on International Migration and Development

Since the 2006 High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development, MPI has released several publications in two main areas: circular migration and remittances. In order to promote discussion of salient migration and development issues, MPI organized and co-organized various events in Europe and the United States of America. MPI has contributed to the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). It was represented on the International Committee for the GFMD in Brussels, Belgium, in 2007, and in Manila, the Philippines, in 2008 and on the Core Group of Experts for the Global Forum in Manila, the Philippines, in 2008.

1. Publications

a. Circular migration

Since the High-level Dialogue, MPI spent considerable time and effort to study the development potential of circular migration, a pattern in which emigrants return, permanently or temporarily, to their countries of origin. In September 2006, MPI published *From Zero-Sum to a Win-Win Scenario? Literature Review on Circular Migration,* a report looking at the policy implications of new research findings on the developmental impacts of circular migration. MPI reviewed policies intended to encourage circular migration, including temporary worker schemes.

In 2007, MPI consolidated its work on this topic with the publication of a policy brief entitled *Circular Migration and Development: Trends, Policy Routes, and Ways Forward,* and prepared two background papers for the first meeting of the GFMD in Brussels, Belgium. In the intergovernmental

meeting, MPI prepared the discussion paper for the round table on Human capital development and labour mobility: maximizing opportunities and minimizing risks. The MPI paper *How Can Circular Migration and Sustainable Return Serve as Development Tools?* was used in a presentation by the Government of Luxembourg. At the Civil Society Day, MPI presented the paper *Can Migrants, Countries of Origin and Countries of Destination All Win from Circular Migration?*

In the follow-up to the first Global Forum, circular migration has been taken up by a number of governments as a priority policy concern. In 2007-2008, the Government of Sweden, as chair of the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum, and Refugees (IGC), selected circular migration as the special focus of IGC deliberations. MPI prepared a paper for the IGC published in September 2008. The report *Learning by Doing: Experiences of Circular Migration* examines actual experiences of circular migration, both where it has arisen naturally and where governments have taken action to encourage it. MPI also prepared a background paper for a follow-up workshop to the first GFMD, on the development impact of circular migration. The workshop was organized by the Government of Mauritius and the European Commission.

With its elaborate system of government institutions facilitating circular migration among temporary migrant workers, the Philippines is often considered a model example of a country looking out for its migrant workers overseas. Over the last two years, MPI released two reports on the Philippines entitled *Protecting Overseas Workers: Lessons and Cautions from the Philippines*, which focused on the Philippines' welfare fund for migrant workers, while *Managing Temporary Migration: Lessons from the Philippine Model* highlighted ways to manage legal and large-scale temporary migration. Both reports analysed how the Filipino migration system works, what its strengths and weaknesses are and, more importantly, what lessons can be learned from its experiences.

b. Remittances

Migrants' remittances remain the most tangible link between migration and development. MPI has worked continuously to consolidate information and analysis on remittances into a framework useful to policymakers in sending and receiving countries, as well as to migrants, businesses, and non-governmental organizations.

In September 2008, MPI released *Remittances and Development–Trends, Impacts, and Policy Options: A Review of the Literature,* a comprehensive overview of the current academic and policy literature on remittances. In May 2007, MPI published a case study of the world's largest remittance-receiver: India entitled *The Phenomenal Rise in Remittances to India: A Closer Look,* offering a detailed analysis of the dynamics of Indian remittance flows. The following month, in June 2007, MPI released a policy brief by Mr. Dilip Ratha of the World Bank on *Leveraging Remittances for Development*, analysing the growing importance of remittances for development.

The high volume and rapid growth of remittances worldwide has led some observers to caution against remittance dependency. In September 2007, MPI published a fact sheet entitled *Variable Impacts: State-level Analysis of the Slowdown in the Growth in Remittances to Mexico*, that detailed the dramatic slowdown of remittances to Mexico in the first half of 2007 compared to the first half of 2006. It analyses remittances to Mexico by state, identifying those Mexican states that may be most severely affected by a slowdown in money sent home by migrants abroad.

In December 2007, MPI also launched the Global Remittances Guide[1], an online interactive tool that allows users to learn about remittance trends and patterns around the world, in six regions, and in the top remittances-receiving countries in terms of volume and their share of GDP. Users can select maps to visualize global remittance flows or view extensive country- and region-specific profiles.[2]

2. Events

In preparation for the first GFMD, MPI organized several events. In February 2007, MPI, together with the German Marshall Fund of the United States, organized a brainstorming session in Brussels, Belgium attended by the Belgian organizing team for the Global Forum, including the Forum's Executive Director, Ambassador Regine De Clercq, and representatives of key governments and the European Commission. The discussion focused on remittances and human capital issues associated with migration. It was based on four briefing papers commissioned by MPI, including one on circular migration and one on remittances to India. Other Global Forum-related events sponsored by MPI include a breakfast briefing with Ambassador De Clercq and a telephone briefing with participants from outside the United States.

In addition to the activities mentioned above, MPI organized two major conferences on migration and development. The World Bank, the OECD Development Centre and MPI co-sponsored a two-day Migration and Development Conference in Washington, DC from 23 to 24 May 2007, which focused on forging a stronger link between research institutes and development agencies. MPI also organized a conference with the Inter-American Development Bank on Demographic trends, immigration policy, and remittances in Washington, DC on 16 May 2007, which examined the linkages between demographic trends, immigration policy and remittances featuring renowned demographers and immigration experts.

In November 2008, MPI held its first workshop in preparation for the third GFMD. In partnership with the Hellenic Migration Policy Institute (IMEPO), MPI convened senior experts and policymakers in Athens to discuss the role of transnational communities on development.

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[1] The Global Remittances Guide can be found at: http://www.migrationinformation.org/datahub/remittances.cfm (accessed 5 March 2009).

[2] For other publications from MPI, see http://www.migrationpolicy.org (accessed 25 February 2009).

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NGO Committee on Migration

The increased focus on human rights for the 2008 Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) as compared to 2007 GFMD should be viewed positively. However, the recent focus on migration and human rights is far from adequate in addressing the root causes of migration and the inter-relationship between human rights and migration. The NGO Committee on Migration believes the following questions reflect more fully the framework for necessary dialogue:

(a) How would a deeper commitment to human rights on the part of both more developed and less developed regions and sending and receiving countries, improve progress towards a more equitable worldwide development, thereby reducing the pressure to migrate and ensuring that all migration is truly voluntary?

(b) How do human rights violations in both the more developed regions and the less developed regions impact migration?

　　(i) How do land disputes, seizures of traditional indigenous lands and other human rights violations in the less developed regions exacerbate emigration?

　　(ii) How do human rights violations in receiving countries drive the continued demand for easily exploitable migrant labour in the more developed countries?

With these questions in mind, the NGO Committee on Migration calls for the following points to be incorporated, both within the GFMD framework and more generally, in national and international approaches to migration and development:

(a) That the existing international framework of declarations and conventions be accepted as the basis for all deliberations and decisions made by States at the GFMD;

(b) That all deliberations at the GFMD be based on the understanding that international migration, development and human rights are intrinsically interrelated; human rights and root causes of migration are cross- cutting topics of the present time;

(c) That receiving countries recognize the contribution of migrant workers to their economies, respect their human rights and grant them the opportunity to remain with regular status and to integrate into society, if they so desire;

(d) That countries grant migrants, including irregular immigrants, all rights in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO);

(e) That countries, in particular those in the more developed regions of the world, ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;

(f) That countries reduce the root causes of worldwide migration by eliminating discriminatory trade and economic policies in the more developed regions that prevent sustainable development in the sending countries, undermine economic stability and exacerbate outward migration;

(g) That governments comply with existing United Nations instruments and agreements in order to develop effective institutional and policy coherence regarding migration and development;

(h) That migrants themselves and the organizations which speak for them be given the opportunity to participate systematically in the process of developing effective institutional and policy coherence regarding migration and development;

(i) Lastly, that future multilateral dialogues on migration and development offer full and equal partnership to civil society and governments, both with respect to the contents of the dialogue and the process of participation.

A. BACKGROUND: THE CENTRALITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS A FRAMEWORK FOR ADDRESSING MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

In recent years, there has been increasing recognition by governments and intergovernmental organizations that migrant workers make valuable contributions to the economic and social well-being of both sending and host countries (United Nations, 2006a and United Nations, 2008). It is clear that migrants —including low-wage and irregular migrants— are net contributors to the economies of the countries in which they work.[1] This is an important point to stress at a time when anti-immigrant sentiments are rising and xenophobic scapegoating of migrants is becoming more commonplace in receiving countries of both more and less developed regions.

However, there has been a disturbing trend to relegate the question of human rights to a perfunctory discussion secondary to the question of development, rather than to recognize: (a) the centrality of human rights as a fundamental framework in which discussions of migration should take place, and (b) the deep interrelationship between human rights, migration and development. In this regard certain progress has been made since the 2007 Brussels Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), as expressed in the following description of the 2008 GFMD:

> There is increasing evidence that the benefits of international migration, not only for migrants themselves but also for origin and host societies, are contingent on the protection of migrants' rights. It is reasonable to assume that migrants are best able to contribute to development in both the countries of origin and destination, when they are protected and empowered socially, economically and in terms of their basic human rights, regardless of their migration status.[2]

At the same time, the language used in the political debate continues to frame respect for human rights primarily as a means by which development can be achieved. Human rights should not be viewed solely as a means to achieve an end, in this case economic goals. This narrow view of human rights leaves open the possibility of varying interpretations of human rights depending on countries' economic and development policies and is a troubling dilution of the intent of international human rights law as expressed in the preamble of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

> … Recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.[3]

B. Human Rights and Root Causes of Migration

There is a strong consensus within civil society, including migrant organizations, non-governmental organizations and trade unions, on the need to address the root causes of migration, including the violation of human rights (United Nations, 2006b). These violations take the form of violent conflict, racism and other forms of discrimination that force people to emigrate. In addition, the growing economic disparity between rich and poor countries, and between the rich and poor within countries, has also led to a sharp increase in the number of international migrants worldwide (United Nations, 2006b). In this discussion it is essential to include the question of workers' responsibilities[4] in addition to rights, and also to distinguish between political refugees, victims of violence and overt discrimination on the one hand and economic migrants on the other. At the same time, one has to recognize that migration born of economic necessity cannot be viewed as purely voluntary if it means that the migrant must leave his or her family behind, often for years at a time. Indeed, economic desperation is a violation of human rights as expressed in Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

> Everyone has a right to a standard of living adequate for the health, and well-being of himself and of his family.

It is therefore inadequate to ask the question "what are some key effective practices by governments to maximize the potential of migrants to contribute to the development of their countries of origin?"[5], in order to address the root causes of migration, one must also ask: (a) how is globalization contributing to migration? and (b) what policies, including trade, agricultural subsidies, and others, are in place, particularly in receiving countries, that are exacerbating the growing international economic disparity, increasing rates of poverty, and rising international migration?

Lastly, there are signs that the growing disparity in wealth between sending and receiving countries will only increase in coming years as it is exacerbated by the environmental degradation caused by climate change and other factors. Unless they are addressed through policy initiatives to ensure support for those countries most affected, these factors will contribute significantly to increased migration. For the most part, the carbon emissions responsible for climate change have historically been caused by receiving countries of more developed regions, which will be more economically capable of mitigating the impact of climate change on agricultural production and rising sea levels than will be the sending countries (Brown, 2008; United Nations Institute for Training and Research, 2008). The wealthier more developed regions must recognize their responsibility for climate change, including, but not limited to, the exacerbation of migration.

C. Protecting Migrants' Rights and Promoting Decent Work

The existing international human rights framework —if fully recognized and enforced— is adequate for protecting the rights of migrant workers. Unfortunately, many of the fundamental human rights of migrant workers and migrants in general continue to be unrecognized by both sending and receiving countries. Universal ratification and implementation of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families must be a cornerstone of policy approaches to migration and development.

In order to emphasize the existing commitment all countries have made to respect labour rights, the following paragraph summarizes key elements of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

(a) Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment;

(b) Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work;

(c) Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection;

(d) Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests. [6]

Furthermore, the conventions of the ILO, and in particular of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, which clearly expresses the obligations of all ILO member States, include the following key elements:

All member States, even if they have not ratified the conventions in question, have an obligation arising from the very fact of membership in the ILO to respect, to promote and to realize, in good faith and in accordance with the Constitution, the principles concerning the fundamental rights which are the subject of those conventions, namely:

(a) Freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

(b) The elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour;

(c) The effective abolition of child labour;

(d) The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.[7]

The necessity to fully respect the rights in particular of the most vulnerable migrants must also be emphasized. Policy initiatives need to address specifically the challenges faced by women and child migrants, who are frequently the objects of human trafficking, sexual and other exploitation and violence. Family unification and the well-being of the family unit must be a cornerstone of migration policy.[8] It is crucial that countries institute effective formal and informal measures to prevent abuse of, and violence against, women and child migrants, especially in the informal sector and domestic work.

The current financial crisis is likely to contribute to an increase in irregular migration. This has been exacerbated by a failure of receiving countries not only to recognize their own role in this trend, but also in some cases, to make available an adequate number of work visas to fulfill their own stated labour needs. The resulting death and injury caused by dangerous border-crossings is a humanitarian crisis that must be addressed in a way that does not place blame on the migrants and which provides for opportunities to cross borders in a safe way. While smuggling and human trafficking are distinct phenomena, both have at their core the sale and slavery of persons. In addition, the rights of irregular migrants must be respected. As cited previously, international human rights and labour law do not distinguish between categories of people: human rights are universal.

Increasingly, countries of the more developed regions are relying on temporary worker programmes to fulfill their labour requirements. This is a disturbing trend, in that temporary worker programmes are generally exploitative of workers and are designed for maximum economic benefit to employers while minimizing any social contract that receiving countries must make with participating workers. Such programmes lock migrants into seasonal migrant status which often violate fundamental human rights of workers —such as equal access to the courts. While workers in the less developed regions freely register for such programmes, it is a mistake to consider such programmes to be mutually

beneficial when these workers often have no other choice but register so that they can obtain work. In order to respect the international requirements as embodied in international labour law and human rights law, temporary worker programmes need to be fundamentally reformed to: (a) grant workers full rights under law equal to all other workers; (b) provide full access to courts and other systems of redress of grievances; (c) not tie employment of the worker to one sole employer, and (d) provide for a path to long term residency and citizenship for those workers who desire it.

The strict enforcement practices by receiving countries are an additional example of the increasing trend to punish and place the blame on migrants who have crossed borders out of economic necessity and who also make a valuable contribution to the economies of receiving countries. Workplace raids, lengthy detentions that fail to distinguish between irregular and other foreigners who have committed a crime, lack of consular access, inadequate medical care for detained migrants, the separation of parents from young children and excessive prison terms all represent an increasing criminalization of migrant workers and their families, and must be reversed.[9]

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[1] See http://government.gfmd2008.org/index2.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_view&gid=132&Itemid=45 (accessed 24 April 2009).

[2] See http://government.gfmd2008.org/roundtable1.html (accessed 13 January 2009).

[3] See Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Preamble, paragraph 1.

[4] See Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 29 (1): "Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full expression of his personality is possible."

[5] See http://government.gfmd2008.org/roundtable1.html (accessed 13 January 2009).

[6] See Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 23.

[7] See ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, paragraph 2.

[8] See Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 16: "The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State."

[9] See, for instance, the European Union "Return Directive", and the United States Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996.

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PART THREE

ANNEX

General Assembly

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 55 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/61/424/Add.2)*]

61/208. International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995, 52/189 of 18 December 1997, 54/212 of 22 December 1999, 56/203 of 21 December 2001, 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004 and 60/227 of 23 December 2005 on international migration and development, and 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[2] and recalling the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[3] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[4] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[5]

Recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[6]

Recalling also Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,[7]

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[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] Resolution 217 A (III).

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[4] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[6] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[7] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

Acknowledging the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, and recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community,

Acknowledging also the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development,

Reaffirming the resolve expressed by Heads of State and Government to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and members of their families,[8]

Noting the efforts of Member States, relevant United Nations bodies, organizations, funds and programmes and international and intergovernmental organizations, including the International Organization for Migration, in respect of convening events at the national, regional and international levels with a view to advancing the dialogue on the issue of international migration and development,

Noting with interest the offer of the Government of Belgium to convene a state-led initiative, the Global Forum on Migration and Development, in 2007,

1.   *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[9]

2.   *Welcomes* the convening of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in New York on 14 and 15 September 2006, and the high level and broad participation that provided an opportunity to discuss the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development;

3.   *Takes note* of the summary of the High-level Dialogue by the President of the General Assembly;[10]

4.   *Welcomes* the heightened awareness achieved by the High-level Dialogue on the issue, and decides to consider, at its sixty-third session, possible options for appropriate follow-up to the High-level Dialogue;

5.   *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts of Governments in the area of regional and interregional cooperation and regional consultative processes, where they exist, on migration, and encourages consideration of development dimensions in such processes, towards facilitating the dialogue and the exchange of information and experiences, fostering coordination at the regional and national levels, building common understanding, promoting cooperation, contributing to capacity-building and strengthening partnerships among countries of origin, transit and destination;

6.   *Takes note with interest* of the establishment of the Global Migration Group;

7.   *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including a gender perspective and cultural diversity, in a more coherent way within the broader context of the implementation of internationally

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[8] See resolutions 55/2 and 60/1.

[9] A/60/871.

[10] A/61/515.

agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals and respect for human rights;

8.   *Recalls* its resolution 55/93 of 4 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 18 December International Day of the Migrant, and invites Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to include in the observance of International Day of the Migrant the developmental dimension of international migration, as highlighted by the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development held in New York, by sharing experiences and best practices on, inter alia, how to maximize the benefits of international migration and reduce its negative impacts;

9.   *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10.   *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "International migration and development".

83rd plenary meeting
20 December 2006

General Assembly

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 116

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/62/L.25/Rev.2 and Add.1)*]

62/270. Global Forum on Migration and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the 2005 World Summit Outcome acknowledged the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents and reaffirmed the resolve to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and members of their families,[1]

Considering that the summary of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York on 14 and 15 September 2006, as contained in a note by the President of the General Assembly,[2] underlined the close link between migration, development and human rights, as well as the fact that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants was essential for taking advantage of the positive aspects of international migration,

Recalling its resolutions 61/208 of 20 December 2006 on international migration and development and 62/156 of 18 December 2007 on the protection of migrants,

Stressing the need to promote a comprehensive and coherent discussion on all aspects of the phenomenon of migration, taking into account its importance on the global agenda,

Recognizing the need for Member States to consider the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development, in order to identify appropriate ways and means of dealing with the challenges and opportunities that international migration presents,

Recalling the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the interrelationship between migration and development, and the importance of including the perspective of the human rights of migrants as a priority matter in relevant debates and discussions that are held in the United Nations system,

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[1] See resolution 60/1, paras. 61 and 62.

[2] A/61/515.

Considering that the report of the Secretary-General of 18 May 2006 on international migration and development, prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 59/241 of 22 December 2004 and 60/227 of 23 December 2005, highlighted the fact that, within the United Nations system, there is no entity mandated to systematically address all matters related to international migration,[3]

Recalling that Member States participating in the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development expressed interest in continuing the dialogue on migration and development, and that there was widespread support for the proposal of the Secretary-General to create a global forum to address, in depth and in a systematic manner, all topics related to international migration and development,

Taking note of the summary report of the first meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held in Brussels from 9 to 11 July 2007 under the auspices of the Government of Belgium,[4] and the generous offer of the Government of the Philippines to host the second meeting, from 27 to 30 October 2008, in Manila,

Noting with appreciation that the convening of the first meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development has already resulted in the establishment of official focal points on migration and development at the national level,

Recognizing that the Global Forum on Migration and Development currently functions under the Guiding Principles of the Forum of 2007 and as a State-led initiative, and that it should be strengthened with the aim of addressing the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development with a comprehensive approach,

1.   *Recognizes* that exchanges of information and expertise, consultation and closer cooperation between the Global Forum on Migration and Development and the United Nations could have a positive impact, and in this regard:

(*a*)   Welcomes the transmission to the Secretary-General by the Government of Belgium of the summary report of the first meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, circulated as a document of the General Assembly,[4] and invites organizers of subsequent meetings of the Forum to continue this practice;

(*b*)   Requests the Secretary-General to include in his report called for in resolution 61/208 an evaluation of the existing cooperation mechanisms on migration and development and to make it available to the Global Forum on Migration and Development, at its second meeting, in 2008;

(*c*)   Encourages Member States to participate actively in, and the organizations that are members of the Global Migration Group, within their respective areas of expertise, to contribute and to provide technical support to the Global Forum on Migration and Development;

(*d*)   Notes that the Global Forum on Migration and Development, through its Steering Group, maintains links with the Secretary-General, notably through his Special Representative on International Migration and Development;

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[3] See A/60/871.

[4] A/C.2/62/2, annex.

2. *Takes note with interest* of the agenda prepared for the discussions of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and the title of the second meeting of the Global Forum, "Protecting and empowering migrants for development", and particularly welcomes the inclusion of the topic of the human rights of migrants;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

109th plenary meeting
20 June 2008

General Assembly

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 51 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/416/Add.2)*]

63/225. International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, 62/156 of 18 December 2007 on the protection of migrants, 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development and 61/208 of 20 December 2006 on international migration and development,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome[1] and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and taking note of the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, adopted on 2 December 2008,[2]

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[3] and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[4] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[4] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[5] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[6] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[7]

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[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] A/CONF.212/L.1/Rev.1.

[3] Resolution 217 A (III).

[4] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[6] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[7] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

Recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[8] and the invitation to Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

Recalling also the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, and the eight fundamental Conventions of the International Labour Organization,

Recalling further Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,[9]

Bearing in mind the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development,[10]

Acknowledging that the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development provided a useful opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and heightened awareness of the issue,

Acknowledging also the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, and recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community,

Acknowledging further the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development,

Recognizing that remittance flows constitute sources of private capital and that remittances have increased over time, complement domestic savings and are instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients,

1.   *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[11]

2.   *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, particularly by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration;

3.   *Emphasizes* that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants is essential for reaping the benefits of international migration;

4.   *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution made by migrants and migration to development in countries of origin and destination;

5.   *Takes note* of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, which held its first meeting in Brussels from 9 to 11 July 2007, and its second meeting in Manila from 27 to 30 October 2008, as an informal, voluntary, open, State-led initiative, and also takes note of the generous offer of the Government of Greece to host the third meeting of the Global Forum, to be held in Athens on 4 and 5 November 2009, as well as the offers of other Governments to hold subsequent meetings of the Forum;

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[8] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[9] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[10] A/61/515.

[11] A/63/265 and Corr.1.

6.   *Invites* the countries of origin and destination, in accordance with domestic legislation, to undertake appropriate measures to facilitate the contribution of migrants and migrant communities to the development of their countries of origin;

7.   *Recognizes* the need for Member States to continue considering the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means of maximizing the development benefits and minimizing the negative impacts;

8.   *Reaffirms* that there is a need to address and promote conditions for cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances in both source and recipient countries and, as appropriate, to encourage opportunities for development-oriented investment in recipient countries by beneficiaries that are willing and able to undertake such action, bearing in mind that remittances cannot be considered a substitute for foreign direct investment, official development assistance, debt relief or other public sources of financing for development;

9.   *Reiterates* the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education affects the development efforts of developing countries;

10.   *Acknowledges* the need to analyse the impact of certain forms of temporary migration, circular migration and return migration on the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as on migrants themselves;

11.   *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to incorporate a gender perspective in all policies and programmes on international migration in order to, inter alia, reinforce the positive 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 the protection of women migrants from all forms of violence, discrimination, trafficking, exploitation and abuse by promoting their rights and welfare, while recognizing in this regard the importance of joint and collaborative approaches and strategies at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels;

12.   *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 a secure, regular and orderly process of migration;

13.   *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 continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including a gender perspective and cultural diversity, in a more coherent way, within the context of the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and with respect for human rights;

14.   *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their cooperation in the development of methodologies for the collection and processing of statistical data on international migration and the situation of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination and to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this regard;

15.   *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations to support developing countries in their efforts to address migration issues within their respective development strategies in the context of the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

16.   *Decides* to hold, within existing resources, a High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development during its sixty-eighth session, in 2013, the focus and modalities of which will be decided upon at its sixty-seventh session;

17.   *Also decides* to convene, within existing resources, at its sixty-fifth session, in 2011, a one-day informal thematic debate on international migration and development;

18.   *Further decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "International migration and development";

19.   *Invites* the regional commissions to examine regional aspects of international migration and development and to provide inputs, in accordance with respective mandates and within existing resources, to the report of the Secretary-General on this item;

20.   *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

72nd plenary meeting
19 December 2008