

**NINTH COORDINATION MEETING  
ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

New York, 17-18 February 2011



United Nations



**Department of Economic and Social Affairs**  
Population Division

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# DESA

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Suggested citation:

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2011).  
Ninth Coordination Meeting on International Migration.  
Working Paper No. ESA/P/WP.219

ESA/P/WP.219

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Printed in the United Nations, New York



## PREFACE

The Ninth Coordination Meeting on International Migration was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, from 17 to 18 February 2011. It was the latest in a series of annual coordination meetings on international migration convened since 2002 by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat.

It was attended by nearly 100 participants, representing agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, offices of the United Nations Secretariat, including the regional commissions and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Also present were invited experts and representatives of United Nations Member States.

The coordination meetings on international migration are convened with the purpose of reviewing the latest evidence on emerging topics in the field of international migration, as well as to exchange information, enhance coordination and achieve system-wide coherence. 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, enabling participating entities to contribute to the preparations, implementation and outcomes of the Global Forum.

At the meeting, the Chair-in-Office of the 2010 Global Forum briefed participants about the achievements and outcomes of the fourth meeting of the GFMD held in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, while the Chair-in-Office of the 2011 Global Forum presented the status of preparations for the fifth meeting of the GFMD to be held in Switzerland. The meeting also provided an opportunity to brief participants about the preparations for the informal thematic debate on international migration and development to be held by General Assembly on 19 May 2011. Other subjects covered by the meeting included an overview of the Secretary-General's report on international migration and development for the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly; a discussion of recent initiatives on capacity-building and training on international migration; and new approaches to assess the contribution of international migration to countries of origin and destination and measure migrant integration in developed and developing countries.

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

This volume contains the report of the meeting's presentations and deliberations as well as papers prepared by participants.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

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

The following abbreviations have been used in the present document:

ACBC	African Capacity Building Centre
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ALO	Arab Labor Organization
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AU	African Union
AWG-LCA	Ad Hoc Working Group on long-term Cooperative Action
BIAC	Business and Investment Advisory Committee of the OECD
CARICOM	Caribbean Community and Common Market
CCAs	Common Country Assessments
CEB	Chief Executives Board
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CEE	Central and Eastern Europe
CELADE	Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CLINIC	Catholic Legal Immigration Network
CMS	Center for Migration Studies
CMW	Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
CONAPO	National Population Council of Mexico
COP	Conference of the Parties
COV	Communities Overcoming Violence
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
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
EDF	European Development Fund
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
EU	European Union
Eurostat	Statistical Office of the European Communities
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFDO	Financing for Development Office
FIP	International Pharmaceutical Federation
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GCIM	Global Commission on International Migration
GDN	Global Development Network
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFMD	Global Forum on Migration and Development
GMG	Global Migration Group
HDR	Human Development Report

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *(continued)*

HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IBIS	Integration: Building Inclusive Societies
ICMC	International Catholic Migration Commission
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILM	Database on International Labour Migration statistics
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMEPO	Hellenic Migration Policy Institute
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INED	Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPCC	International Panel on Climate Change
IPPR	Institute for Public Policy Research
ISIM	Institute for the Study of International Migration
ISSA	Ibero-American Social Security Agreement
ITC	International Training Centre
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
ITUC	International Trade Union Confederation
JMDI	Joint Migration and Development Initiative
JUNIMA	Joint United Nations Initiative on Mobility and HIV/AIDS in South East Asia
LAS	League of Arab States
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MPI	Migration Policy Institute
MPs	Migration Profiles
MRCs	Migrant Resource Centers
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
OAS	Organization of American States
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OLA	Office of Legal Affairs
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe
PEACE	Poverty Elimination and Community Education Foundation
PfP	Platform for Partnerships
PGA	President of the General Assembly
PPMD	Population Policies and Migration Department
PRSPs	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
RCNYO	Regional Commissions, New York Office
RCP	Regional Consultative Process
SAR	Special Administrative Region
SEGIB	Ibero-American Secretariat
SICREMI	Continuous Labour Migration Reporting System for the Americas
SIMN	Scalabrini International Migration Network
SSRC	Social Science Research Council
TWG	Thematic Working Group
UIS	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *(continued)*

UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNCTs	United Nations Country Teams
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN.GIFT	United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNU-EHS	United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
USCIB	United States Council for International Business
WHA	World Health Assembly
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization



## **PART ONE**

### **REPORT OF THE MEETING AND INFORMATION PAPERS**





## **REPORT OF THE MEETING**



## REPORT OF THE MEETING

The Ninth United Nations Coordination Meeting on International Migration took place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 17 to 18 February 2011. The meeting was organized by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (UNDESA). The main objectives of the meeting were to: (a) examine the development of indicators to measure the contribution of international migration to countries of origin and destination, (b) exchange information on recent initiatives to build capacities on international migration and development, and (c) discuss the contribution of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant organizations to the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and the informal thematic debate on international migration and development, which would be organized by the President of the General Assembly on 19 May 2011.

The meeting was attended by nearly 100 participants, including representatives of agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, offices of the United Nations Secretariat, the regional commissions, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) active in the field of international migration and development. Also present were invited experts and representatives of United Nations Member States.

### I. OPENING

Ms. Hania Zlotnik, Director of the Population Division of UNDESA, opened the meeting by welcoming the participants. She noted that the annual coordination meetings on international migration had become essential for promoting dialogue and strengthening coordination among United Nations organizations, other intergovernmental organizations and civil society. This coordination was all the more important in view of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, to be conducted by the General Assembly in 2013, and the annual meetings of the State-led GFMD, held since 2007. Ms. Zlotnik concluded her opening remarks by presenting the main items on the meeting's agenda.

### II. THE GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Under-Secretary for North America of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, H.E. Mr. Julian Ventura Valero, presented an overview of the modalities and main outcomes of the fourth meeting of the GFMD that had been held in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, from 8 to 11 November 2010. The meeting had aimed at widening the understanding of international migration through evidence-based discussions on topics such as irregular migration, migrants' contribution to development, and climate change and migration. In keeping with the overall theme of "Partnerships for migration and human development: Shared prosperity, shared responsibility", the meeting had comprised three roundtables focusing on: (a) partnerships for migration and development, (b) human mobility and human development, and (c) policy and institutional coherence to address the relationship between migration and development. By organizing a "common space", the Mexican Government had created a platform for interaction between Governments and civil society within the Global Forum. The debate during the "common space" had focused on improving the public perception of migration and on strengthening partnerships on migration and human development. In total, some 450 delegates representing 131 Member States and 39 international organizations had attended the meeting.

Ambassador Ventura underscored the strategic importance of the Global Forum as a venue to share good practices and promote collaboration. He commended the Government of Switzerland for

proposing an action-oriented agenda for the fifth meeting of the Global Forum and expressed his Government's full support to the Swiss Chair-in-Office. The informal thematic debate on international migration and development in 2011 and the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in 2013 were important opportunities at the United Nations to take stock of the achievements of the Global Forum process. He observed that the Global Migration Group (GMG) had a key role to play in transforming the recommendations of the GFMD into action and urged all relevant GMG members to support the outcomes of the fourth meeting of the Global Forum in accordance with their respective expertise and mandates.

The Chair-in-Office of the fifth meeting of the Global Forum, Special Ambassador for International Cooperation in Migration of Switzerland, H.E. Mr. Eduard Gnesa, congratulated Ambassador Ventura Valero on the success of the fourth meeting of the Global Forum. He then presented the plans for the fifth meeting of the Global Forum to be held in 2011. In lieu of one large meeting, the fifth GFMD would consist of a series of small, action-oriented meetings, to be organized in partnership with interested Governments and other stakeholders. The meetings would focus on a small number of specific and concrete issues. The global character of the Forum would be ensured by maintaining the Friends of the Forum and the Steering Group as the central reference points for the GFMD process. The results of the thematic meetings would be presented at an extended meeting of the Friends of the Forum at the end of 2011.

Under the overall theme "Taking action on migration and development—coherence, capacity and cooperation", the 2011 edition of GFMD would focus on three priority areas: (a) labour mobility and development, (b) addressing irregular migration through coherent migration and development strategies, and (c) tools for evidence-based migration and development policies. Ambassador Gnesa stressed the importance accorded to cooperation with the ad hoc working groups of the Global Forum, the Platform for Partnerships (PfP) as well as with regional and inter-regional consultative processes. While Governments would continue to be the key actors in all events of the 2011 Global Forum, other stakeholders would be invited to play an active role. The Swiss Chair-in-Office was also considering providing support to a small group of civil society representatives to act as a focal point for civil society during the 2011 GFMD. The Swiss Chair-in-Office would also initiate and guide the first phase of the Assessment of the Global Forum.

In the ensuing discussion, participants thanked the presenters for their comprehensive presentations on the outcomes of the fourth meeting of the Global Forum and on the preparations for the fifth meeting of the Global Forum, respectively. The Government of Mexico was commended for addressing the human rights of migrants, including those in an irregular situation, during the fourth meeting of the Global Forum. One participant inquired about the lack of attention accorded to human rights in the draft concept paper prepared by the Swiss Chair-in-Office. A representative from civil society asked how the Swiss Chair-in-Office would ensure the participation of civil society in the thematic meetings. One participant inquired about the future of the Global Forum after the 2013 High-level Dialogue and its relationship to the United Nations.

In his reply, Ambassador Ventura noted that, although the Global Forum process was State-led, it had important linkages with the United Nations, most notably through Peter Sutherland, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development. In addition, by working together on specific projects, the relationship between the Global Forum and the United Nations would become closer over time. He agreed that civil society played a key role in the Global Forum process. For this reason, Mexico had initiated the "common space" during the 2010 Global Forum. He concurred that human rights played a key role in the debate on international migration and development.

Ambassador Gnesa recalled that the GFMD had initiated an assessment of the Global Forum process in response to a proposal made by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development. The technical part of the Assessment, focusing on the achievements and shortcomings of the Global Forum process, would be conducted under the auspices of the 2011 Chair-in-Office. The strategic part of the Assessment, focusing on the future of the Global Forum after the 2013 High-level Dialogue, would be conducted under the auspices of the 2012 Chair-in-Office. The Global Forum process and the United Nations played important and complementary roles. While the Global Forum facilitated informal discussions and the exchange of good practices, the United Nations was the appropriate venue for formal debates and intergovernmental negotiations. He assured participants that human rights would be fully integrated into the Swiss concept paper. Noting that the participation of civil society in the extended meeting of the Friends of the Forum was being considered, Ambassador Gnesa urged civil society to identify issues of interest.

### III. SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND RESOLUTION ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Zlotnik presented an overview of the Secretary-General's report on international migration and development (A/65/203). The report observed that international migration had proven to be quite resilient to the economic and financial crisis. The inflow of international migrants had slowed, but not halted, as a result of the crisis and relatively few migrants had returned to their countries of origin. Consequently, the number of international migrants worldwide had continued to rise, reaching 214 million in 2010 up from 195 million in 2005. After a brief decline, the inflow of remittances to developing countries had quickly recovered to levels comparable to those recorded before the crisis. Yet migrants had been disproportionately affected by the global economic crisis. Levels of unemployment among migrants, especially males, had risen sharply. The crisis had also fuelled a resurgence of anti-immigrant sentiment in some host countries. It was important, therefore, to step up activities to safeguard the rights of all migrants and to protect migrants in vulnerable situations. Regrettably, as of June 2010 only 42 Member States had ratified the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.

Ms. Zlotnik drew attention to the growing engagement of the United Nations system and other relevant organizations in promoting the development potential of international migration. The amount of multilateral assistance for international migration and development had climbed to US\$240 million and the number of bilateral and multilateral donors had increased. Since the first meeting of GFMD in Brussels in 2007, the GMG had increasingly been following up or implementing the recommendations from the Global Forum. Ms. Zlotnik welcomed the growing engagement by the GMG in the Forum outcomes as it evidenced the strides made by the international community in fostering the developmental impacts of international migration.

During the ensuing discussion, several participants raised the issue of the migration estimates mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General. In particular, the questions focused on whether the latest estimates of the global migrant stock, prepared by the Population Division of UNDESA, included irregular migrants and whether they had taken into account the impact of the economic crisis. One country delegate regretted the limited international support available to developing countries hosting large numbers of refugees. A representative from civil society inquired why the Secretary-General's report had not examined the activities undertaken by civil society in support of the Global Forum.

In her reply, Ms. Zlotnik indicated that migrants in an irregular situation were generally included in national population censuses and therefore part of the estimates prepared by the Population Division. However, identifying irregular migrants from regular migrants posed a major challenge as this distinction

was not made in the national data collection systems. The available evidence suggested that migrants in an irregular situation represented only a small fraction of the overall stock of international migrants. She noted that the latest estimates produced by the Population Division of UNDESA had been completed in 2009, at which time many countries were already experiencing a decline in the inflow of migrants. She observed that projects targeting transnational communities generally focused on enhancing development in countries of origin, rather than supporting host countries, based on the assumption that host countries reaped many of the benefits of international migration. However, the situation of refugees was markedly different than that of economic migrants, requiring a different approach. Ms. Zlotnik concluded the session by encouraging civil society to engage in the intergovernmental processes to ensure that their inputs were duly reflected in the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

#### IV. THE INFORMAL THEMATIC DEBATE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

H.E. Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Head of Policy Issues in the Office of the President of the General Assembly, briefed participants on the preparations for the informal thematic debate on international migration and development, mandated by General Assembly resolution 63/225. The event, to be held on 19 May 2011, would focus on enhancing the positive impact of migration on development for countries of origin, transit and destination and on improving international cooperation on international migration. As such, the debate would be an important contribution to the preparations for the High-level Dialogue in 2013.

Ambassador Schroderus-Fox outlined the most salient features of the informal thematic debate. The United Nations Secretary-General, H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, was scheduled to deliver the opening statement. The debate would consist of two interactive panels. The first panel would tackle the contribution of migrants to development, while the second panel would focus on improving international cooperation on migration and development. Following the presentations by invited experts, there would be time for questions from the floor. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development had been asked to provide a substantive summary of the debate, while the President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Joseph Deiss of Switzerland, would open and close the debate. The President of the General Assembly had invited Mr. Anthony Lake, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), to participate in the informal thematic debate in his capacity of Chair of the GMG. The debate would be open to participants from civil society. In closing, Ambassador Schroderus-Fox thanked the participants of the coordination meeting for their contributions in organizing the debate.

Mr. Richard Morgan, Director of the Division of Policy and Planning of UNICEF, presented the workplan of the GMG for the first half of 2011. During UNICEF's tenure, the GMG would focus on the impact of international migration on youth and adolescents. The GMG would also continue its work on mainstreaming international migration into national development planning, as well as on promoting the ratification of relevant international human rights instruments. A representative of UNICEF then briefed the meeting about the two-day GMG symposium on migration and youth, which would be held in New York from 17 to 18 May 2011. The symposium would bring together representatives of Governments, international organizations and civil society to share good practices and to highlight gaps in maximizing the development benefits of international migration for youth, while minimizing its negative impacts.

#### V. COORDINATION IN THE AREA OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION: CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TRAINING

Mr. Bela Hovy, Chief of the Migration Section of the Population Division of UNDESA, opened the session. He recalled that the amount of resources available for international migration and development activities had significantly increased since 2006. The increase in resources made it imperative to improve

collaboration between international organizations in order to avoid duplication. The goal of the session was to identify opportunities for collaboration in the field of capacity-building and training activities on international migration.

Ms. Michele Klein-Solomon, the Permanent Observer of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to the United Nations, presented the GMG handbook *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A Handbook for Policy-makers and Practitioners*. The handbook, launched at the Global Forum in 2010, had been prepared in order to assist Governments and other stakeholders to integrate migration considerations into national development planning. To achieve this, the relevant actors from the different ministries involved in aspects of migration should be brought together and relevant civil society actors should be consulted. The handbook called for evidence-based policies, as well as for monitoring and evaluating the impact of migration policy interventions on development outcomes. With the support of GMG member agencies, four countries had been selected to pilot the handbook. The document was considered “work-in-progress”: following the pilots, the handbook would be revised and updated. Ms. Klein-Solomon concluded her presentation by expressing her gratitude to members of the GMG for their contributions in drafting and implementing the handbook.

The next presentation was made by Mr. Laurent de Bœck, Director of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Observatory on Migration. In 2006, the ACP Group of States had decided to establish a migration observatory in order to address gaps in evidence, research capacity and cooperation. The ACP Observatory on Migration was officially launched in 2010 with funding from the European Development Fund (EDF) and the Government of Switzerland. The objective of the Observatory was to establish research networks and to consolidate migration data with a view to supporting the formulation of evidence-based migration policies. Projects would be piloted in 12 countries, based on national plans of action developed by Governments in collaboration with civil society. Expected outputs of the Observatory included reports, compendia, policy briefs, guidelines and online databases. Mr. de Bœck observed that capacity-building was a central feature of the Observatory. Through a twinning approach, experts from research institutions in different parts of the world would be brought together in order to prepare studies guided by national and regional priorities. Training modules and tools would be developed for national and regional capacity-building workshops. Mr. de Bœck expressed the hope that the Observatory would facilitate the sharing of information among representatives of Governments, civil society, international organizations as well as the migrants themselves. He emphasized that the Observatory would not “reinvent the wheel”, but build on existing initiatives. The harmonization of migration data was one of the areas where the Observatory would seek to collaborate with other partners.

The two presentations were followed by a tour de table during which representatives of United Nations offices, funds, and programmes and other institutions presented their recent activities on capacity-building and training on international migration. In total, 14 representatives took the floor. A summary of those interventions is provided below.

Several organizations had undertaken initiatives to strengthen capacities to collect data on international migration. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Population Division of UNDESA, had conducted two capacity-building workshops on international migration statistics. It had also developed a toolkit “Statistics on international migration – a practical guide” to assist government officials, statisticians and researchers to produce and use migration statistics. An online inventory of institutions working on migration in Europe was under preparation. UNFPA was assisting countries in collecting migration and other demographic data in the context of the 2010 round of population censuses. The International Labour Organization (ILO) had created a module on international labour migration for collecting migration data as part of labour force surveys. The World Health Organization (WHO), in collaboration with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), had

developed a set of guidelines to gather data on the international migration of health workers in order to monitor the implementation of the Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel, adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2010.

Various organizations had undertaken activities aimed at building capacities to mainstream international migration into national development planning. As a follow-up to the presentation by the Permanent Observer of IOM to the United Nations, the representative from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reported that his Office had received funding from the Government of Switzerland to implement the GMG handbook *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A Handbook for Policy-makers and Practitioners*. The project would be implemented under the auspices of the GMG working group on mainstreaming migration into national development strategies. The five regional commissions of the United Nations had convened several workshops and commissioned various studies funded by the United Nations Development Account project “Strengthening national capacities to deal with international migration: maximizing development benefits and minimizing negative impact”. The purpose of the project, lead by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), was to assist Governments to incorporate international migration into national development strategies and to improve the quality and availability of migration information by strengthening research networks and sharing good practices. UNFPA had undertaken a survey which had indicated that more than one third of its country offices were engaged in supporting Governments to develop and implement national migration policies through, inter alia, policy dialogue, advocacy and support for research and data activities. As part of its migration and development seminar series, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) was organizing a workshop in New York in June 2011 that would focus on the role of Migration Profiles (MPs) in mainstreaming migration in development planning.

Several agencies had carried out activities to strengthen national capacities to manage international migration. IOM had dedicated the 2010 edition of the *World Migration Report* to the capacities needed by States, regional and international organizations, and civil society to manage migration successfully. IOM continued to support regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs) and was planning to convene a global consultation of RCPs in 2011. The African Capacity Building Center, established by IOM in 2009 in the United Republic of Tanzania, had been active in promoting migration governance in Africa by delivering training programmes. In 2010, the Center had carried out more than 300 training and capacity-building activities. The Ramphal Commission on Migration and Development had published a report entitled *People on the Move: Managing Migration in today's Commonwealth*. The report concluded that improving the knowledge base was essential for strengthening the migration management capacity among Member States of the Commonwealth.

A number of agencies had launched new initiatives to protect the rights of migrants, especially those in vulnerable situations. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) had developed a set of training modules on the human rights of migrants. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had assisted Member States in developing comprehensive migration strategies that were sensitive to the needs of refugees and other vulnerable groups. UNHCR had organized a meeting on refugee protection in Dar es Salaam, the United Republic of Tanzania in September 2010 and was planning a series of commemorative events during 2011 to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the fiftieth anniversary of the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) was implementing a regional programme to empower women migrant workers in Asia. The programme aimed, among others, to build capacity among public authorities, employers, employment agencies and communities to implement policies and programmes to protect the rights of women migrant workers. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) had prepared a special issue of its journal *Diversities* exploring the outcomes of female migration from the perspective of human rights and gender empowerment. The Scalabrini International



Migration Network (SIMN) was convening the Third Forum on Migration and Peace, in Mexico City, Mexico, in October 2011. The forum would explore new policies and programmes to protect international migrants and refugees and promote peaceful coexistence between migrants and non-migrants.

The ILO had supported Member States in developing decent work programmes and by engaging Governments, workers' and employers' organizations on labour migration. It had conducted training on labour migration in collaboration with its International Training Centre (ITC-ILO) in Turin, Italy and had co-organised a workshop on labour recruitment in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in January 2011. In the summer of 2011, the ILO would organize a labour migration academy, focusing on a wide range of migration themes, including migration governance and development, in close collaboration with other GMG members.

Several agencies had carried out activities in the area of international migration and health. As a follow-up to the resolution on the health of migrants, adopted during the sixty-first World Health Assembly in May 2008, the WHO, with support from the Government of Spain and IOM, had convened a global consultation on migrant health in Madrid, Spain in March 2010. A regional dialogue on the health challenges faced by Asian labour migrants, organized by WHO, IOM and UNDP had taken place in Bangkok, Thailand in July 2010.

A number of training activities to combat trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants had been carried out in 2009 and 2010. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) had produced numerous capacity-building tools, including a toolkit to combat smuggling of migrants as well as a training manual on investigating and prosecuting the smuggling of migrants. It had also developed an international framework for action to implement the protocol to prevent trafficking in persons as well as model laws against smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons. UNODC had launched the "Blue Heart" campaign to raise awareness about human trafficking and had convened a series of workshops as part of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT). In collaboration with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, IOM had published the handbook *Caring for Trafficked Persons*. The handbook offered practical guidelines to health-care providers on how to recognize and treat some of the health related problems associated with human trafficking.

## VI. MEASURING THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

In introducing the session, Mr. Hovy noted that the increase in multilateral programmes on international migration and development, as documented in the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development for the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, had spurred the need for programme evaluation and impact assessment. Rigorous studies and objective indicators were needed in order to take stock of the effectiveness of policies and programmes in preparation for the High-level Dialogue in 2103. The first part of the session would focus on approaches to assess the contribution of international migration to countries of origin and destination, while the second part would centre on measuring migrant integration in developed and developing countries.

### *1. Assessing the contribution of international migration to countries of origin and destination*

Professor Raúl Delgado-Wise from the Autonomous University of Zacatecas, Mexico, observed that in the current debate on international migration and development, the positive contribution of international migrants to their home societies was often exaggerated, while their impact on host countries tended to be overlooked. Too often, the role of remittances was overstated, while the root causes of migration and its human rights dimensions were ignored. In the case of Mexico, the costs of out-

migration, measured in terms of educational and other investments made in citizens who subsequently left the country, frequently outweighed the benefits garnered. Conversely, the socio-economic contribution of Mexican migrants to the United States was often ignored. In order to assess the true costs and benefits of international migration, Professor Delgado-Wise suggested replacing the current approach with a comprehensive framework that included four dimensions, namely (a) the root causes of migration, (b) the impact of international migration on migrants and their families, (c) the impact of international migration on countries of origin, and (d) the impact of international migration on countries of destination. This approach would allow for assessing the impact of migration across migration corridors as well as over time. Professor Delgado-Wise identified several challenges in implementing his proposed framework, including defining the relevant indicators, collecting the appropriate data, and creating a composite index. He then provided some examples of indicators measuring the economic, social and demographic impact of Mexican immigration to the United States. In conclusion, Professor Delgado-Wise hoped that his proposed framework would help shift the immigration discussion in countries of destination from one that focused on national security to one that was based on development and international cooperation.

Ms. Laura Chappell of the Institute for Public Policy Research presented the “Development on the Move” project, undertaken in collaboration with the Global Development Network. The initiative aimed at measuring the development impact of migration in order to provide practical policy advice. In assessing how international migration affected development, the project had identified six migration channels: three direct—emigration, immigration and return migration—and three indirect—remittances, other diaspora contributions and “brain gain”.<sup>1</sup> Nationally representative surveys had been conducted in seven countries, covering different groups of migrants. Households without a migrating family member had been included as reference group. The project’s definition of development as an expansion of capabilities had implied the inclusion of a broad range of indicators on, among others, income, health, education and gender relations. The project’s aim to establish causal relations between migration and development by seeking to isolate the effects of migration on development had created several challenges. First, the project needed to control for the possibility that migration was a cause rather than a consequence of development (“reverse causality”). Second, provisions needed to be made to minimize the chance that the migrants and non-migrants included in the surveys differed in more ways than in their propensity to migrate (“self-selection”). Different methods had been used to address those challenges, including the use of retrospective survey questions and advanced econometric tools. In closing, Ms. Chappell remarked that the nationally representative household surveys aimed at establishing causality between migration and development, while complex to undertake, had contributed to a better understanding of the relationship between international migration and development and had proven very useful for policymakers.

One of the discussants, Professor Jeronimo Cortina of the University of Houston, pointed out that while both projects had adopted a comprehensive approach to migration and development, they differed significantly in their assumptions and research methods, including in their definitions of what constituted development. While the “Development on the Move” project was primarily based on indicators collected at the household level, the framework proposed by Professor Delgado-Wise included mostly macro-economic data. Professor Cortina advocated a multi-level approach, combining data collected at the household, community and national level. He added that measuring the impact of migration on development also required a long-term perspective. He cautioned that the framework proposed by Professor Delgado-Wise was very ambitious and questioned whether it would allow for comparing different migration corridors. Professor Cortina expressed some reservation about the validity of the conclusions and policy recommendations made by the “Development on the Move” project in view of the limited sample size of the various sub-groups.

The second discussant, Mr. Jean-Christophe Dumont of the OECD, remarked that quantifying and isolating the impact of migration on development was a complex task. Thus, the fact that migrant households spent more on education or health did not, by itself, indicate that migrants were better off than

non-migrants. He agreed with Professor Cortina that both projects needed to take into account the long-term effects of migration on development. Generalizing findings on the relation between migration and development was problematic, given the differential effects, depending on the age, country of origin, level of education and the type of the migrant.

One participant objected to the characterization that the migration and development discourse had focused solely on the benefits of remittances for countries of origin, while ignoring the root causes of migration and its positive impacts on host countries. Successive reports of the Secretary-General had referred to the benefits of international migration for destination countries and indicated that a lack of development could not be solved by international migration alone. One participant asked whether the projects had been able to assess the impact of international migration policies on development.

In response, Ms. Chappell agreed with the suggestion that, in addition to assessing the impact of migratory movements on development, there was a need to study the impact of national migration policies on development. While the “Development on the Move” project had shared country-specific findings with national policymakers, she was unable to determine whether the project had affected policy formulation. She called on the agencies present at the coordination meeting to step up their efforts to collect and share the evidence on the impact of international migration policies on development.

Citing the emphasis placed by organizations such as the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank on the beneficial impacts of remittances, Professor Delgado-Wide observed that the focus of successive meetings of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, with the exception of its fourth edition, had generally been quite narrow, avoiding issues such as the causes of migration, the human rights of migrants, and the benefits of migration for destination countries. He reiterated that the main objective of his presentation had been to broaden the discussion on the linkages between international migration and development in view of the High-level Dialogue in 2013.

## *2. Measuring migrant integration*

Mr. Patrick Simon from Institut National Etudes Démographiques (INED) made a presentation on measuring the integration of international migrants in countries of destination. Before integration could be measured, the definition of integration, including its objectives, should be clarified. The presenter distinguished various approaches to integrating foreigners. The first approach, assimilation, was a one-sided process whereby migrants were assumed to give up their distinctive characteristics in order to become indistinguishable from the native population. The second approach, integration, involved a two-way process of mutual adaptation and accommodation. Multiculturalism, the third approach, emphasized the role of pluralism in minority-majority relations. An essential element of the integration process was non-discrimination. Mr. Simon noted that the European Union had adopted a model of mutual adaptation, emphasizing the role of shared values and norms. A number of European Union Member States had implemented systems to monitor migrant integration on the basis of quantitative indicators.

Measuring integration required a two-pronged approach: one assessing the tolerance of the host society towards newcomers and one the degree of integration from the target group’s perspective. Mr. Simon listed three indicators to measure the inclusiveness of societies: (a) the presence of a legal and policy framework to facilitate integration; (b) attitudes about migrants and minority groups among natives; and (c) perceptions and experiences of discrimination among migrants. Measuring integration from the perspective of the target group posed a series of challenges. First, the notion of conforming to one concept on nationhood was becoming obsolete in increasingly diverse societies due to class stratification, residential segregation and other ethnic and social divides. Another challenge was to identify the target group to be integrated. Foreigners, immigrants and ethnic minorities were all different,

although sometimes overlapping, groups, each demonstrating different degrees of incorporation or exclusion. Further, the time dimension of the integration process required clarification.

The challenges to measure integration were compounded by the lack of adequate statistics. The rise in the native-born population with immigrant parents had challenged traditional classification systems of international migrants. While most countries in the world collected information on country of citizenship or country of birth, few countries were able to identify second generation immigrants, based on the birthplace of the parents. About two thirds of the countries had collected information on race or ethnicity during the 2000 round of population censuses. He concluded his presentation by questioning whether integration could be measured in a uniform way within and across countries. He also doubted that the existing integration theories and benchmarks, developed in industrialized countries, could be readily applied to developing countries.

Mr. David Khoudour-Castéras of the OECD Development Centre presented a project on migrant integration in the South. The project, funded by the MacArthur Foundation, was carried out in response to the increase in South-South migration as well as the impact of international migrants on host countries in the South. In view of those recent developments, it was imperative for Governments of developing countries to implement policies to facilitate migrant integration. Despite some similarities between South to North and South to South migration, such as the economic motivation of migrants and the social costs of emigration, the differences between those flows had important implications for migrant integration. High levels of temporary and circular migration, triggered by the smaller distances, lower costs and fewer economic and cultural barriers, made long-term integration less of a priority in the South than in the North. The problems faced by migrants in the South, such as informal labour markets, substandard housing, lack of social protection and violation of civil rights, were often similar to those faced by nationals. This observation suggested that policies should focus on improving social cohesion by targeting both nationals and foreigners. While international migrants often faced similar problems as native-born populations, they encountered additional obstacles, including a lack of legal protection, overt discrimination, and limited access to social services. Migrants in transit, including stranded migrants, refugees and unaccompanied children were particularly vulnerable to human rights violations.

Mr. Khoudour-Castéras agreed with Mr. Simon that many of the benchmarks used to measure migrant integration in the North did not apply to the South. Due to the limited administrative capacity and the shorter stay of migrants, legal benchmarks in the South were less relevant than in the North. Moreover, labour force surveys, a key tool to measure labour market outcomes for migrants and non-migrants in the North, were more difficult to apply in the South due to the informality of labour markets. Rather, Mr. Khoudour-Castéras proposed to measure migrant integration in the South by: (a) using opinion polls to capture perceptions of both natives and migrants; (b) adjusting integration surveys to capture informal activities; (c) focusing on discrimination and lack of access to basic services; and (d) looking beyond conventional labour market outcomes. The OECD Development Centre was preparing a study on migrant integration in Ghana with a view to testing those assumptions. The first step of the study had consisted of a series of interviews and workshops with policymakers, representatives of civil society and other stakeholders to map existing policies and programmes on migrant integration. The second step of the study would involve a field survey among international migrants and their host communities.

In the ensuing discussion, a question was raised about the relationship between integration and religion. One participant concurred with the assessment that it took time for migrants to assimilate into host societies but questioned the viability of adopting a long-term, multi-generational approach to monitor integration. In response, Mr. Simon stated that while the religious affiliation of migrants affected their integration in some countries, it did not always represent a barrier to integration. He argued that one should not assume that integration occurred automatically after a certain number of years, adding that norms of host societies, characteristics of the migrants themselves as well as differences in how

integration was defined were changing over time. In response to a query about the preferential access to services by some groups of international migrants, Mr. Khoudour-Castéras noted that in many countries in the South, international migrants in general, and refugees in particular, were perceived as receiving “special” treatment, which could lead to additional discrimination and prevent them from fully integrating into host societies.

## VII. NEW INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

One of the functions of the annual coordination meetings on international migration is to promote the exchange information among the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations about new initiatives on international migration and development. This exchange of information helps the United Nations system, the IOM and other relevant actors to coordinate their activities on international migration. The papers contributed by participants in the Ninth Coordination Meeting are contained in Part II of these proceedings, while some of the major new initiatives are summarized below.

Several agencies reported progress in improving data and estimates on international migration. The Population Division of UNDESA, with support from UNICEF, had released estimates of the global migrant stocks classified by age and sex for the period 1990, 2000 and 2010. The estimates by age and sex, the first ever produced by the Population Division, were based on empirical data from censuses, population registers and administrative records and covered the 196 countries and areas of the world with a population of 100,000 inhabitants or more as of mid-2010. In response to a growing demand for migration statistics, the Statistics Division of UNDESA had expanded its collection of statistics on international migration through the *Demographic Yearbook*. As of 2011, national statistical offices were requested to provide statistics on the foreign-born and the foreign population classified by country of origin, age, sex and level of educational attainment. The Statistics Division was also in the process of revising its questionnaire on international travel and migration statistics. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) was developing a clearinghouse aimed at facilitating the collection, exchange and dissemination of migration statistics by countries in Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). ECLAC was conducting background studies on migration flows between Africa, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean, which would be presented during workshops to be held in 2011. The ILO had continued to improve its database on international labour migration statistics (ILM), which contained statistical information for 106 countries. The Institute for Statistics of UNESCO had released new data on the number of internationally mobile tertiary students classified by country of origin and sex for over 200 countries and areas of the world. UNHCR had updated its online database containing data on refugees, asylum-seekers and other persons of concern to UNHCR for over 150 countries. Work had also progressed on a joint OECD-World Bank immigration database. The dataset contained census data for 32 OECD and 57 non-OECD countries on persons aged 15 or over by country of birth or citizenship and classified by age, sex, level of educational attainment, labour force status and occupation.

Progress had also been made in advancing the evidence base on the impact of international migration on development. UNDP, as Chair of the GMG, had convened a seminar on “Overcoming barriers: Building partnerships for migration and human development” in Geneva, Switzerland in May 2010. The seminar had focused, among others, on strengthening the evidence base on the human development implications of migration. The OECD had released a report on migrant entrepreneurship and employment creation by immigrants. The report had found that entrepreneurship among immigrants was more prevalent than among natives and that migrant businesses had created a substantial number of jobs. Both UN Women and IOM had published studies on the impact of remittances.

The Financing for Development Office (FFDO) of UNDESA, in collaboration with UNDP, had published a report entitled *Realizing the Development Potential of Diasporas*, focusing on the contribution of transnational communities on development through remittances and other resources. The book identified areas where the contribution of diasporas could be leveraged and how Governments could strengthen migrant entrepreneurship. The IOM, in collaboration with the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), was preparing a *Handbook on Engaging Diaspora in Development Activities in Host and Home Countries*. The handbook aimed to help Governments and civil society by collecting good practices and lessons learnt in building successful partnerships with transnational communities.

A number of agencies had undertaken new initiatives on forced migration, particularly in relation to environmental change. The United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) had initiated a research project on the linkages between climate change, food security and human mobility with support from Care International, the AXA Financial Group and the MacArthur Foundation. UNESCO was editing a book on the nexus between climate change and migration. The World Bank was carrying out a project on the impact of forced displacement on host countries, which would result in a compilation of case studies and a compendium of best practices to promote sustainable solutions to displacement.

The GMG had established a working group on data and research co-chaired by the Population Division of UNDESA and IOM. Planned activities of the working group included an assessment of the impact of programmes and projects on international migration and development, carried out by the GMG, an inventory of the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report *Migrants Count: Five Steps Toward Better Migration Data*, published by the Center for Global Development, and the development of a template with core indicators for Migration Profiles.

Various activities had been carried out to improve migration governance. The Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) at Georgetown University had initiated the research project entitled “Global Governance of International Migration”, while the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) had launched the report *Conversations on the Global Governance of Migration*.

## VIII. CLOSING

A representative of the Population Division of UNDESA summarized the main highlights of the meeting. Several participants contributed to the summary by providing additional comments. Mr. Hovy expressed his gratitude to all participants for their presence, contributions and engagement in the Ninth Coordination Meeting on International Migration. He then proceeded to close the meeting.

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### NOTE

<sup>1</sup> According to the “brain gain” argument, citizens improve their human capital in order to increase their chances of emigrating.

## **INFORMATION PAPERS**





## AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

**Thursday, 17 February 2011**

*Morning session 10.00 – 13.00*

I. Opening of the meeting

*Ms. Hania Zlotnik, Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)*

II. Global Forum on Migration and Development

*H.E. Mr. Julian Ventura Valero, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico*

*H.E. Mr. Eduard Gnesa, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland*

III. Sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly: Report of the Secretary-General and resolution on international migration and development

*Ms. Hania Zlotnik, Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)*

IV. Information about the informal thematic debate on international migration and development, being organized by the President of the General Assembly

*H.E. Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Office of the President of the General Assembly, United Nations*

*Afternoon session 15.00 – 18.00*

V. Coordination in the area of international migration and development: capacity-building and training

Mainstreaming migration into development planning: GMG handbook for policymakers and practitioners

*Ms. Michele Klein-Solomon, International Organization for Migration (IOM)*

Fostering research on South-South migration and human development

*Mr. Laurent de Bæck, African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Observatory on Migration*

Tour de table

**AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK (continued)**

**Friday, 18 February 2011**

*Morning Session 10.00 – 13.00*

VI. Measuring the impact of international migration

1. Assessing the contribution of international migration to countries of origin and destination

Assessment of migration, development and human rights: Conceptual framework and new strategic indicators

*Professor Raúl Delgado-Wise, Autonomous University of Zacatecas*

Measuring migration's economic and social impacts: Core indicators and methodological considerations

*Ms. Laura Chappell, Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)*

Discussion leaders:

*Professor Jeronimo Cortina, University of Houston*

*Mr. Jean-Christophe Dumont, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)*

2. Migrant integration

Benchmarking integration: Who, what and how?

*Mr. Patrick Simon, Institut National Etudes Démographiques (INED)*

Migrant integration in the South: What does it mean and how can we measure it?

*Mr. David Khoudour-Castéras, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)*

Discussion

*Afternoon Session 15.00 – 18.00*

VII. New initiatives on international migration and development

VIII. Closing of the meeting

*Mr. Bela Hovy, Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)*

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CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE, HUMAN MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT:  
RECENT POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND RESEARCH GAPS

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A. INTRODUCTION

Human migration and displacement in the context of climate change has come to the attention of researchers and policymakers in recent years. The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) scenarios suggest that climate change is likely to be an increasingly important variable in this equation.<sup>1</sup> While there are no reliable estimates of the numbers of people who will move as a result of climate change, the rise in the scale of population movement, in particular within countries, is expected to be substantial.<sup>2</sup>

The media have recently highlighted significant flooding events in 2010, including the Pakistan floods which inundated up to 20 per cent of the country and left an estimated 20 million people temporarily homeless. Further, large floods in early 2011 in eastern Australia captured world attention as they inundated areas the size of France and Germany combined. These disastrous events raise questions about the interaction of human mobility (ranging from migration to displacement) and environmental change.<sup>3</sup>

These questions challenge existing approaches to migration displacement and illustrate the need for new approaches to assess the impacts of changing environmental conditions, including climate change, on human migration and displacement. Today, new evidence-based research projects, methods, and concepts are emerging to help address some of the most important knowledge gaps on environmental change, migration and displacement.<sup>4</sup> More work, however, is needed to develop indicators, improved methods, and evidence to support policy.<sup>5</sup>

B. UNFCCC CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS AND HUMAN MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT

The outcome of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) adopted in Cancun, Mexico on 11 December 2010 acknowledged the need to address the movement of people as a result of climate change (paragraph 14 (f)). This section gives an overview of the timeline of the UNFCCC discussions on climate induced migration that took place between 2007 and December 2010 and which resulted in the Cancun Adaptation Framework.<sup>6</sup>

14. Invites all Parties to enhance action on adaptation under the Cancun Adaptation Framework, taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and specific national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances, by undertaking, inter alia, the following:

...

(f) Measures to enhance understanding, coordination and cooperation with regard to climate change induced displacement, migration and planned relocation, where appropriate, at national, regional and international levels;

Adaptation was firmly established as a focus of the UNFCCC climate negotiations by the Conference of the Parties held in Bali, Indonesia (COP-13). The session created the Bali Action Plan which laid out the elements of adaptation. It further created the AWG-LCA, a subsidiary body

intended to prepare the ground for a successful climate agreement to succeed (or complement) the Kyoto Protocol. Between COP-13 (Bali, Indonesia) and COP-14 (Poznan, Poland), the tasks of the AWG-LCA were to explore in greater detail the proposals from Parties and Observers on elements for “enhanced action on adaptation and mitigation and the associated enabling and supporting actions”. During this time, the UNFCCC accepted submissions from both State Parties and Observers, in order to begin identifying concrete elements for an agreed outcome to be reached at the fifteenth session of COP. Thus, before COP-14, research and operational organizations had the opportunity to directly co-shape ideas for the draft negotiating text within the established process. The wider humanitarian community—including United Nations agencies and civil society—mobilized in the period from 2008 to 2009 to ensure that the human face of climate change would be duly represented. That was the moment when the idea of environmentally induced migration was formally introduced in the UNFCCC process.

For the Poznan session (COP-14), AWG-LCA Chair Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar compiled an assembly document—reflecting submissions by the research and humanitarian community—which mentioned migration for the first time.<sup>7</sup>

From 2008 onwards, migration maintained its presence in the draft negotiating text. During the sixth AWG-LCA session in June 2009, Parties provided general comments on the structure and content of the LCA text, stated reservations and objections to elements of the text, and proposed additions and modifications. At the opening plenary, Mr. Jonathan Pershing, Head of Delegation of the United States of America, expressed concern about the use of the term “climate refugee” in the draft text. Since that statement, however, there appears to be no public record of State Party objections or concerns about the inclusion of the issue in the UNFCCC negotiations text. The UNFCCC noted Mr. Pershing’s recommendation and revised the wording on migration and displacement which was then carried forward in discussions in Bangkok, Thailand and Barcelona, Spain in the autumn of 2009 to COP-15 in Copenhagen, Denmark in December 2009.

In the COP-15 negotiations in Copenhagen, UNFCCC delegates to the AWG-LCA continued working on elements of a broader adaptation framework, which included the phrase “migration and displacement”. During those drafting sessions, some State Parties suggested that an array of themes—human rights, mother earth, climate justice, compensation to vulnerable people—be added to a paragraph on migration and displacement. Concern was expressed that the paragraph on migration and displacement would be difficult to include, if it was couched in those terms. Parties consulted and decided that it was sufficiently important to include migration and displacement and compromises were found for the placement of other issues (such as placing human rights in the perambulatory text as a principle), and the wording became anchored in what later was accepted as the outcome text from COP-15 (FCCC/CP/2010/2, in paragraph 4(f)).

The COP-15 process created a text whose legal status was under discussion, but most areas related to adaptation were not subsequently reopened for discussion. Therefore the wording and content of the paragraphs on adaptation did not change significantly throughout 2010.

After missing the window of opportunity for reaching an international agreement at COP-15, there was pressure to create a package of balanced outcomes for Cancun, Mexico. In this context, delegates focused increasingly on the kinds of elements that could be included in a possible Cancun Adaptation Framework. At COP-16, Parties decided to accept the draft text containing the Cancun Adaptation Framework, several key specific elements such as paragraph 14(f) on migration and displacement, an Adaptation Committee and a work programme on loss and damage.

### C. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS FOR RESEARCH AND ACTION

This section summarizes some of the possible policy priorities for research and action on climate change and migration. Now that migration and displacement have been highlighted in the UNFCCC climate negotiations, policymakers increasingly ask “what do Governments need to know about the potential impacts of climate change on human mobility in order to prepare their own appropriate legal, institutional, and governance approaches?” The potential scale of future movements may require support for the countries and communities most affected by internal and immediate cross-border environmental migration. In particular, the less developed and least developed countries may not have sufficient capacities or resources to manage or respond to such flows.

Knowledge gaps in the research about environmental change, migration and displacement can be grouped into four areas:<sup>8</sup>

- *Environmental processes that trigger migration.* There is a lack of consensus on an agreed and measurable definition of human mobility linked to environmental change. This contributes to the already difficult task of compiling accurate datasets or precise figures across scientific studies;<sup>9</sup>
- *The process of environmental migration itself.* More evidence-based research is needed to characterize the drivers of migration in areas of origin (e.g., livelihood insecurity, environmental hazards, conflict, demographic pressures, gender inequality) and the pull factors in areas of destinations (e.g., demand for labour, aging population);
- *Policy frameworks and institutions that address environmentally induced migration.* A few examples of policy frameworks addressing this issue are available, such as temporary protection status (TPS) in the United States of America and Europe or principles and soft laws for protecting people who have been displaced by environmental events. Yet beyond humanitarian approaches for rapid-onset extreme events, there are significant governance gaps. Complex and slow onset events could pose a major challenge to legal and governance frameworks, in part because responsibility and temporal limits are difficult to assign. Moreover various institutions that deal with different issues related to the impacts of climate change may have a tendency to operate in “silos” and may approach issues such as climate change within narrow sectoral perspectives;
- *Understanding environmentally induced migration—including resettlement and relocation—as adaptation, or something beyond adaptation.* More understanding is needed about what combinations of factors lead to human mobility enhancing resilience of affected people, or undermining resilience. This will add to the analysis of the role migration and displacement may play in the future as the impacts of climate change become more pronounced.

Some of the following examples for policy perspectives could help shape activities on climate induced displacement and migration:<sup>10</sup>

- *Foster adaptation alternatives to prevent displacement.* Human mobility can be part of strategies to help people adapt to climate change. It can be an effective way to manage the risks associated with climate change when done voluntarily and with appropriate planning. However, displacement, especially when it is not orderly and insufficiently managed, can be an indicator that adaptation is failing if few other realistic options exist for people;
- *Where possible, help people stay through sustainable rural and urban development.* In many cases, climate induced displacement can be avoided by ensuring livelihood security for affected

people both in rural and urban areas. Farmers make up 25 per cent of the world's population, with higher percentages in many developing countries. Climate change will take its toll on the ability of those people to feed themselves and their families in the future. When livelihoods fail, people may be forced to migrate;

- *Where necessary, help people relocate in safety and dignity.* Paragraph 14(f) notes the possibility that planned relocation may be part of future adaptation scenarios. In cases where movement of human populations is the best or possibly only adaptation strategy, effective policy responses can help to ensure that movements are orderly and safe. Policies should avoid situations where people are forced to move (distress migration) or move in emergency situations. Policies should aim to ensure that displaced people do not become more vulnerable;
- *Support disaster risk reduction and conflict mediation strategies while strengthening humanitarian responses.* If Governments do not take action to reduce the risks people face from acute crises arising from natural disasters and competition over resources leading to conflict, they will be called upon to help later, and then the problem will be much more difficult to address. Investing in resilience building strategies can pre-empt uncontrolled crisis situations;
- *Identify guiding principles, effective practices and institutional frameworks* to help Governments develop appropriate laws, policies and programmes to address environmentally induced internal and international migration. Current laws, policies and institutional arrangements are inadequate to deal with complex movements of people. Of particular concern is the possibility that large numbers of people may be rendered stateless if rising sea levels inundate island countries and low-lying, densely populated delta areas. Guiding principles are needed to shape thinking on how to manage potential large-scale relocation in the future.

#### D. CONCLUSIONS

Research has substantiated the fact that environmental change affects human migration and displacement worldwide. Glacial melt, rising sea levels and desertification resulting from natural disasters and climate change are driving migration and displacement, and will continue to do so in the future. Some of the most vulnerable regions include low-lying islands and deltas, coastal areas, areas dependent on glacial-fed water systems and areas subject to persistent drought. Research suggests that most environmentally induced migration and displacement occurs within countries.

This paper outlined a process by which research helped bring the issue of migration and climate and environmental change to the UNFCCC climate negotiations process. In 2008, a combination of factors contributed to drawing policymaker's attention to migration and displacement in the context of climate change. Since 2009, research has continued responding to questions about migration and displacement. Operational organizations will offer insights about the implications of climate change on the resilience and vulnerability of populations of concern. With the inclusion of climate induced displacement, migration, and planned relocation in the Cancun Adaptation Framework, many new windows of opportunity have opened for work on the issue. Member States have asked about the types of activities they could undertake and the opportunities to fill knowledge gaps and support decision makers with more and better quality information about the role of environmental factors in the combination of issues that affects human migration and displacement.



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NOTES

<sup>1</sup> IPCC (1990). *First Assessment Report (FAR)*. Geneva. Available at: [http://www.ipcc.ch/publications\\_and\\_data/publications\\_and\\_data\\_reports.shtml](http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/publications_and_data_reports.shtml); IPCC (2007): *Fourth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2007 (AR4)*. Available at: [http://www.ipcc.ch/publications\\_and\\_data/publications\\_and\\_data\\_reports.shtml](http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/publications_and_data_reports.shtml)

<sup>2</sup> Warner, K., et al. (2010). “Climate change, environmental, and migration: Frequently Asked Questions”. A summary for decision makers at the UNFCCC Climate Negotiations in Cancun (COP-16).

<sup>3</sup> Warner, K. (2010). Global Environmental Change and Migration: Governance challenges. *Global Environmental Change*, Special Issue focusing on Resilience and Governance. vol. 20, pp. 402-413.; Thow, A. and M. de Blois (2008): *Climate change and human vulnerability: Mapping emerging trends and risk hotspots for humanitarian actors - Report to the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs*. Geneva: Maplecroft/ CHA/CARE.

<sup>4</sup> See Jäger, J. et al. (2009): *Synthesis Report. Environmental Change and Forced Migration Scenarios Project*, pp. 64-66. Available at: [http://www.each-for.eu/documents/EACHFOR\\_Synthesis\\_Report\\_090515.pdf](http://www.each-for.eu/documents/EACHFOR_Synthesis_Report_090515.pdf); Warner, K. et al. (2009). “In search of Shelter: Mapping the effects of climate change on human migration and displacement.” A policy paper prepared for the 2009 Climate Negotiations. Bonn, Germany; Laczko, F. and C. Aghazarm, eds. (2009): *Migration, environment and climate change: assessing the evidence*. Geneva: IOM, UNU-EHS, CCEMA, Rockefeller Foundation; Massey D. et al. (2007). *Environmental change and out-migration: evidence from Nepal*. Report 07-715. Population Study Center. University of Michigan. Institute for social research. Available at: <http://www.psc.isr.umich.edu/pubs/pdf/tr07-615.pdf>; Warner, K. et al. (2010): Climate change, environmental degradation and migration. In: *Natural Hazards*, No. 55, pp. 689-715.

<sup>5</sup> Martin, S. and K. Warner (2010): *Impact of climate change on migration and development*. Paper for the Civil Society Days. Global Forum on Migration and Development Mexico 2010. Roundtable 3: Migration and Development: Tools and Evidence for Policy and institutional Coherence. Session 3.2. Civil Society Days, in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, 8-9 November 2010. Available at [http://gfm2010mexico.hsplatform.com/archivos/portal/doc\\_2\\_103\\_ImpactMartinWarner32.pdf](http://gfm2010mexico.hsplatform.com/archivos/portal/doc_2_103_ImpactMartinWarner32.pdf); Martin, S.F. (2009): *Managing Environmental Migration*. In Laczko, F. and C. Aghazarm (eds.) *Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Assessing the Evidence*. IOM, Geneva; Martin, S.F. (2010): *Climate Change, Migration, and Adaption*. Background Paper for the Transatlantic Study Team on Climate Change and Migration, German Marshall Fund.

<sup>6</sup> UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (2010). Decision-/CP.16. Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (FCCC/AWGLCA/2010). Available at: [http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop\\_16/application/pdf/cop16\\_lca.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_16/application/pdf/cop16_lca.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> See FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/16/Rev.1 paragraphs 63(g) on measuring, verifying, and reporting of emissions reductions (section C, ILO submission); paragraph 112(f) and 112(h) in (section D, UNU submission, IASC and UNU submissions). Available at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/awglca4/eng/16r01.pdf>.

<sup>8</sup> Stal, M. and K. Warner (2009). The Way Forward Researching the Environment and Migration Nexus. Research Brief based on the Outcomes of the 2nd Expert Workshop on Climate Change, Environment, and Migration. 23-24 July 2009, Munich, Germany. United Nations University; Warner, K. and Laczko, F. Migration, Environment and Development: New Directions for Research. In Chamie J. and L. Dall’Oglio (eds.) *International Migration and Development. Continuing the Dialogue: Legal and policy perspectives*. IOM and Center for Migration Studies. New York and Geneva, pp. 235-253.

<sup>9</sup> Further, governance issues arise related to definitions: Some refer to “environmental refugees” while others refute that the word “refugee” has a specific legal meaning in the context of the 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. See Castles, S. (2002). Environmental change and forced migration: making sense of the debate In: *New Issues in Refugee Research*. Working Paper No. 70, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Geneva; and Dun, O. and F. Gemenne (2008) “Defining Environmental Migration”, *Climate Change and Displacement, Forced Migration Review*, vol. 31, pp. 10-11.

<sup>10</sup> Martin, S. and K. Warner (2010). *Climate change and migration: Findings of the transatlantic study team*. German Marshall Fund Study Team on Climate Change and Migration, German Marshall Fund, September 2010. Available at: <http://www.ehs.unu.edu/article/read/gmf>.



CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATORS, CAPACITIES, AND INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION  
ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

*United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*

A. DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATORS TO MEASURE THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION  
IN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION

Measuring the development impacts of migration in countries of origin and countries of destination is critical for evidence-based policymaking and targeted programming. UNDP contributed to the discussion on indicators to measure the development impacts of migration through its 2009 Human Development Report (HDR) entitled *Overcoming Barriers: Human Mobility and Development*. The report suggests that impacts should be conceived comprehensively, in terms of economic, social, and cultural outcomes, while taking into account public perceptions and concerns about migration and migrants, which often touch on questions of public safety and security. The use of qualitative information, in addition to quantitative data, is necessary to draw a comprehensive picture of migration impacts and to help fill existing data gaps. Moreover, the human development approach calls for a nuanced analysis of the impacts of different types of migration flows (including internal migration) during the various phases of the migration cycle. The report also seeks to measure the impacts and determinants of migration at the individual, household, community and national levels, examining the different dimensions of human well-being including the exercise of human and labour rights; access to health, education and other services; gender equality; and opportunities for political participation.

The report finds that the impacts of migration cannot be decoupled from the selectivity of migration and migrants' status prior, during and after migration. Who moves, under what conditions and the human development outcomes of those movements at the individual level are all critical factors in shaping the impacts of migration for communities and societies in countries of origin and countries of destination. At the same time, the HDR report underscores that individual and collective migration decisions are shaped by existing opportunities and barriers to mobility, which are often the product of policies and regulatory measures. The report also draws attention to the fact that migration is likely to entail trade-offs, with gains in terms of the income or educational attainment of migrants and poorer outcomes in terms of migrants' health or public participation.

The report recommends that the impacts of migration at the individual, household, local and national level, as well as on different dimensions of human well-being be considered. Five key "dimensions" are proposed, notably:

- (a) The size, nature and direction of migration flows;
- (b) The size, nature and direction of migration-related flows, including remittances, trade and investment;
- (c) The socio-economic context of countries of origin and destination;
- (d) The regulatory and policy environment of countries of origin and destination;
- (e) The impacts of migration on economic, social and cultural outcomes.

For each of those dimensions a series of indicators are proposed.

As a follow-up to the 2009 HDR, UNDP prepared a guidance note on migration and mobility for human development report teams, providing guidelines on data, concepts and potential areas of analysis to be considered when examining migration and mobility from a human development perspective. UNDP is also active in assessing indicators, with a special emphasis on measuring the impacts of migration and development policies and programmes. This work is currently being advanced by the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Ad Hoc Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research.

In its capacity as manager of the European Commission-United Nations Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI), UNDP is leading the effort to undertake a systematic stock-taking exercise of lessons learned from the implementation of over 50 civil society projects that the JMDI supports. This review will culminate in the production of a handbook for migration and development practitioners, offering practical guidelines and recommendations for those implementing and developing projects and programmes in this field. The main focus of the stock-taking exercise will be on identifying good practices by civil society organizations in the field of migration and development. More precisely, the exercise will focus on three main areas: (a) the capacities and capacity-building needs of stakeholders involved in migration and development projects; (b) the factors that contribute to the functioning and success of transnational partnerships; and (c) the results achieved by the migration and development projects in terms of their inclusiveness and opportunities created for their beneficiaries.

## B. RECENT CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING TRAINING PROGRAMMES

UNDP supports the development of capacity on migration and development for Governments and civil society stakeholders through its country and regional offices as well as through its headquarters.

### 1. *Country and regional initiatives on migration and development*

More than 30 UNDP country offices and regional centres around the world are actively engaged, in partnership with Governments, other international organizations and civil society in capacity-building initiatives related to migration and development. Those initiatives focus on five thematic areas:

- *Projects related to migrants' rights, migrant protection and law reform*, which seek to: (a) raise awareness of abusive and exploitative labour practices and the dangers of irregular migration; (b) prepare potential migrants prior to departure; (c) advocate for the protection of the rights of migrant women; and (d) support efforts to increase the quality of services provided to migrants. Such projects were undertaken in Armenia, the Philippines and Uzbekistan;
- *Projects on remittances and transnational contributions*, which predominantly aim to: (a) channel migrant financial resources to support economic and social development in the country of origin by mobilizing investments by transnational communities; (b) lower the cost of remittance transfers; and (c) improve access to financial services and enhance the accessibility and capacity in rural areas. Projects on remittances and other contributions were carried out in Albania, Bolivia (the Plurinational State of), the Dominican Republic, Lesotho, Morocco, Nigeria, the Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tajikistan;
- *Projects on migration management, return and reintegration*, which seek to: (a) support capacity-building for national institutions involved in migration management; (b) facilitate dialogue between countries of origin and destination of migration; and (c) organize the temporary return of

expatriate professionals to countries of origin to address skills shortages and build capacities in critical sectors. Countries where such project were undertaken include: Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mali, Malaysia, Pakistan, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic;

- *Programmes related to migrants' access to services*, which aim to: (a) support access to services in the areas of civil registration, health care, training, employment and social services for internal migrants, internally displaced persons and marginalized populations; and (b) develop capacities of local and national Governments and civil society stakeholders to address the rights and needs of those groups and integrate those rights and needs into national strategies and action plans. In the Asia-Pacific region, the focus has been on the links between HIV and mobility and the promotion of universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for mobile and migrant populations. Countries where projects aimed at improving migrants' access to services were conducted include: China, India, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nepal, Serbia, Thailand and Turkey;
- *Initiatives related to forced migration*, which aim at: (a) preventing trafficking in persons through awareness raising; and (b) improving institutional capacities and intra-governmental coordination for the prosecution of traffickers. Such projects were carried out in Armenia, Belarus, Ghana, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Thailand and Uzbekistan.

## 2. *Global initiatives on migration and development*

At the global level, UNDP focuses on strengthening the capacities of Governments—and of the United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) that support them—to comprehensively address the interlinkages between migration and development. To date, few Governments have undertaken a systematic assessment of the interplay between migration and development as it relates to their national context. Most Governments also lack the institutional frameworks that would allow them to address the issue of migration and development in an integrated manner.

With a view to addressing those shortcomings, UNDP is embarking on a two year project to support the mainstreaming of migration into national development strategies. The project is supported by the Government of Switzerland and will be implemented in close collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Global Migration Group (GMG), which established a dedicated working group on the topic of mainstreaming. The project is designed to support four pilot countries in their efforts to formulate migration-related goals, policies, programmes and indicators and integrate those goals into their national development strategies. The project will entail working closely with UNCTs to enable them to support Governments in establishing the necessary evidence base and building institutional capacity. In close cooperation with GMG partners, one core output of the project will be to provide UNCTs with the guidance and tools needed to effectively support government priorities on migration and development at the country level. The project will explore opportunities to link-up with pilot initiatives on mainstreaming migration into national development planning initiated by the JMDI in 2010 in Ghana and Morocco.

The JMDI, as an operational inter-agency programme on migration and development with projects in 16 target countries,<sup>1</sup> builds on its existing in-country presence and inter-agency support structures to engage and support Governments and UNCTs in their efforts to integrate migration into national development agendas. The JMDI's primary focus, however, is on building the capacities and supporting the vital role of civil society organizations and local authorities in the field of migration and development. As a strategic partnership between the European Commission and the United Nations,

implemented by UNDP in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO), IOM, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the JMDI is providing approximately 10 million Euros in funding to over 50 projects, linking small-scale migration and development actors in European Union Member States with counterparts in 16 countries. The 50 projects were initiated in 2009, lasted between 12 to 18 months and had an average budget of 180,000 Euros. Throughout the application process and the project implementation phase, recipients of project funding had access to advice and support from JMDI staff in Brussels, Belgium and in the field.

In addition, the JMDI launched an online training tool on migration and development project management at the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Mexico in 2010. The tool is accessible to the wider community of migration and development practitioners through the JMDI web platform.<sup>2</sup> The platform and the JMDI online community of practice, *M4D net*, provide critical support for the exchange of knowledge and lessons learned from some 1,600 migration and development practitioners worldwide, ranging from grassroots organizations and large non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to academics, local officials and experts from international organizations. *M4D net* regularly involves members in online discussions, allowing them to contribute their expertise and know-how to ongoing policy debates, and enabling them to share their experiences and ideas and to ask other members for support.

At headquarters as well as at the country level, the JMDI contributes to strengthening inter-agency cooperation on the topic of migration and development. In all 16 target countries, UNCTs are involved under the authority of the United Nations Resident Coordinators. In some cases this has led to, or reinforced, the establishment of standing coordination mechanisms on migration and facilitated fruitful and constructive dialogues with national and local Governments.

### C. OTHER MAJOR INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

During the first half of 2010, UNDP assumed the chairmanship of the GMG. UNDP's chairmanship focused on three priority areas: (a) the organization of a GMG practitioners symposium; (b) the finalization and endorsement of the GMG handbook *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A Handbook for Policy-makers and Practitioners*; and (c) the creation of a GMG Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies.

The GMG practitioners symposium on "Overcoming barriers: Building partnerships for migration and human development" was held in Geneva, Switzerland from 27 to 28 May 2010. Building on the recommendations of the 2009 HDR, it offered a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue and produced a set of concrete inputs for the fourth meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development. The Symposium brought together about 130 representatives of Governments, local authorities, development partners, international and regional organizations, civil society and academia to discuss joint challenges, practical solutions and ways in which partnerships at different levels could serve to maximize the human development benefits of migration in three key areas: (a) improving the evidence-base for policymaking; (b) protecting the rights of migrants; and (c) making migration an integral part of national and regional strategies for trade, employment, human development and long-term prosperity. The outcomes of the Symposium, which consisted of a series of background papers prepared by GMG member agencies as well as a summary of the discussions with concrete suggestions for follow-ups by GMG members, were shared with the Chair-in-Office of the fourth Global Forum. The Governments of Switzerland and the Netherlands provided financial support for the Symposium.

The overarching theme of UNDP’s GMG Chairmanship—stemming from the topic of the 2009 Global Forum and one of the key recommendations of the 2009 HDR—was mainstreaming migration into national development strategies. As such, UNDP facilitated the GMG’s involvement in, and endorsement of, the handbook *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning*, which was launched at the 2010 Global Forum in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Drawing on the expertise of GMG member agencies, the handbook provides practical guidance to Governments and their partners, including in civil society and international organizations. It outlines how to integrate migration into the different steps and phases of the development planning process, from the situation and stakeholder assessment to the evaluation of interventions. The handbook offers an overview of the complex interlinkages between migration and key sectors, such as health, education, labour and the environment. It also presents numerous examples of programmes and projects that have been undertaken with the aim of creating synergies between migration and development policy goals.

Providing practical follow-up to the handbook and translating it into action is among the priorities of UNDP and other GMG agencies. It also figures prominently in the draft workplan of the Swiss Chair-in-Office of the 2011 Global Forum under the thematic cluster III, entitled “Tools for evidence-based migration and development policies” to be taken forward by the GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research. UNDP, in collaboration with its GMG partners is ready to support government-led initiatives for providing action-oriented follow-up to the handbook. Under UNDP’s Chairmanship, the GMG established a working group on mainstreaming, co-convened by UNDP and IOM. Open to all GMG members, the working group is meant to enhance inter-agency coordination at the country level with a special focus on supporting government efforts on mainstreaming migration into national development strategies. The working group will serve as a platform to coordinate joint GMG follow-ups to the handbook and will have a key role to play in supporting the project “Mainstreaming migration in national development strategies” to be implemented in four pilot countries in collaboration with the Government of Switzerland. The group will meet for the first time on 16 February 2011.

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NOTES

<sup>1</sup> The 16 target countries are: Algeria, Cape Verde, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Jamaica, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Sri Lanka and Tunisia.

<sup>2</sup> For more information on the JMDI online training tool on migration and development, see: <http://www.migration4development.org/> (accessed 27 July 2011).





EMPOWERING WOMEN MIGRANT WORKERS TO CLAIM THEIR RIGHTS AND CELEBRATE  
THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT

*United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)*

A. THE CONTEXT

Gender equality and women's empowerment, including that of women migrants, is critical to the mission and mandate of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women). In her first statement to the Executive Board of UN Women, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, Ms. Michelle Bachelet stated that:<sup>1</sup>

*“[w]omen’s strength, women’s industry, women’s wisdom are humankind’s greatest untapped resource (...) Tapping this potential involves bringing women into decision making and creating space for their leadership; it involves freeing women from gender-based violence and providing the avenues and opportunities for them to be recognized as economic actors and included in economic policymaking; it involves showing policymakers that where women fully contribute to their economies and societies, the gains for everyone are greatly increased”* (emphasis added).

UN Women brings a gender-sensitive and women's empowerment approach to international migration and human development. The entity's work on women migrant workers is grounded in the significance of international migration to development; the feminization of migration —49 per cent of international migrants in 2010 were women<sup>2</sup>—and the need for a gender-sensitive approach to policy discourse and practice. Women are increasingly migrating on their own for work, sometimes as the sole income earners in their families. They are overrepresented in jobs traditionally considered “women's work”. Large numbers of migrant women work in informal manufacturing and service sectors, as well as in domestic work and in the hospitality sector, where they often are subjected to abuse.

However, women migrant workers are not just victims; they are foremost important development actors. Women migrant workers make vital contributions to their communities of origin and families by sending back remittances and other transfers. They also contribute to the development of countries of destination through their labour, skills and ideas. That is why gender equality and women's empowerment, including that of migrants, is critical to the mission and mandate of UN Women.

B. CURRENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF UN WOMEN ON PROTECTING  
THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN MIGRANT WORKERS

1. *International legal instruments on women migrant workers*

One of UN Women's core activities on migrant workers is ensuring gender-sensitive migration governance in line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General Recommendation No. 26 on Women Migrant Workers and other sources of international law.<sup>3</sup> UN Women carried out a number of activities in this regard, notably by:

- Providing technical and financial assistance for the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of gender-responsive policies, plans and programmes on migration;

- Strengthening capacities among women migrant workers and their associations to enable them to participate in all stages of policy processes, and claim their entitlements;
- Engaging with accountability mechanisms and processes to respond to women migrant workers' concerns.

In addition, UN Women provided technical support for the development of international women's human rights standards, including General Comment No. 1 on Migrant Domestic Workers, adopted by the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (CMW) in December 2010.<sup>4</sup> UN Women and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) are also creating a policy product based on existing and proposed human rights standards for domestic workers which will function as an advocacy tool for the introduction and implementation of legal and social protections for domestic workers.

## *2. Asia-Pacific and Arab States Regional Programme on Empowering Women Migrant Workers in Asia*

Since 2001, UN Women has implemented the Asia-Pacific and Arab States Regional Programme on Empowering Women Migrant Workers in Asia.<sup>5</sup> Throughout the programme, which covers ten countries of origin and destination, UN Women has:

- Provided technical and financial support to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for the development of a regional instrument on protecting migrant workers and their families;<sup>6</sup>
- Provided technical and financial support to the Government of Nepal and Indonesia to develop and implement gender-sensitive migration legislation at the national and local levels;<sup>7</sup>
- Provided technical support to the Governments of Jordan to introduce standard employment contracts for migrant domestic workers and reform Jordan's labour legislation to include domestic workers;
- Contributed to the development of codes of conduct for recruitment agencies;<sup>8</sup>
- Trained Governments and civil society on how to effectively use the CEDAW process to address the concerns of women migrant workers;
- Supported the activities of women migrants' associations so that they could participate in policy processes and claim their rights and entitlements;
- Launched multi-media public awareness programmes including capacity-strengthening initiatives for media organizations and other stakeholders to advocate for the rights of women migrant workers;
- Supported the development and dissemination of knowledge products to inform policy at the global, regional and national levels and provide training and advocacy to protect women migrant workers' rights.

Similar initiatives are being developed in other regions, including the Women in Informal Cross-Border Trade initiative in Africa and the Joint Central Asia Regional Migration Programme. Additional

regional programmes are being planned for three sub-regions in Africa; Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CEE/CIS); and Latin America and the Caribbean. In Latin America and the Caribbean, UN Women will implement a four year Regional Programme on Strengthening Women Migrant Workers' Rights involving 15 countries of origin and destination.<sup>9</sup>

### 3. *Other initiatives on the human rights of women migrant workers*

The issue of migrant domestic workers will be addressed at the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) which will take place in New York, United States of America in 2011 on the theme "Access and participation of women and girls in education, training, science and technology, including for the promotion of women's equal access to full employment and decent work". UN Women is co-organizing two side events at the fifty-fifth session of the CSW. The first side event entitled "Dignity for Domestic Workers: the ILO Convention and Beyond" will be organized in conjunctions with, among others, the NGO Committee on Migration, Migrant Rights International and the ITUC and will take place on 24 February 2011. The second side event, "Good Practices on Protections for Domestic Workers: The Role of Education and Training", will be held on 3 March 2011 and is co-sponsored by the Government of the Philippines, the Government of Switzerland (TBC) and Human Rights Watch.

UN Women, together with the European Commission, will launch an online discussion on good practices for building domestic workers' capacity to claim legal and social protections as part of the European Commission-United Nations Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI). The online discussion will take place on 8 March 2011 (International Women's Day) and will run for three weeks, ending on 30 March 2011 (Domestic Workers' Day in the Americas). It will be action-oriented and focussed on sharing, replicating and scaling-up good practices. A tracking system will monitor the implementation of the shared practices.

The *Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010* stated that "[m]easures should be taken to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families" to promote social integration.<sup>10</sup> UN Women is organizing a special event on implementing legal and social protections for domestic and other care workers at the fourth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Istanbul, Turkey. In addition, UN Women and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) are co-organizing a special event on trade and development in the LDCs that will include a focus on UN Women's Africa-based programme on women in informal cross-border trade. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UN Women will also co-organize a special event entitled "High Level Ministerial Roundtable on Integrating Migration and Remittances in LDC National and Regional Development Planning".

## C. UN WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DIALOGUE ON GENDER AND MIGRATION

### 1. *The Global Forum on Migration and Development*

UN Women has participated in the meetings of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) since their inception. In 2010, UN Women co-organized with the Government of Mexico a high level consultation on "Promoting and Protecting the Rights of Women Migrant Workers" in Mexico City, Mexico from 7 to 8 September 2010. The consultation was widely attended, drawing representatives of Governments, international organizations and civil society from over 20 countries and produced a set of engendered policy recommendations which contributed to shaping the outcomes of the roundtable on Gender, Family and Migration (round table 2.2.) of the fourth Global Forum.

UN Women contributed substantively to the discussion on the gender and women's empowerment dimensions of labour migration at the fourth Global Forum. UN Women was an officially designated partner to roundtable 2.2 and co-authored, with the IOM, the annex entitled "Uncovering the Interfaces between Gender, Family, Migration and Development: The Global Care Economy and Chains". The annex accompanied the official paper by the Government of Mexico, "Human Mobility and Human Development: Migration, Gender and Family". UN Women also co-presented, with the Government of Portugal, a paper on women migrant workers' labour rights and actively supported the participation of civil society.

Key outcomes of roundtable 2.2 included:

- The selection by the Government of Switzerland, Chair-in-Office of the 2011 meeting of the GFMD, of "Global care workers at the interface of migration and development" as a sub-theme of cluster I on "Labour mobility and development";<sup>11</sup>
- A proposal by Governments to establish an Ad Hoc Working Group on Gender to implement key gender-related outcomes of GFMD meetings;
- Mainstreaming gender and migration-related concerns into the African Union's African Woman's Decade Theme: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

Regarding the fifth meeting of the Global Forum to be held in 2011, UN Women is providing support the Swiss Chair-in-Office and interested Governments to conduct consultations on gender-related themes in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe.

## 2. *The Global Migration Group*

UN Women is committed to developing, in conjunction with other members of the group: (a) a training module to mainstream gender concerns into international migration and development strategies, including Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), Common Country Assessments (CCAs) and United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) processes; and (b) a checklist to mainstream gender concerns into international migration and development strategies. These products will complement the Global Migration Group (GMG) publication *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A Handbook for Policy-makers and Practitioners*. Both will include gender-sensitive indicators to measure international migration's impact on development.

UN Women will also contribute to gender mainstreaming: (a) an upcoming GMG publication on youth and adolescents; (b) the high level informal thematic debate on migration and development to be held on 19 May 2011; and (c) the GMG symposium on youth and migration to be held from 17 to 18 May 2011.

## D. PUBLICATIONS

Since 2009, UN Women has published, either as sole author or in conjunction with others, a number of publications on women migrant workers, notably:

- The series *Migration, Remittances and Gender-Responsive Local Development: Case Studies of: Albania, the Dominican Republic, Lesotho, Morocco, the Philippines and Senegal* published jointly with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The series focuses on the sending,

transfer, and utilization of remittances and affirms that gender influences the movement and experiences of migrants and their communities in countries of origin and countries of destination;

- The report *Gender, Migration and Development: Emerging Trends in East and Southeast Asia* which emphasizes the need to: (a) invoke a gender-sensitive rights-based development paradigm; (b) look at all costs, including the social costs, of migration; and (c) take into account the economic, social and political dimensions of development. Lastly, it highlights good practices to maximize migrants' contributions to development for all stakeholders;
- The report *Legal Protection for Migrant Domestic Workers* which documents and analyses existing mechanisms for domestic workers, from international treaties to national labour laws and legally enforceable contracts. It highlights critical elements of gender-sensitive model laws and contracts for domestic workers and underscores how international human rights and labour instruments can be invoked at two levels: first, the principle of non-discrimination, and second, minimum conditions with respect to employment and treatment, such as fair wages, rest and leisure, safe working conditions and social security;
- The study *Gender Dimensions of Remittances: A Study of Indonesian Domestic Workers in East and Southeast Asia* which examines gender-differentiated patterns in earning, saving and remitting practices of Indonesian migrant domestic workers. It also examines the role of remittances in internal household dynamics and solutions for maximizing the development potential of remittances for women migrants, their families and communities of origin.

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#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> To access the complete text of the first statement to the Executive Board of UN Women by Undersecretary-General and UN Women Executive Director, Ms. Michelle Bachelet on 24 January 2011, see: <http://www.unwomen.org/2011/01/statement-to-the-first-regular-session-of-the-executive-board-united-nations-entity-for-gender-equality-and-the-empowerment-of-women> (accessed 1 February 2011).

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2009). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2008 Revision (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2008).

<sup>3</sup> Other sources of international law include: the General Comment No. 1 on Migrant Domestic Workers of the CMW (CMW/C/GC/1), the International Convention on the Rights of all Migrant Workers and their Families (ICRMW), and all International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions affecting women migrant workers and domestic workers.

<sup>4</sup> The CMW adopted its first General Comment on 3 December 2010. Available at: [http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cmw/docs/GC\\_Domestic\\_Workers.doc](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cmw/docs/GC_Domestic_Workers.doc) (accessed 9 September 2011).

<sup>5</sup> The Programme is now in its third phase (2010-2013) and covers 10 countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

<sup>6</sup> Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) (2007). Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers. Available at: <http://www.asean.org/19264.htm> (accessed 1 February 2011).

<sup>7</sup> UN Women's Regional Programme on Empowering Women Migrant Workers in Asia had a critical role in advocating for Nepal's Foreign Employment Act (2007) and Indonesia's Blitar District's law protecting women migrant workers' rights (2008).

<sup>8</sup> The codes include a Covenant of Ethical Conduct and Good Practices of Overseas Employment Service Providers, cited in Heyzer, N., "Labour Migration and Trafficking: A Human Rights Approach" (speech transcript) Asian Development Bank,

Manila, Philippines, 29 May 2007. Available at: <http://www.adb.org/knowledge-management/documents/heyzer-speech.pdf> (accessed 1 February 2011).

<sup>9</sup> The Regional Programme on Strengthening Women Migrant Worker's Rights in the Latin America and Caribbean region will involve the following 15 countries: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Spain and the United States of America (as at 14 February 2011).

<sup>10</sup> United Nations (2001). Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, p. 28 (A/CONF.191/13).

<sup>11</sup> Government of Switzerland (2011). *Taking Action on Migration and Development – Coherence, Capacity and Cooperation* (Draft Concept Paper), p. 2. Available at: <http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/ninthcoord2011/conceptpaper.pdf> (accessed 1 February 2011).

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INPUT OF THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND  
TO THE NINTH COORDINATION MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

*United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)*

A. INTRODUCTION

International migration is an integral aspect of the global development process. Migrants play an important role in promoting development and reducing poverty in countries of origin, and contributing towards prosperity in countries of destination. With the decline in fertility in many parts of the world, migration has taken on increased significance, becoming a significant component of population growth in many countries.

International migration has important implications for population dynamics, women and young people and thus for the core mandate of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The increasing focus on the interlinkages between migration, poverty reduction and development, therefore, has significant implications for UNFPA's programmatic work in a number of key areas.

Among the issues of particular concern to UNFPA are: *(a)* the challenges posed by female migration, including trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants; *(b)* migration and the spread of diseases such as HIV/AIDS; *(c)* the provision of basic social services, including reproductive health services, in areas of destination; *(d)* the protection of the human rights of migrants; *(e)* migration and climate change; *(f)* migration and young people; and *(g)* migration statistics.

UNFPA seeks to: *(a)* improve migration data, research and institutional capacity for formulating and implementing migration policies and programmes; *(b)* facilitate policy dialogue; and *(c)* strengthen partnerships to enhance the understanding of the complexity of migration flows and their links to development. UNFPA strategies in this area aim to enhance the understanding of the links between international migration and development, and facilitate the formulation of appropriate policies to ensure a win-win situation for all by, among others: *(a)* building a knowledge base, *(b)* developing capacity, *(c)* facilitating policy dialogue and *(d)* strengthening partnerships.

B. CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Building country capacities to address the challenges of international migration is one of the main priorities of UNFPA's work in this area. UNFPA's policy guidance note on international migration encourages its Country Offices to support the enhancement of national capacity to integrate migration issues into national and sectoral development policies, programmes, strategies and action plans, including poverty reduction strategies.

UNFPA encourages its Country Offices to support activities that promote the establishment and maintenance of reliable databases on migration and development and on cross-border movements between countries and geographic regions. It also supports research on migration processes, including female migration, and the needs of migrants, particularly their 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)* young people and a life cycle approach to migration; *(d)* the gender dimension of migration, including its impact on gender equality and women's empowerment; *(e)* labour migration in a globalized economy; *(f)* the impact of remittances; *(g)* the role of transnational communities; *(h)* measures to

prevent human trafficking, especially of women and girls; (i) the human rights of migrants; (j) the challenges of irregular migration; and (k) migration and the environment.

At the global level, UNFPA contributed to strengthening the understanding of migration issues within the United Nations community by convening, in collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the MacArthur Foundation, seminars on key migration and development topics. The seminars are intended to provide government officials and the international community with a better understanding of the relationship between migration and development and a forum for discussion of important issues of concern to countries of origin, transit and destination. Topics in 2010 included: environmentally induced migration and climate change; migration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); and female migration. The seminar series, which has consistently received positive evaluations from delegates, United Nations agencies and civil society, will continue in 2011.

To further strengthen country capacity to address migration issues, UNFPA disseminated the publication *Migrants Count* through its Regional and Country offices to National Statistical Offices and research institutes to facilitate the collection of better migration data for evidence-based policy formulation.

To build the capacity of national institutions in the collection and analysis of migration data and policy formulation, UNFPA continued its collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) within the United Nations Development Account project “Strengthening national capacities to deal with international migration: maximizing development benefits and minimizing negative impact”. In partnership with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (UNDESA), UNFPA and ECE conducted two workshops on migration statistics targeting countries in Central Asia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) to identify gaps in the availability of data on international migrant stocks, flows, and migrant characteristics in the region. Participants were made aware of the global and regional policy context and were trained in global and regional data standards. Participants identified gaps in migration data and agreed upon practical strategies to close those gaps. A second follow-up workshop, building on the outcomes of the first, took stock of various initiatives implemented by partners addressing migration issues in the region. UNFPA is exploring the feasibility of conducting a third follow-up workshop in 2011 in the Republic of Moldova.

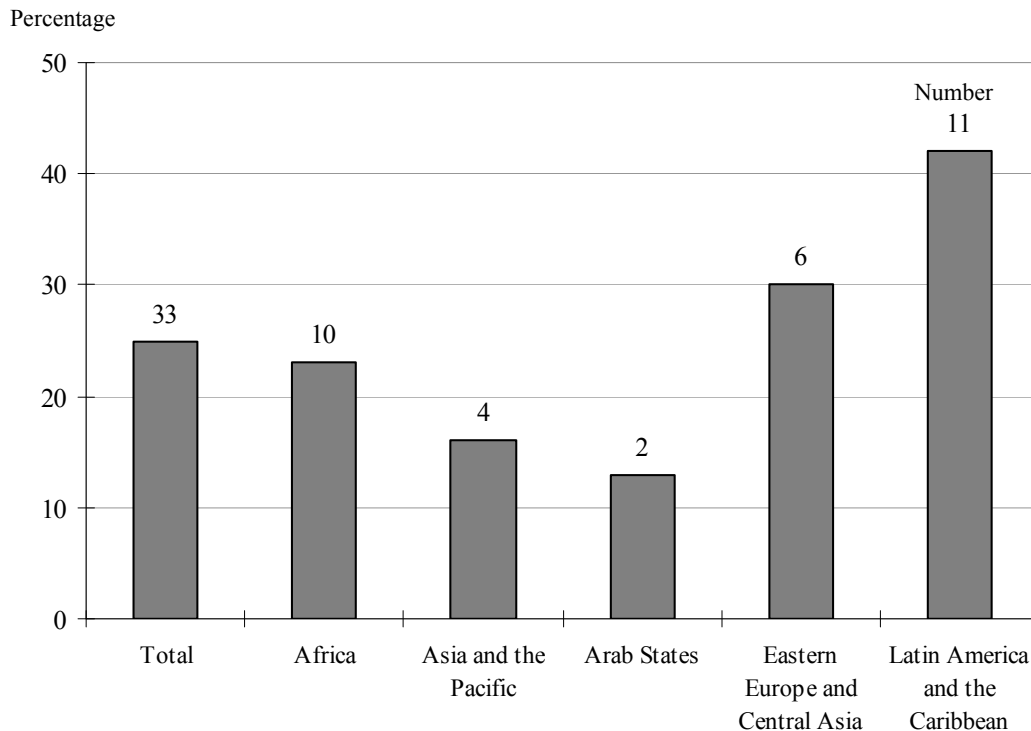
At the country level, over one quarter of UNFPA Country Offices reported supporting training and capacity-building activities in 2010. Country Offices in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Eastern Europe and Central Asia reported the most activities in this area—42 per cent and 30 per cent, respectively. Ten UNFPA Country Offices in Africa, or 23 per cent of all Country Offices in the region, also reported supporting training and capacity-building activities. Sixteen per cent of Country Offices in Asia and the Pacific and 13 per cent of Country Offices in the Arab States region supported such activities in 2010 (figure 1). Selected examples of training and capacity-building activities carried out by UNFPA Country Offices in various regions are presented below.

In the Arab States region, the UNFPA Country Office in Jordan continued to focus on improving the availability of data on migration in partnership with national stakeholders and other United Nations agencies, as well as with IOM. In Morocco, the results of a study on international migration and development analysed the following issues: migrants in an irregular situation, return migration, the loss of highly skilled workers and international migration and development.

In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the UNFPA Country Office in Azerbaijan trained key government officials on the challenges arising from the lack of a system to collect and analyse migration-related data efficiently. The training, which focused, among others, on best practices in collecting, analysing and sharing migration data and statistics, helped improve cooperation and coordination among

relevant governmental entities dealing with migration data. In addition, new tools and indicators were selected and tested in a migration survey, and 15,000 new records were entered into the data management system of the State Statistical Committee. The introduction of new tools and indicators made it possible for the State Statistical Committee and other key national authorities to better assess the dynamics of migration in Azerbaijan based on more accurate and up-to-date data. An assessment of the national legal framework on migration-related data enabled national authorities to identify areas for improvement.

FIGURE 1  
NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO CAPACITY-BUILDING CARRIED OUT BY UNFPA COUNTRY OFFICES  
AND PERCENTAGE OF UNFPA COUNTRY OFFICES CARRYING OUT THOSE ACTIVITIES, BY REGION, 2010



In Uzbekistan, the Country Office is planning to provide a five-day training session on migration issues for its national partner, the Institute of Social Research housed under the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan.

In the Asia and Pacific region, The UNFPA Country Office in Bhutan collaborated with the National Statistics Bureau and the Gross National Happiness Commission to present a summary of the Population Perspective Plan to the Prime Minister and raised awareness about the need to address population dynamics, including migration, in a more comprehensive manner. The consultative process informed policymakers about the importance of addressing migration issues and the need for evidence-based planning. UNFPA supported the training of planning and statistics officers on the importance of demographic indicators and use of statistics.

The UNFPA Country Office in the Islamic Republic of Iran provided support to the Population Association of Iran and the Statistical Center of Iran in conducting a national seminar on migration. In Papua New Guinea, the UNFPA Country Office supported the preparation of a radio drama by the Population Media Centre and provided training on how to integrate social issues related to population and development into a

drama script. The radio show focused on different Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and relevant population issues, including the effects of international migration, on the daily life of Papua New Guineans.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, the UNFPA Country Office in Bolivia (the Plurinational State of) provided support to various activities related to communication, training and advocacy in the implementation of the Migration Act, particularly in promoting sexual and reproductive rights, and combating HIV/AIDS and gender-based violence against women and young Bolivian migrants. As a result of UNFPA's support, the Comprehensive Sexual Health Programme of the Ministry of Health of the Nation initiated a registration system which includes data on migrants. The Country Office supported the preparation of the report entitled "Health and International Migration: Bolivian Women in Argentina" which helped design and implement public policies to improve access and quality of care for migrants.

In the Dominican Republic, working jointly with the National Statistical Office and the Ministry of Planning and Development, UNFPA has taken the lead in a study on internal and international migration, which will focus on access to sexual and reproductive health services and gender-based violence. UNFPA also sponsored an updated study on "Trafficking and Exploitation of Foreign Migrant Women" in 2010. The UNFPA Country Office in Guatemala, in collaboration with Guatemalan and Mexican partners, provided support for a survey of migrants along the border between Guatemala and Mexico. The survey aimed to improve the availability of data on migrant populations and explore options to improve reproductive health care and HIV/AIDS prevention. UNFPA provided technical and financial assistance to the National Migrant Care Council to elaborate a general framework for government action regarding migration issues. UNFPA also conducted advocacy work to facilitate the process of elaboration of the Migrants' Policy, which is expected to be finalized and approved in 2011.

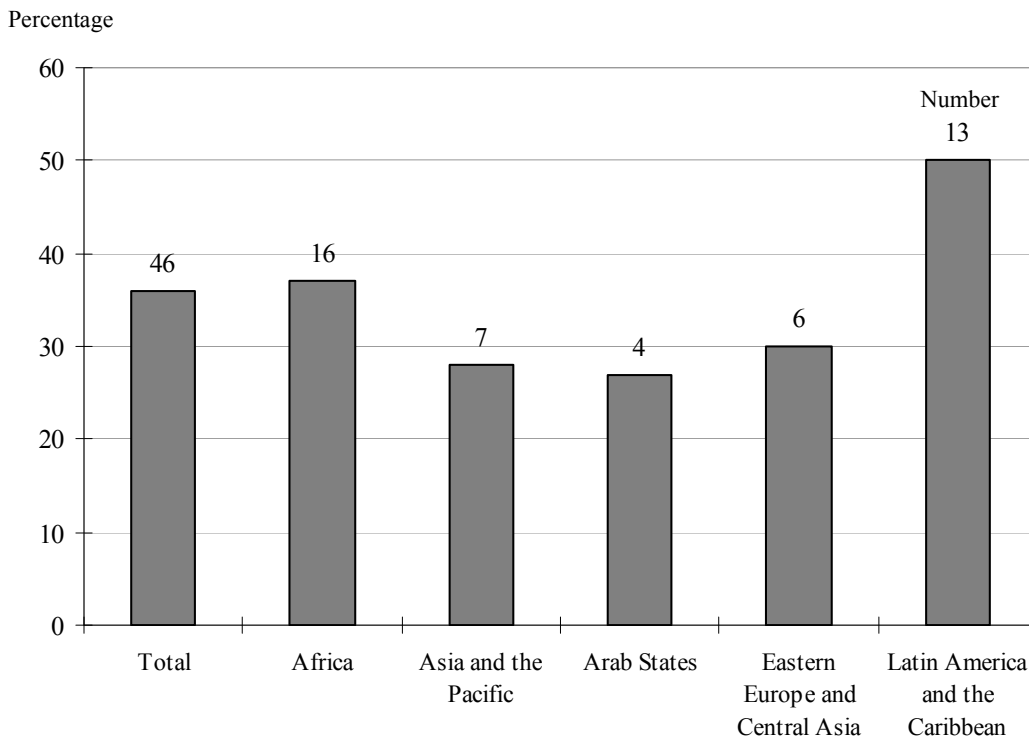
The UNFPA Country Office in Mexico collaborated on international migration issues with several partners at the national and state levels. At the national level, the Country Office supported the development of indicators and case studies, including: (a) levels and trends in international migration flows to Mexico; (b) the reception and use of remittances at the household level; (c) economic and social factors associated with international migration in communities of origin and destination; (d) the impact of international migration on the health of migrants and their families; and (e) the needs of migrants in terms of employment, education and health. At the state level, UNFPA supported the creation of information systems on migration, especially in the main states of origin, as well as the training of local officers in the analysis of migration data. The UNFPA Country Office also supported a series of projects with the Mexican National Population Council (CONAPO), including: (a) an update of the analysis of the economic determinants of migration from Mexico to United States of America; and (b) a sub-national study on the population and development factors along the Southern border of Mexico, which represents a key area for migration flows from Central America to the United States of America. In addition, the UNFPA Country Office conducted, with the National Institute of Public Health of Mexico, the national component of the regional project on migration, sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS focused on the Mexico-Guatemala border area.

### C. OTHER MAJOR INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

In the context of the Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMIDI), UNFPA continues, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), IOM, the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), to set up and reinforce migration and development networks, identify good practices, and inform policymaking on migration and development. It also contributes to the work of the Global Migration Group (GMG) and the Ad Hoc Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research established by the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD).

UNFPA Country Offices continue to engage in policy dialogue, facilitate policy formulation, undertake advocacy activities and awareness raising, provide technical assistance, and support data collection and research in the area of international migration. Fifty per cent of all UNFPA Country Offices reported activities in at least one of these areas related to migration. Supporting data collection and research and raising awareness were the most frequently reported activities at the country level. Figure 2 shows that such activities were most frequently undertaken in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

FIGURE 2  
NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO DATA AND RESEARCH CARRIED OUT BY UNFPA COUNTRY OFFICES  
AND PERCENTAGE OF UNFPA COUNTRY OFFICES CARRYING OUT THOSE ACTIVITIES, BY REGION, 2010



#### D. CONCLUSIONS

In 2010, UNFPA commissioned an evaluation of its work on international migration to define its role in the area of international migration and propose a way forward taking into account the Fund's mandate and expertise. The Fund will use the results of the assessment to plan its future activities in this area. Such work is expected to include collaboration with partners to: (a) promote a greater understanding of the issues and facilitate policy dialogue; (b) generate reliable data, including the production of migration profiles to inform policymaking; and (c) mainstream migration into development planning.

UNFPA will continue to be an active member of the GMG and will work with its partners within the context of the recently established GMG Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies and the GMG Working Group on Data and Research.



STRENGTHENING MIGRATION STATISTICS IN THE REGION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

*United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)*

This paper provides an overview of the activities undertaken by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) in the area of migration statistics. It highlights the methodological work carried out by ECE task forces, capacity-building initiatives and activities aimed at promoting the exchange and dissemination of data and information. The paper also refers to future activities envisaged in those areas.

A. INTRODUCTION

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) works towards improving the quality and availability of statistics on international migration by developing common definitions, methods and practices, and promoting them across the ECE region. It also endeavours to improve the capacities among countries in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia to produce migration statistics.

ECE's methodological work on international migration statistics started in the late 1970s. Since 2000, biannual work sessions on migration statistics organized jointly with Eurostat—the Statistical Office of the European Communities—have provided a platform for the development and exchange of best practices. Materials from those and other ECE meetings on migration are available on the ECE website.<sup>1</sup>

ECE's work on migration statistics is governed by the Conference of European Statisticians and is coordinated by the Steering Group on Migration Statistics. Four task forces have been established to tackle specific issues related to migration statistics, while capacity development initiatives are undertaken at the behest of Member States.

B. METHODOLOGICAL WORK

*1. Measurement of emigration using data collected by the receiving country*

Data on emigration tend to be less reliable than data on immigration because of difficulties in recording departures. The Task Force on the Measurement of Emigration Using Data Collected by the Receiving Country was established in 2005 to deal with gaps in emigration data. It completed its work in early 2009 and produced the “Guidelines for exchanging data to improve emigration statistics”<sup>2</sup> that were endorsed by the Conference of European Statisticians in June 2009. The publication explores the use of immigration data in receiving countries to improve emigration data in countries of origin and provides guidelines for countries interested in applying this approach to improve their emigration data. Additionally, advice on data collection, processing and dissemination is offered to immigration countries to ensure that their data can be used by countries of emigration.

*2. Analysis of international migration estimates using different length of stay definitions*

Two interrelated aspects of international migration estimates often receive attention from statisticians and researchers:

- The impact of different residency rules on the comparability of international migration estimates;
- The availability of data on short-term migration flows and the definition of short-term migrant chosen.

The choice of migration definition directly affects the number of migrants enumerated. Accordingly, a more inclusive definition of migration results in a larger number of migrants.

The Task Force on the Analysis of International Migration Estimates Using Different Length of Stay Definitions was set up in 2008 to tackle those issues. It aims to: (a) assess the impact of different duration thresholds to define usual residence on international migration estimates; (b) assess the availability of data on short-term migration; (c) explore their accuracy; and (d) consider alternative definitions of short-term migration. The Task Force plans to conclude its work in 2011.

### *3. Improving migration and migrant data using household surveys and other sources*

The Task Force on Improving Migration and Migrant Data Using Household Surveys and Other Sources, denoted as Suitland Working Group, was established in 2009. Its aim is to provide practical guidance on how best to use household surveys to measure levels and outcomes of international migration and the characteristics of migrant populations.

Outputs of the task force will include tools and materials to facilitate the production and dissemination of high-quality and comparable statistics on migration and migrants using data from household surveys in combination with other sources. The outputs target national statistical agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and universities in both developed and developing countries.

### *4. Measurement of socio-economic conditions of migrants*

The 2010 joint ECE-Eurostat work session on migration statistics concluded that additional research was needed to improve the measurement of the socio-economic conditions of migrants and the availability, quality and comparability of data on those different dimensions.

The Task Force on Measurement of the Socio-economic Conditions of Migrants was established to identify and develop indicators applicable in different contexts and to different population groups. The Task Force aims to: (a) identify the most relevant social and economic dimensions to understand the situation of different migrant groups, including second generation immigrants; and (b) review the definitions and practices adopted by countries for the measurement of different migrant groups. The main output of the task force will be to establish a set of guidelines to produce statistics on the socio-economic conditions of migrants using existing sources or ad hoc surveys. The Task Force is coordinated by the Eurostat programme for the development of European statistics on migration.

### *5. Inventory of definitions of migrant stocks and flows*

In April 2008, a comprehensive questionnaire was sent to countries to gather information on definitions and sources used to collect data on the stocks of migrants and migration flows. The analysis of the results of the questionnaire was presented at the 2010 joint ECE-Eurostat work session.<sup>3</sup>

## C. CAPACITY-BUILDING

ECE's capacity-building activities on migration statistics focus on training national officers from participating countries in global and regional standards for the collection, processing and dissemination of migration statistics. The involvement of other international agencies and programmes brings synergies, helps identify gaps and prevents duplication. The partner agencies include the United Nations Population



Fund (UNFPA), the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (UNDESA), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Labour Office (ILO), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the World Bank and the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom.

ECE carries out its capacity-building activities based on requests from Member States, with financial support from UNFPA and the United Nations Development Account project.<sup>4</sup>

### *1. Workshops*

In cooperation with UNFPA and the Population Division of UNDESA, ECE organized two capacity development workshops in 2010 for national statistical offices in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. The workshops were held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan in February and in Istanbul, Turkey in December. At the workshop in Bishkek, participants discussed key migration trends and policies at the global and regional level and identified gaps in the availability of data on international migrant stocks, migration flows, and the characteristics of migrants. Within this framework, participants reviewed internationally agreed standards and recommendations on international migration statistics and assessed discrepancies between the international norms and available data. Practical steps and follow-up activities were agreed upon to incorporate key elements of international standards with the aim to close those gaps. Participants expressed the need for tools offering practical guidelines to improve the quality and comparability of migration statistics in the region.

The second workshop in Istanbul was attended by representatives of ministries of labour and foreign affairs, migration services, statisticians as well as experts from international organizations. The workshop followed-up on the practical steps agreed upon at the workshop in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. In particular, the plan for establishing the ECE Clearinghouse on Migration Statistics was agreed upon. Both workshops provided the opportunity for the exchange of good practice and sharing of information on initiatives to collect migration data.

### *2. Toolkit*

In 2010, ECE developed a toolkit entitled “Statistics on international migration – a practical guide”, which offers practical information and suggestions for various categories of producers and users of migration data, such as government officials, statisticians, scholars and journalists. Making reference to best practices and international recommendations, the tool was developed to stimulate interest in, and support a better comprehension of, different types of migration statistics. It offers an overview of international migration statistics at the national and regional levels, describes the main data sources available, and illustrates the major challenges encountered in the interpretation and dissemination of data on international migration. The toolkit, which is expected to improve the quality, comparability and exchange of migration data in the region, was produced as part of the United Nations Development Account project.<sup>4</sup> While it specifically targets specialists from Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, the toolkit can be of use to experts in other regions as well.

## D. EXCHANGE AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION AND DATA

### *1. “migratory” an online inventory of sources on migration*

In 2010, ECE developed an online inventory of migration institutions, entitled “migratory”, to facilitate the dissemination of information about institutions, programmes and networks related to international migration in ECE countries. The institutions covered in “migratory” include national

statistical offices, other governmental institutions, international organizations, universities, research centres, and non-governmental organizations working on migration issues. Currently, “migratory” is in the final round of review before a full-scale launch in 2011. A test version<sup>5</sup> is already available. Work on “migratory” has been supported by funding from the United Nations Development Account project.<sup>4</sup>

## 2. Data clearinghouse

ECE is currently developing a Clearinghouse on Migration Statistics. This initiative aims at facilitating the collection, dissemination and sharing of basic migration data from 12 countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. The ECE Clearinghouse initiative was promoted as a follow-up to the project “Guidelines for exchanging data to improve emigration statistics”. The data will be collected according to a set of agreed tables. During the first half of 2011, ECE will develop a first version of the Clearinghouse. The preliminary results will be discussed with participating countries and partner organizations in a workshop in the second half of 2011.

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### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> To access the ECE website, see: <http://www.unece.org/stats/archive/01.01b.e.htm> (accessed 27 July 2011).

<sup>2</sup> To access the *Guidelines for exchanging data to improve emigration statistics*, see: [http://live.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/stats/publications/Guidelines\\_improve\\_emigration\\_statistics.pdf](http://live.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/stats/publications/Guidelines_improve_emigration_statistics.pdf) (accessed 27 July 2011).

<sup>3</sup> For more information on the analysis of the results of the questionnaire, see: <http://live.unece.org/stats/documents/2010.04.migration.html> (accessed 27 July 2011).

<sup>4</sup> The United Nations Development Account project “Strengthening national capacities to deal with international migration: maximizing development benefits and minimizing impact” is carried out jointly by the five regional commissions of the United Nations. For more information on the United Nations Development Account project, see: [http://www.eclac.org/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=/celade/noticias/paginas/2/38752/P38752.xml&xsl=/celade/tpl/p18f.xsl&base=/celade/tpl/top-bottom\\_mig.xslt](http://www.eclac.org/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=/celade/noticias/paginas/2/38752/P38752.xml&xsl=/celade/tpl/p18f.xsl&base=/celade/tpl/top-bottom_mig.xslt) (accessed 27 July 2011).

<sup>5</sup> For more information on the online inventory of migration institutions, called “migratory”, see: <http://live.unece.org/stats/migratory/index.html> (accessed 27 July 2011).

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

*United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)*

The programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in the area of international migration is carried out by the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) pursuant to resolution 615 (XXXI) adopted at the thirty-first session of the Commission in Montevideo, Uruguay in 2006. In addition, ECLAC follows-up on the mandates established at high-level Ibero-American meetings. Activities carried out in 2010 included research; capacity-building initiatives, including training and technical assistance to countries; and participation in seminars and meetings. Many of those activities were undertaken in cooperation with intergovernmental conferences, civil society organizations and academic and labour institutions.

Resolution 615 (XXXI) created an inter-institutional group coordinated by ECLAC to monitor topics related to international migration and development in the region. In 2010 this initiative was reaffirmed by the agencies of the system and other regional organizations seeking basic coordination for conducting inter-agency activities and continuing joint efforts, including with the Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB) and the Organization of American States (OAS).

A. REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS ON MIGRATION

CELADE published a number of papers and reports on migration in 2010, including:

- The concept paper “Impacts of the economic crisis on migration and development: policy and programme responses in Ibero-America”<sup>1</sup> drafted for the second meeting of the Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development, held in San Salvador, El Salvador in July 2010;
- The paper “Labour participation and access to social security mechanisms for migrants in Ibero-America”, drafted under the ECLAC-SEGIB agreement. The paper examines the principal social and demographic characteristics of Ibero-American migrants and how those migrant benefit from the Multilateral Ibero-American Social Security Agreement (ISSA);
- The report “Migration and health in border areas: comparative report on five selected border areas”, prepared in conjunction with the project on migration and health conducted by the United Nations Population Fund Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean and CELADE to compare the rights status of populations moving across selected border areas in Latin America, focusing on health conditions, especially, on sexual and reproductive health;
- The publication “Rights surrendered: global economic crisis and international migration”, published as part of the CELADE series on population and development, which examines the impact of the global economic and financial crisis on the international migration from Latin America and the Caribbean.

ECLAC is also working closely with OAS on implementing the Continuous Labour Migration Reporting System for the Americas (SICREMI) and on drafting a first report on this project, scheduled for completion in 2011.

## B. PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS AND MEETINGS

At the request of the Government of Mexico, CELADE participated in the fourth meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), held in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico in November 2010. ELCAC participated both in the Civil Society Days and in the Government Meeting, during which the head of CELADE made a statement at one of the opening sessions.

ECLAC was charged with coordinating the representation of the five regional commissions of the United Nations at the Global Migration Group (GMG) from August 2010 to August 2011. ECLAC contributed to drafting the “Statement of the Global Migration Group on the human rights of migrants in irregular situation”, presented at the fourth meeting of the GFMD. In 2011, ECLAC will continue to support the GFMD agenda and actively participate in GMG activities.

The ECLAC Population Division participated in the eleventh meeting of the Biarritz Forum “European Union - Latin America Relations: Where are we and where are we going?” held in Biarritz, France from 3 to 5 November 2010. ECLAC prepared and presented a paper at the meeting entitled “Latin America and Europe: international migration is the opportunity for integration, development and strengthening of human rights”.

A number of activities were carried out in 2010 under the United Nations Development Account project “Strengthening national capacities to deal with international migration: maximizing development benefits and minimizing negative impact”, coordinated by ECLAC in conjunction with the other regional commissions. Specifically, six regional workshops were conducted:

- The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) organized two regional workshops: the “Regional Workshop on Migration Statistics” held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan from 15 to 17 February 2010 and the “Workshop on Migration Statistics for CIS countries” held in Istanbul, Turkey from 6 to 8 December 2010;
- The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) organized the “Workshop on Strengthening National Capacities in International Migration Management - Looking towards the future: new trends, issues and approaches” held in Santiago, Chile from 7 to 9 September 2010;
- The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) organized two regional workshops: the “Workshop on Strengthening National Capacities to Deal with International Migration” held in Bangkok, Thailand from 22 to 23 April 2010 and the “Asia-Pacific Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration including Human Trafficking” held in Bangkok, Thailand from 22 to 24 September 2010;
- The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) organized the “Workshop on International Migration and Development in the Arab Region: Integrating International Migration into Development Strategies” held in Beirut, Lebanon from 19 to 22 July 2010.

The proceedings of those workshops are available on the project website.<sup>2</sup>

## C. WORKSHOP ON STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES IN INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

ECLAC held a workshop in Santiago, Chile from 7 to 9 September 2010 on the theme “Looking towards the future: new trends, issues and approaches”. The principal objective of the workshop was to help

increase the skills and capacities of those responsible for designing policies and programmes on international migration, in order to incorporate the issue in national development strategies in a practical way, maximizing the gains and minimizing the negative impacts. The findings from the diagnostic studies conducted under the project were reported. The studies examined the domestic regulatory situation in several countries and highlighted emerging issues concerning international migration in the region. Participants included government delegates from six countries of the region (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador and Mexico), specialists on migration issues, along with representatives of international agencies.<sup>3</sup>

The workshop was comprised of eight working sessions and two round tables. The working sessions focused on the following eight topics:

- International migration in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- New and emerging trends in international migration in Ecuador and Colombia;
- New and emerging trends in Latin American migration to the United States of America;
- New and emerging trends in Latin American migration to Spain;
- Legal, institutional and political frameworks on international migration in Argentina, Chile and Ecuador;
- Legal, institutional and political frameworks on international migration in Central America and El Salvador;
- Legal, institutional and political frameworks on international migration in Mexico;
- Legal, institutional and political frameworks governing international migration: other approaches.

The round tables were on the themes “Quo Vadis?” (new and emerging trends in international migration in the region) and “What can be done to support migrants?” (legal, institutional and political framework on international migration).<sup>4</sup>

The studies centred on two major thematic areas: (a) new dynamics in international migration in the region; and (b) the regulatory and policy frameworks to guide, manage and govern that dynamic.<sup>5</sup> The round-table discussions focused on the experiences and lessons learned from several countries in Latin America, Spain and the United States of America. The papers as well as the proceedings of the meeting are available on the ECLAC website.<sup>6</sup>

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#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> To access the paper, see: [www.eclac.cl/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=/celade/noticias/noticias/9/40239/P40239.xml&xsl=/celade/tpl/p1f.xsl&base=/celade/tpl/top-bottom\\_mig.xsl](http://www.eclac.cl/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=/celade/noticias/noticias/9/40239/P40239.xml&xsl=/celade/tpl/p1f.xsl&base=/celade/tpl/top-bottom_mig.xsl) (accessed 27 July 2011).

<sup>2</sup> To access information on the six workshops conducted under the United Nations Development Account project, see: [www.eclac.cl/cgi-bin/getprod.asp?xml=/celade/noticias/paginas/2/38752/P38752.xml&xsl=/celade/tpl/p18f.xsl&base=/celade/tpl/top-bottom\\_dam.xsl](http://www.eclac.cl/cgi-bin/getprod.asp?xml=/celade/noticias/paginas/2/38752/P38752.xml&xsl=/celade/tpl/p18f.xsl&base=/celade/tpl/top-bottom_dam.xsl) (accessed 27 July 2011).

<sup>3</sup> Among the international organizations and agencies present at the meeting were: the Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Organization of American States (OAS), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

<sup>4</sup> To access the presentations, see: <http://media.eclac.cl/presentaciones/conferencias2010/migracion/index.htm> (accessed 27 July 2011).

<sup>5</sup> The studies were designed and supervised by Mr. Martínez Pizarro and Mr. Reboiras Finardi, with collaboration from Ms. Soffia Contrucci and Ms. Mardones Marshall.

<sup>6</sup> For more information on the ECLAC workshop “Looking towards the future: new trends, issues and approaches”, see: [www.cepal.org/celade/agenda/3/40193/InformeRelatoriaSeminarioTaller.pdf](http://www.cepal.org/celade/agenda/3/40193/InformeRelatoriaSeminarioTaller.pdf) (accessed 27 July 2011).

ESCAP'S INPUT TO THE NINTH COORDINATION MEETING  
ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

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

MAJOR INITIATIVES RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Asia-Pacific Regional Thematic Working Group (TWG) on International Migration including Human Trafficking, which is co-chaired by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), organized the Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) 2010 from 22 to 24 September 2010 in Bangkok, Thailand.<sup>1</sup> During the meeting four roundtables were held. The roundtables featured the following themes:

- Migration and health jointly organized by IOM, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS);
- Partnerships for more regular and protected migration and strategies to address irregular migration jointly organized by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR);
- Migration, gender and families jointly organized by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and ESCAP;
- Linking migration and development jointly organized by ESCAP and IOM.

Recommendations from the roundtable discussions and plenary discussions led to the “Bangkok Statement on Migration and Development”, which was adopted by consensus by the 31 Governments from the Asia-Pacific region participating in the meeting. The statement recognized the contribution of migrant workers as development actors and recommended enhancing the protection of migrant workers and facilitating migration through regular channels. It also recommended that “efforts be strengthened to collect and share migration data on health and sex and age disaggregated data; undertake qualitative and quantitative studies; and to analyse the impact of migration on families, in order to promote better policy formulation and provision of services”.

The Asia-Pacific Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration including Human Trafficking is drafting a *Situation Report on International Migration in South and South-West Asia*, which will serve as a comprehensive reference tool with detailed data and information on international migration in each country of the sub-region. The *Situation Report* will feature country chapters and thematic chapters and will be published in September 2011. The thematic chapters will focus on health, the environment, the rights of migrants, remittances, labour migration, refugees, women and gender, children, and regional cooperation. Members of the Thematic Working Group have taken responsibility for the chapters covering their specific areas of expertise.

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NOTE

<sup>1</sup> To access the report of the meeting, see: <http://www.unescap.org/sdd/publications/migration/bkk-state-mig-nov10.pdf> (accessed 27 July 2011).



## DECENT WORK FOR ALL

### *International Labour Organization (ILO)*

Work is central to people's well-being. In addition to providing income, work can pave the way for broader social and economic advancement, strengthening individuals, their families and communities. Such progress, however, hinges on work that is decent. Decent work sums up the aspirations of people in their working lives.

Each year, millions of women and men leave their homes and cross national borders. Many seek higher wages and better opportunities. Many others, however, are forced to migrate because of famine, natural disasters, conflict, persecution or simply a lack of decent work in their home country. At the same time, many countries of destination face an increased demand for skilled workers, reluctance among local workers to accept certain low-paid jobs, as well as population decline and ageing.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that some 105 million of the total 214 million people living outside their countries of origin are economically active, that is engaged in the world of work (ILO, 2010). Despite the positive experiences of migrant workers, a significant number face undue hardships and abuse in the form of low wages, poor working conditions, virtual absence of social protection, denial of freedom of association and workers' rights, discrimination and xenophobia, as well as social exclusion.

Migration poses a number of significant development and governance challenges along with opportunities, including labour and skills mobility, the retention and training of skills, employment generation, and the provision of social protection and social security. Migrant worker issues should be seen in the context of the ILO's Decent Work Agenda, which applies to all workers. Decent jobs are jobs which have fair and acceptable conditions. The ILO decent work agenda is put into practice in four interlinked categories: (a) guaranteeing rights at work, (b) creating employment, (c) extending social protection, and (d) promoting social dialogue; all of which apply to migrant workers as to other workers.

The ILO is the United Nations agency charged with protecting migrant workers. It has been dealing with labour migration issues since its inception in 1919 and has pioneered international Conventions to guide migration policy and the protection of migrant workers. ILO adopts a rights-based approach to labour migration and forges its action based on a tripartite dialogue, involving Governments, and workers' and employers' organizations. Participation of workers' and employers' representatives as well as of migrant workers' transnational associations and civil society is especially important to the development of sound and fair labour migration policies and their effective implementation.

#### A. THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATORS MEASURING THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Statistics are vital to generate relevant and meaningful information on international migration, to assist in the formulation and analysis of migration policy as well as in the measurement and analysis of the social, demographic and economic impact of international migration in countries of origin and destination (ILO, 1997; Wickramasekara and Hoffman, 2002).

Relevant indicators for measuring the impact of international migration are, to mention a few, foreign participation in the work force; foreign-born workers by occupational sector; employment and unemployment rates among the foreign-born as well as integration indicators such as access to

citizenship, levels of educational attainment of the foreign born, coverage of social protection or social security, and discrimination rates.

Household surveys can provide important data on the determinants and consequences of international migration. The ILO has developed a module on international labour migration, which can be included in household surveys, and is currently working on developing a module focusing on access to social security.

## B. POLICIES TO MAXIMIZE THE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Policies to maximize the development benefits of international migration require joint responses. Labour migration takes place between developed and developing countries, and among developing countries, with similar as well as different challenges.

Countries of origin and countries of destination have a shared responsibility to protect the labour and human rights of migrant workers. Development gains from migration, for both countries of origin and destination, and the protection of the rights of migrant workers are inseparable. Today it is recognized that migrant workers contribute to the development of countries of origin in several ways, such as by alleviating pressures on labour markets, sending remittances home and making investments. In destination countries, they contribute to development by meeting the demand for workers, improving labour market efficiency, increasing the demand for goods and services, and contributing their entrepreneurial skills.

Protecting the rights of migrant workers is essential at all stages of the migration cycle; before they leave their home countries, while they live and work in countries of destination, and after they return to their country of origin. Policies on labour migration in countries of destination have an effect on the development potential in countries of origin, and vice versa (ILO, 2010, pp. 183-185). Overall, countries of origin can: (a) enhance benefits from migration by integrating and mainstreaming migration into national employment, labour market, development and poverty alleviation plans and policies; (b) ensure coherence and coordination of policies among different ministries and agencies; and (c) engage in consultative processes involving all stakeholders, including social partners, migrant associations and transnational communities. Countries of destination can: (a) support the capacity of countries of origin to integrate migration into development plans and frameworks; (b) ensure policy coherence between migration, aid and trade policies; (c) document and disseminate information on the contribution of labour migration and migrant workers to host countries; and (d) expand avenues for admission of developing country nationals, especially low-skilled ones, with adequate safeguards for their protection.

Below are two specific examples of policy measures that can enhance the development impact of international migration:

Remittances are a relevant policy area for migration and development. Countries of origin can create an enabling policy environment for financial inflows and their use and provide incentives for the accumulation of migrant savings and utilization of remittances for productive investments. Countries of destination can ensure good working conditions, especially adequate wages; lower remittance transfer costs by regulating financial intermediaries and encouraging competition; ensure access of all migrant workers to remittance channels, irrespective of migration status and provide information on safe and low-cost remittance channels. As indicated above, protecting the rights of migrant workers is essential for harnessing the development benefits of migration.

Migration policy should be closely linked to domestic labour market and employment policies. Migration often serves as an instrument to adjust for the skills, age, gender and sectoral composition of

national as well as regional labour markets. For many developing countries the migration of skilled workers represents a major challenge (Lowell and Findlay, 2001).

A major force driving migration today is a lack of decent work opportunities at home. From the ILO point of view migration is clearly a matter of fundamental labour rights, labour market dynamics and socio-economic growth and therefore a critical pillar to decent work, job growth and development in general. The ILO Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration, which provides guidelines for policies and action in the field of labour migration, specifically points out that “the contribution of labour migration to employment, economic growth, development and the alleviation of poverty should be recognized and maximized for the benefit of both origin and destination countries” (Principle 15).

Targeted labour market policies are likely to produce positive effects on local development, especially if they take into account the actual and potential degree of population mobility and the specific national and international labour markets needs. Active labour market policies in countries of origin, such as vocational training and education programmes and job search assistance, targeted at prospective as well as returning migrants are, if administered through well-resourced public employment services, likely to produce positive development effects.

#### C. RECENT CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING TRAINING PROGRAMMES

ILO has provided capacity-building to its constituents on issues related to labour migration for decades. ILO, in collaboration with its Training Centre (ITC-ILO) in Turin, Italy, is conducting training courses on labour migration in English, Spanish and French, with plans to provide courses in Arabic. Among the training activities offered are two week courses on international labour migration, as well as more specific courses on, among others, the extension of social security to migrant workers and their families, labour migration statistics, and the reintegration of returning migrant workers. ITC-ILO also provides ad hoc training activities, such as region-specific courses for developing and transition countries.

The objective of the courses offered is to help build the capacity of officials from various institutions dealing with labour migration, such as representatives from workers’ and employers’ organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), migrants’ associations, international development agencies, regional economic communities and research institutes. By bringing together the various stakeholders, the courses seek to enhance knowledge-sharing and cooperation among the parties concerned and enhance the capacity of key actors involved in migration issues to better understand labour migration challenges and opportunities in a changing global economic and social context.

In the summer of 2011, ITC-ILO will conduct a “Labour Migration Academy”. This course will cover a wide range of cross-cutting themes relevant to international migration including protection, governance and development. At the end of the workshop, participants will be able to: (a) identify key issues and policies regarding global and regional labour migration, in particular from a gender perspective; (b) promote migration-development linkages and rights-based approaches to labour migration policies and programmes at national, regional and international levels; (c) recognize the special roles of employers’ and workers’ organisations in the development of labour migration policy, taking into account the positions of social partners in resolving critical issues on labour migration; and (d) analyse and use the ILO Conventions and other mechanisms and procedures for protecting migrant workers’ rights and deepening the “Decent Work” approach in the context of migration.

#### D. OTHER MAJOR INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

An example of a major initiative on international migration and development currently being implemented by ILO is the *Extending social security coverage to African migrant workers* (MIGSEC) project entitled “Strategies for extending social security to migrant workers and their families from and within Africa”. The project aims to assist Governments, in consultation with social partners, namely employers’ and workers’ organizations, in mapping national and regional social security strategies for migrant workers and their families. As part of its activities, MIGSEC is working with the Micro Insurance Innovation Facility—a joint initiative of the ILO and the Gates Foundation—on examining mechanisms for extending social security coverage to migrant workers’ families left behind in their countries of origin, through health micro-insurance initiatives financed by remittances from migrant workers abroad.

In order to extend social protection to African migrant workers, the ILO is also providing technical assistance to the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat in developing a legal instrument to coordinate the social security systems of EAC Member States. The common market protocol guarantees the free movement of labour to all citizens of EAC Member States. In order for these rights to be fully realized, there is a need to coordinate the social security systems of EAC Member States to ensure that workers and self-employed persons who move between countries are able to exercise their rights to social security in all of the countries in which they work.

ILO is also involved in establishing effective rights-based and gender-sensitive labour migration policies in countries of origin and countries of destination, using the ILO Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration (under the ILO Plan of Action for Migrant Workers). Examples of best practices include a handbook on establishing effective labour migration policies in countries of origin and destination, a practitioners handbook on discrimination and integration and a guide on protection of women migrant workers. In addition, the ILO has continued work on the online International Labour Migration database covering 106 countries as well as on the series *International Migration Papers* and *Perspectives on International Migration* and has developed a module to collect information on international migration disaggregated by sex through household surveys. ILO is also engaged in a number of research projects on: (a) migration and local economic development; (b) climate change, environmental degradation and green jobs; (c) labour migration statistics; and (d) labour migration governance.

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## UNESCO'S ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF MIGRATION IN 2010 AND 2011

*United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)*

### A. BACKGROUND

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) emphasizes the human face of migration and addresses the implications of the movement of people in its fields of competence. These include: (a) the migration-education nexus and the challenges raised by the mobility of skilled professionals, student mobility and the international recognition of qualifications; (b) the development of knowledge of transnational communities through the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs); (c) the impact of global environmental change on migration; (d) social inclusion of migrants in host societies, with particular attention to the role of gender and to the balance between the cultural integration of migrants and the respect for cultural diversity; and (e) the research-policy nexus through the creation of research networks and innovative platforms enabling exchanges between researchers and policymakers. UNESCO cooperates with a wide range of partners, including intergovernmental organizations, civil society groups and universities.

### B. MIGRATION AND EDUCATION

Migration and education are deeply intertwined processes. Education is a key factor among the forces that drive migration. People migrate because they have acquired skills that can be used in foreign labour markets, or because they wish to study and acquire training abroad to enhance their professional opportunities. In addition, the lack of training opportunities may undermine people's socio-economic perspectives, thereby encouraging them to seek opportunities abroad.

A central issue in the international mobility of workers regards the recognition of qualifications and of technical training. UNESCO's activities in that respect are centred around its six Conventions on the Recognition of Qualifications. These UNESCO conventions are legal agreements between countries aimed at promoting a mutual recognition of academic qualifications among the countries that have ratified them. The six regional conventions are:

- Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Certificates, Diplomas, Degrees and other Academic Qualifications in Higher Education in the African States (1981);
- Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the Arab States (1978);
- Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific (1983);
- Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region (1979);
- Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Latin America and the Caribbean (1974);

- International Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab and European States bordering on the Mediterranean (1976);

Member States in the Asia-Pacific region are in the process of updating their regional Convention; a meeting is planned for November 2011. In Africa, Member States have similarly expressed the intention to update their regional Convention, though they have yet to determine the programme of work.

At the request of the Government of Norway, a report was prepared entitled *Migration and Education: Quality Assurance and Mutual Recognition of Qualifications* (2009), which summarizes the outcomes of an expert group meeting held at the UNESCO Headquarter in Paris, France from 22 to 23 September 2008. The report provides best practices and policies based on nine country audits, discussed by experts from UNESCO, the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP). The nine countries case studies are: Australia, Canada, China, France, Malaysia, Morocco, the Philippines, Senegal and the United Kingdom.

Another domain of activity at UNESCO regards the mobility of students and the statistical work thereon by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS). Internationally mobile students are those who have crossed a national border and moved to another country with the objective to study. Three operational definitions are used to identify internationally mobile students: (a) country of permanent or usual residence, (b) country of prior education, and (c) country of citizenship. UIS conducts annual surveys among Member States to collect data on all levels of education. Results are published in the annual Global Education Digest. The 2009 Global Education Digest focuses on higher education and provides evidence on the growing number of internationally mobile students. The number of internationally mobile students has grown from 800 thousand in 1975 to 2.8 million in 2007. The report presents, among others, statistics on countries of origin and destination, preferred countries of destination, and most common fields of study.

### C. THE MIGRATION OF HIGHLY SKILLED WORKERS AND ITS IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENT

While the migration of highly skilled workers, driven in part by economic globalization, is a central feature of contemporary migration flows, it also raises major concerns for countries of origin. States that invest in the education of their citizens resent the loss of skills to developed countries that such migration generates. The UNESCO *Science Report 2010* provides evidence and analysis of the impact of skilled migration on the research and development capacities of countries of origin.

The report analyses the trends and developments that have shaped scientific research, innovation and higher education over the past five years, including the impact of the global economic recession. It depicts an increasingly competitive environment, characterized by intense and multidirectional flows of information, knowledge, personnel and investments. The report notes that while countries are training more scientists and engineers than in the past, graduates are having trouble finding qualified positions or attractive working conditions at home. As a result, migration of highly qualified researchers from the South to the North has become widespread during the past decade.

Yet, despite the voluminous literature on migration, it is difficult to draw a systematic, quantitative picture of long-term migration of the highly skilled worldwide. Moreover, not everyone perceives the phenomenon in the same way. Some refer to it as the “brain drain”, while others prefer the terminology “brain strain” or “brain circulation”. Whatever the preferred terminology, the report highlights the challenges posed by the migration of the highly skilled and the strain that this outflow of human capital

creates for the domestic research and development capacities in countries of origin, especially in Southern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

Data further show that, while most migration flows take place from South to North and from North to North, a more varied array of migration corridors is emerging. Jordan, Malaysia, the Russian Federation, South Africa and the Ukraine, for example, have become attractive destinations for the highly skilled. In addition, the report outlines how transnational communities are playing an increasingly important role in promoting effective transfers of technology and knowledge. This has led countries such as China or the Republic of Korea to elaborate policies to encourage their highly skilled expatriates to return home and use the skills acquired abroad to bring about structural change. The report also explores how transnational communities may be invited to participate “from a distance”, if the prospect of a permanent return home is unlikely.

#### D. MIGRATION AND GENDER

UNESCO aims to make migration of women both more visible and better understood in research and policymaking discussions. Many issues, especially how migrant women fare in terms of their human rights and empowerment, have not been addressed fully. To accompany ongoing work on migration and gender at the international level, which often focuses on economic aspects, UNESCO is taking a human rights approach by exploring migration outcomes for women. It does so by initiating a dialogue on how women themselves evolve throughout migration, ultimately gaining or losing from the experience in terms of personal security, decision-making power, access to jobs and social services and other rights-related issues.

UNESCO brings together perspectives of gender specialists, researchers involved with migrant associations and policy specialists from United Nations agencies in the March 2011 issue of the journal *Diversities* on “Female Migration Outcomes: Human Rights Perspectives”. In addition, UNESCO will launch a thematic programme on “Women’s Rights in Post-Conflict Situations and Prevention of Violence against Women” to support women’s role as agents of progress in post-conflict societies, and to advance the elimination of violence against women, including in the context of migration and forced displacement.

#### E. MIGRATION AND GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

Climate change is one of the major concerns of the international community. Among its social and human dimensions, the impact of climate change on migration is the object of increasing attention from policymakers and researchers. Greater resource scarcity, desertification, droughts, floods, and rising sea levels could drive millions of people to migrate. Yet, despite the interest in the links between climate change and migration, the amount of research on the issue remains limited. There are uncertainties surrounding the mechanisms at stake, the number of persons affected and the geographical areas concerned. There is also a lack of consensus between those who stress the direct impact of the environment on population flows and those who focus on the social, economic and political contexts in which such flows occur. Most importantly, the impact of policies on such flows remains largely unexplored. UNESCO has brought together researchers from all over the world to provide a comprehensive overview of the nexus between climate change and migration. The outcome will be a volume providing multi-disciplinary empirical evidence on the links between climate and migration. The report investigates the key policy issues raised by climate change and migration, including: (a) States’ policy responses and the views of different institutional actors; (b) perspectives on the relationship between the environment and forced migration; (c) appropriate concepts to address this relationship; (d) gender and human rights implications; and (e) international law and responsibilities.

As a follow-up to the report, UNESCO will develop a toolkit addressing the relevance and efficiency of resettlement and migration as a disaster risk reduction measure, as well as its articulation within broader disaster risk reduction plans. Case studies will document recent practices and lessons learned on this topic in Africa and in the Asia-Pacific region in order to systematize these experiences and develop a methodology to manage resettlement as an option to reduce the risk of disaster due to climate change. The practical toolkit will help policymakers prepare and implement resettlement programmes through a wide range of policy recommendations and best practices on human rights, cultural issues, governance and the role of stakeholders.

#### F. MIGRATION AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

In cooperation with the United Nations University, UNESCO has launched a world survey of regional organizations' attitudes toward migration and increased freedom of movement. The project aims to explore whether there is greater scope for agreements on migration governance within regional integration processes. This is largely a new idea, as regional integration has addressed predominantly the free movement of goods and services. Yet, as the example of the European Union shows, migration management can gain enormously from a regional perspective. One of the outcomes of the project will be a publication entitled *World Report on Regional Integration and Migration*, which will contain policy recommendations, along with chapters dedicated to the situation in several regions of the world.

#### G. PUBLICATIONS

UNESCO regularly publishes books, reports and journal issues on matters related to migration, including *Migration without Borders* (2007), *Democracy and Human Rights in Multicultural Societies* (2007), *Migration and Human Rights* (2009) and *t* (2010). Forthcoming books will address the relationships between global environmental change and migration, regional migration agreements, and the migration of highly skilled workers. In addition, UNESCO publishes an online journal entitled *Diversities*, in cooperation with the Max-Planck Institute for the study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, which constitutes a platform for international, interdisciplinary and policy-related social science research in the fields of migration, multiculturalism and minority rights.



INPUT OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
TO THE NINTH COORDINATION MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

*World Health Organization (WHO)*

A. INTRODUCTION

Migration affects many aspects of life and sectors in society including the health sector. The collective health needs and health implications of today's sizable migration flows have become of paramount importance to health systems and to concerted efforts aimed at reducing health inequities and protecting public health. The health of many migrants is at risk due to abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination and barriers to access health and social services. Barriers include high costs, language and cultural differences, administrative hurdles, inability to affiliate with health insurance schemes and lack of information about entitlements. Those at greatest disadvantage are migrants in an irregular situation and those who are forced to migrate.

Building on the longstanding commitment of the World Health Organization (WHO) to tackle inequity in health and the determinants of health, the sixty-first World Health Assembly (WHA) adopted resolution 61.17 on the health of migrants in 2008. Resolution WHA 61.17 urges Member States and the WHO to, inter alia, promote the inclusion of migrant health into health strategies; develop and support studies and share best practices; strengthen service providers' and health professionals' capacity to respond to migrant needs; and engage in bilateral and multilateral cooperation (WHO, 2008). To enhance their capacity in the migration and health domain and improve joint programmes, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and WHO entered into a cooperation agreement, which included the secondment of an IOM staff member to WHO as Senior Migrant Health Officer in 2009.

In March 2010, WHO organized the "Global Consultation on Migrant Health" in Madrid, Spain in collaboration with IOM and the Ministry of Health and Social Policy of the Government of Spain. This multi-stakeholder event took stock of recent actions taken and reached consensus on an Operational Framework to guide the work of WHO in the migrant health domain (WHO, 2010a). During the sixty-third WHA, in 2010, outcomes of the Global Consultation were reported at a side event organized by the Governments of Portugal and Spain. In addition, a Progress Report was submitted on the actions taken by WHO to implement resolution WHA 61.17.

Resolution WHA 61.17 recalls the relevance of other resolutions on the migration of health professionals and the importance of strengthening health systems in low- and medium-income countries. While migration of health personnel can bring mutual benefits to both countries of origin and countries of destination, migration from countries that are already experiencing a crisis in their health workforce, is further weakening already fragile health systems. In order to provide a global response, the WHA adopted resolution WHA 57.19 in 2004 which called upon the Director-General to develop a code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel, in consultation with Member States and relevant partners (WHO, 2004). The WHO Secretariat subsequently developed a comprehensive programme on the issue of health worker migration. In May 2010, the sixty-third WHA adopted the WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel, WHA 63.16 (WHO, 2010b).

In addition, the sixty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly examined the important linkages between global health and foreign policy, in particular with respect to the control of emerging infectious diseases, the determinants of migrant health, and human resources for health (United Nations, 2009).

## B. DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATORS TO MEASURE THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

### 1. *Monitoring migrant health*

Health and migration has received a considerable amount of interest and attention. However, much of the traditional research on migrant health occurs at the national level, focusing mainly on the health of newly arrived immigrants, and tends to be disease based, frequently emphasizing communicable conditions and the spread thereof. Considering the size and complexity of modern migration, including the great diversity in vulnerability levels among the different migrant groups, and recognizing the role of socio-economic determinants and inequities in health outcomes and healthcare resource needs, the study of migrant health should be expanded. Moreover, research on, and the study of, migrant health is hampered by a lack of agreed definitions and consistency in use of terminology and concepts. As a consequence, data comparison and analyses are limited, in particular with respect to determinants of migrant health.

In collaboration with experts and partners, in particular IOM, WHO is pursuing ways to: (a) identify the essential data gaps and needs to analyse trends in migrant health; (b) take stock of indicators and models that have been used effectively; and (c) formulate key indicators that are acceptable and useable across countries. In addition, mechanisms to harmonize migrant health indicators with existing data collection and dissemination methods, for instance the Migration Profiles, are being explored. The development and wider application of key health indicators that are directly related to, or resulting from, migration will contribute to improving the standardization and comparability of migrant health data; and increasing the understanding of health and disease trends among migrant groups, as well as of migrant health-seeking behaviours and the utilization of health services. Moreover, such evidence will support the development of better health programmes and policies and will build the capacity of WHO, IOM and others to provide technical support to Member States on migrant health monitoring.

### 2. *Monitoring the international recruitment of health personnel*

In light of the growing scope of health worker migration, improving the availability and international comparability of statistics on the migration of health personnel is crucial if countries are to develop evidence-based policies (OECD and WHO, 2010). Ideally, international migration of health personnel should be monitored by tracking the number of individuals with the education and training to practice a health profession, moving from one country to another on an annual basis. In reality, few countries are in a position to provide such data. Improving data collection in this area should, therefore, be a high priority and requires consensus on a core set of indicators, as well as on how to strengthen health workforce information systems in countries, develop innovative approaches to evaluate and analyse international health worker migration, and facilitate the dissemination and sharing of information.

Of particular importance is the development of guidelines for a minimum dataset to monitor international health worker migration, which is done in collaboration with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The objective of the minimum dataset is to provide guidance for data collection, notably on the type of data to be gathered by Member States, and improve the comparability of data among Member States.

## C. RECENT CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

### 1. *Migrant-sensitive workforce*

Societies have become increasingly multicultural and multi-ethnic. The increased diversity in health determinants and health needs is challenging the capacity of health systems to deliver affordable, accessible

and migrant-sensitive services. Health professionals increasingly find themselves treating patients with symptoms they are unfamiliar with or do not well understand. Delayed or deferred care and lack of appropriate preventive services are associated with the progression of diseases and the subsequent need for more extensive and costly treatment. Hence the need to redirect health-care models to: (a) develop the capacity of the health and relevant non-health workforce to understand and address the health and social issues associated with migration; (b) develop standards for health service delivery, organizational management and governance that address cultural and linguistic competence, epidemiological factors, as well as legal, administrative and financial challenges; and (c) include migrant health in graduate, post-graduate and continuous professional education training of health personnel, including support and managerial staff.

In collaboration with academia and partner agencies, WHO has been pursuing the development of a migrant-sensitive workforce through recommendations for Member States, universities, health providers and relevant institutions aimed at harmonizing the inclusion of migrant health topics and intercultural competence in the training of all public health professionals, to research the effectiveness of training programmes and to involve migrants in the design, implementation and evaluation of training programmes (Gijón-Sánchez et al., 2010; IOM, 2009). Regional briefings on selected policy issues have been focusing on improving health intelligence, and building capacity and know-how among policymakers and practitioners to tackle socially determined health inequalities as part of health system performance (WHO, 2010c).

## 2. *WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel*

The WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel, adopted by the sixty-third WHA in 2010, promotes voluntary principles and practices for the ethical international recruitment of health personnel as part of strengthening health systems, taking into account the rights, obligations and expectations of countries of origin and destination and migrant health personnel (WHO, 2010d and 2010e). To facilitate the monitoring of the implementation of the Code, guidelines for Member States and non-State stakeholders are being developed. This process is done in consultation with Member States, international organizations, professional associations, civil society organizations and other interested stakeholders. This Code forms part of WHO's global approach to strengthening health systems. Alongside the Code, WHO is developing complementary strategies and activities to strengthen the health workforce in countries. These include: (a) the expansion of health workforce education; (b) the improvement of standards of accreditation; (c) the implementation of global policy recommendations to improve retention of health workers in remote and rural areas; and (d) the improvement of human resource information systems (WHO, 2010f).

## D. OTHER INITIATIVES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

### 1. *Extending social protection in health for migrants*

Despite existing international human rights standards and conventions that protect the rights of migrants, including their right to health, many migrants lack access to health services and financial protection for healthcare for themselves and their family members. Lack of coverage can lead to excessive costs for migrants, many of whom pay out-of-pocket for health services. This situation prevents many from accessing services, which exacerbates health conditions that could have been prevented, often at reduced costs, if services had been available. Neglecting access to primary health care and leaving migrant health to be managed at the emergency level only runs counter to economic and public health principles.

Current approaches to improve access to health services for migrants are often fragmented and costly, operate in parallel to national health systems and depend on external funding and lack sustainability. As part of WHO's efforts to promote universal coverage, and in the context of the launching of the 2010 *World Health Report* on health systems financing, a technical brief was prepared entitled "Ensuring access to health services and financial protection for migrants", which, inter alia, called upon policymakers to mitigate the burden of out-of-pocket health spending, and move towards prepayment systems involving pooling of financial risks across populations groups (WHO, 2010g). The focus on social protection in health is closely related to the outcome of the fourth meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) which called for an assessment of cost-effective health-care models for various types of migration scenarios.

At the regional level, two initiatives reiterated the need to address existing gaps in access to affordable and appropriate health services for migrants and develop new approaches to foster greater social protection in health: (a) the Regional Dialogue on the Health Challenges for Asian Labour Migrants, organized by WHO, IOM and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in cooperation with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Joint United Nations Initiative on Mobility and HIV/AIDS in South East Asia (JUNIMA), and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in Bangkok, Thailand in July 2010; and (b) the second meeting of the Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development, called by the Ibero-American General Secretariat and co-organized by the Government of El Salvador, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and IOM in San Salvador, El Salvador in July 2010. WHO is supporting initiatives to extend social protection in health for migrants in the Ibero-American region as well as at the global level, in close collaboration with partners.

## 2. Global Migration Group

Staying abreast of the discussions and emerging international governance structures on migration has become essential to the work of WHO and its dedication to the early achievement of internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). WHO has been a member of the Global Migration Group (GMG) since September 2010 and intends to continue to work closely with GMG members as well as Member States, other organizations and civil society. Improving the health of migrants cannot be achieved by the health sector alone. In addition, WHO is keen to take an active part in, and provide support to, the Global Forum and to follow-up on the outcomes of this State-led platform.

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INPUT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION  
TO THE NINTH COORDINATION MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

*International Organization for Migration (IOM)*

A. INTRODUCTION

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) welcomes the emphasis of the Ninth Coordination Meeting on International Migration on issues of direct relevance to the migration and development discourse, including: (a) an examination of the development of indicators that measure the contribution of international migration to countries of origin and destination; (b) information on recent initiatives to build capacities on international migration and development; and (c) a discussion of the contribution of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant organizations to the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and to the United Nations General Assembly informal thematic debate on international migration and development.

All indications are that current migration patterns will continue in the twenty-first century, driven by, among others, low levels of fertility in the industrialized world, labour market deficits in the North that cannot be met locally, significant growth in the population of working age in developing countries and continued high unemployment in developing countries, perpetuating North-South economic and social disparities. All of this is exacerbated by natural, man-made, as well as slow-onset disasters, most notably those induced by climate change, that are likely to result in additional migration flows. The number of international migrants—still representing only 3 per cent of the world's population, but the largest in recorded history—has been spurred on by the information, communications and transportation revolutions and can be expected to continue to grow in the foreseeable future.

With migration now an integral part of the global economic and social landscape, and labour migration firmly embedded into the fabric of global economic activity, the challenge for migration policymakers and practitioners will be to ensure that current migration management practices are keeping pace with the rapidly evolving landscape if the benefits of migration are to be optimized and the challenges it sometimes engenders are to be minimized. The choice of focus of this meeting, therefore, is timely.

In addition to the negative impact of the financial crisis on legal migration opportunities, there is evidence of growing anti-migrant sentiment globally. This is a matter that IOM views with grave concern and underscores the need for concerted action to confront anti-migrant sentiments. The increasingly negative attitude toward migrants is reflected in a variety of ways, including through political campaigns; sensationalist media programming; national laws that build walls; tightened visa regimes that have led even more migrants to seek the services of smugglers; and incidents of abusive treatment of migrants. Governments and all actors involved in migration management face the difficult task of responding to and preventing potentially volatile situations involving social tensions among their constituencies. Critical issues such as the human rights of migrants and their integration into host societies will likely become even more acute. Greater investment and planning will, therefore, be required to help improve public perceptions of migrants and lessen political pressure on Governments to devise hasty, short-term political responses to migration.

B. DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATORS TO MEASURE THE CONTRIBUTION  
OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION TO COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

IOM initiated the development of the *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A Handbook for Policy-makers and Practitioners*, which was launched by IOM and the United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP) as a joint Global Migration Group (GMG) initiative at the GFMD in 2010. The handbook addresses the gap between rhetoric and action by providing a step-by-step guide for policymakers, giving practical meaning to the notion of migration and development. The first part of the handbook provides an overview of how migration and development are linked, the potential benefits of mainstreaming migration into development planning tools, and the current state with regard to the inclusion of migration issues into development planning around the world. Part II describes the institutional structures and policy frameworks that need to be put in place to effectively integrate migration into the development planning cycle, while Part III compiles migration and development programme experiences including projects analysing the impact of migration on development. IOM currently co-chairs the GMG Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies together with UNDP. The GMG Working Group is tasked with making the handbook operational through the development of appropriate tools and resources including, inter alia, training materials on migration and development.

Since 2005, IOM has provided extensive technical support to countries in different regions of the world for the development of more than 30 Migration Profiles (MPs).<sup>1</sup> Those MPs provide a framework for data collection and analysis in support of strategic policy planning at the national and regional levels. MPs have also been used by the United Nations Treaty Monitoring Bodies and by the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council with whom IOM works closely. MPs bring existing information from different sources together in a structured manner as a means of identifying and developing strategies to address data and policy development needs. MPs aim to, among others, enhance governmental knowledge about migration and its relationship to development, support Governments in establishing mechanisms for regular reporting on migration-related trends, improve the use of migration information for policy development, foster greater inter-ministerial coordination and collaboration with respect to data collection and policy development. Several MP exercises, both at the national and regional level, are being implemented by Governments, including those of Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Sudan, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), with technical support from IOM. In addition, an increasing number of Governments have shown interest in developing MPs in the near future.

In 2011, IOM plans to organize regional workshops for government representatives to share experiences between the countries who have already developed MPs and those that have not. Such workshops are in line with the activities proposed by the Swiss Chair-in-Office for the GFMD 2011 and would further promote MPs as a useful tool for enhancing governmental knowledge about the migration and development nexus, while promoting greater policy coherence and evidence-based policymaking. A seminar on MPs is also being organized by IOM, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) within the framework of the Migration and Development Series, with financial support from the MacArthur Foundation. To this end, IOM also plans to develop a *MP Guide* explaining how IOM offices can best provide technical guidance and support to Governments wishing to prepare a country migration profile. The guide will be used in combination with the new MP template which provides a “menu” of thematic modules relevant for a comprehensive analysis of the migration situation in a given country. Each thematic module outlines the main issues to be discussed and identifies a set of indicators, among which are indicators to measure the contribution of migrants to the development of countries of origin and countries of destination.

Ad hoc studies regularly carried out by IOM field missions also provide useful insights into how to measure the impact of migration on development. Two studies, *Economic and Social Impacts of Remittances on Households: The Case of Pakistani Migrants Working in Saudi Arabia* and *Angola: A Study of the Impact of Remittances from Portugal and South Africa*, represent examples of research projects which might be replicated elsewhere.



The European Commission-funded African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Observatory on Migration—supported by IOM and a Consortium of 15 partners—aims to build the knowledge base on the migration and development nexus by enhancing existing theoretical and empirical frameworks for measuring this nexus through new dedicated research projects. The Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)—a consortium member of the Observatory—will lead impact studies in several target countries, including Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Papua New Guinea, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United Republic of Tanzania, commissioned by the ACP Observatory. Based on the methodology developed by IPPR, the existing inventory of potential impacts will be further developed into a detailed list of indicators measuring the effects of human mobility on development. In 2011, the ACP Observatory will also organize regional training workshops on data collection focusing on measuring the impact of South-South migration on human development.

In recent years there has been a growing awareness of the importance of considering the right to health of migrants in the framework of the broader agenda on migration and development. In May 2008, the World Health Assembly adopted resolution 61.17 on the health of migrants which, among other things, called upon Member States to promote bilateral and multilateral cooperation on migrants' health. IOM, upon the request of the Government of Spain during its Presidency of the European Union, developed a list of indicators to monitor structural health inequities affecting migrants, refugees, ethnic minorities, among other vulnerable groups. In cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Government of Spain, IOM organised a “Global Consultation on Migrant Health” in March 2010. One of the four priorities identified was the need “to better monitor migrant health” by establishing indicators on migrant health. Without adequate data, Governments lack the evidence needed for policy development and to assess the health costs and benefits of migration. As a follow-up to this meeting, IOM has convened an expert group on migrant health monitoring in collaboration with WHO and other partners. Among others, this group will provide technical expertise to Member States in generating comparable international data on migrant health. Such evidence would enable Member States and partner agencies to develop and monitor the impact of their policies and programmes. Migration health indicators need to be considered in the development of the accountability framework that is being established by the High-level Commission to Track Results and Resources for Women's and Children's Health launched by United Nations Secretary-General, H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, in September 2010.

### C. RECENT INITIATIVES TO BUILD CAPACITIES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

As evidenced by the 2010 edition of its flagship publication, the *World Migration Report*, IOM is committed to working with Member States and the broader international migration community to develop core capacities to manage migration effectively. As an example of this commitment, in 2010, IOM's African Capacity Building Centre (ACBC) in Moshi, the United Republic of Tanzania, trained more than 400 government officials from 31 African countries in border management, migration health, counter-trafficking, and migration and development. IOM's regular International Migration Law courses, trainings and capacity-building activities continue to enhance the capacity of Governments and other migration stakeholders to develop and implement laws and policies consistent with international migration law. In 2010, IOM conducted trainings in Afghanistan, Djibouti, El Salvador, Mongolia, Namibia, South Africa, the Syrian Arab Republic and Zimbabwe. In the same year, the sixth edition of the International Migration Law Course organized by IOM on a yearly basis in cooperation with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law took place.

In 2011, IOM will continue to undertake training activities at the regional and national levels. Events in Armenia, Austria, Poland, Thailand (for States of the South Pacific) and Latin America will take place throughout the year. Additionally, trainings for diplomats are held every year in Jakarta, Indonesia, under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, and in New York, United States of America, in

collaboration with UNITAR. In a similar vein, IOM and UNITAR will lead an effort to enhance capacity-building and coherence by surveying the migration training activities in 2011 of the 16 GMG partner agencies.

Another area in which IOM is stepping-up capacity-building efforts for Member States is through the Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs). The role that RCPs and similar inter-regional forums dealing with migration issues can play in addressing migration policy coherence within and between regions is widely acknowledged. However, meaningful interaction between such forums is often impeded by the uneven capacities of RCPs. IOM continues to focus on capacity enhancement at the request of RCP participating states with a view to putting them on a firmer footing towards predictability and regularity of meetings, a factor that is critical to building and sustaining trust and promoting cooperation within and between regions. In line with outcomes of the 2009 Global RCP Meeting, IOM is planning a 2011 global consultation of RCPs which will address, inter alia, how to maximize the benefits of migration through a comprehensive approach to migration governance which involves balancing facilitation of regular migration with effective measures to counter irregular migration. Such a comprehensive approach would include, inter alia, investing in capacity-building, international cooperation and partnerships for increased collaboration.

In the health domain, IOM, in collaboration with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, developed the handbook *Caring for Trafficked Persons* with the support of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT). The handbook provides practical, non-clinical advice to help concerned health-care providers understand the phenomenon of human trafficking, recognize some of the associated health problems, and consider safe and appropriate approaches to providing health care to trafficked persons. With the financial support of UNFPA and others, the book has been translated to encourage practical use at the field level. A training package based on the handbook is being developed and will be published in 2012. At the request of the Government of Sri Lanka, IOM is implementing a capacity development programme to strengthen the Health Ministry's efforts to manage health challenges related to migration, focusing on internal, inbound and outbound labour migration. Further, in collaboration with partners from academic institutions, IOM has developed a training curriculum for health workers, which provides an overview of migrant-friendly health services. Additionally, IOM continues to work to ensure the integration of health modules in border management training for immigration officials.

The successful integration of migrants is central to enhancing the developmental impacts of migration in both host and origin countries. There is need to dispel popular myths about migration and migrants. A new narrative is needed; one based on factual accounts of migrants' contributions to society and the global economy. This can be achieved through trade, investment and development linkages, including the role of migrants as a channel for development finance in the form of remittances, the transfer of skills and ideas, and the establishment of commercial and cultural networks. Successful migrant integration requires a process that begins in the country of origin, continues in the country of transit and then in the country of reception or resettlement. Increasing migrants' knowledge of the host country, while concurrently raising awareness in receiving communities, improves the prospects for successful migrant integration and multiculturalism. To this end, IOM has developed, together with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, an Online Community on Migration and Integration: Building Inclusive Societies (IBIS),<sup>2</sup> which showcases projects from around the world that have been successful in helping migrants integrate and connecting grassroots initiatives with policymakers and civil society groups.

IOM also continues to facilitate the safe and organized transfer of persons for resettlement, return, family reunification, and permanent and temporary labour migration. In 2010 alone, IOM resettled more than 86,000 persons through major programmes in Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Nepal, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand and Turkey as well as in 85 other countries. In the first half of 2010, more than 22,000 resettled migrants—including refugees, internally displaced persons and migrant workers—participated in IOM migrant training programmes in 43 countries, on four continents, to prepare them for their new lives abroad.

D. IOM'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
AND TO THE INFORMAL THEMATIC DEBATE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

IOM remains firmly committed to the success of the GFMD which it views as an important State-driven platform for dialogue aimed at identifying practical and action-oriented ways to address the links between migration and development. To this end, and as in previous years, IOM intends to continue to support the GFMD in a variety of ways. IOM has seconded a migration expert to the GFMD Taskforce since its inception, and will continue to contribute to the preparation of background papers when requested to do so. IOM has offered its full support to the Government of Switzerland, the Chair-in-Office of the 2011 GFMD, both in its individual capacity as well as a GMG member agency.

In 2009, the Chairs of RCPs recommended that global meeting of RCPs<sup>3</sup> be convened on a bi-annual basis. To this end, IOM is planning a 2011 consultation, the third such consultation and the second since the establishment of the GFMD. The 2011 consultation, like its antecedents, will allow representatives from the various RCPs to exchange information and good practices on migration issues of interest to individual RCPs. In addition, it will encourage an exchange on possible improvements to organizational and operational arrangements that could be brought about within the respective RCPs, with a view to enhancing the regularity with which they meet and thereby enhancing their effectiveness. The consultation will serve as a capacity-building exercise by deepening the exchange of information and ideas and enhancing the role that RCPs play in international migration, including vis-à-vis other mechanisms facilitating inter-state dialogue, partnership and cooperation on migration at the regional, inter-regional and global levels. Representatives of the 2011 GFMD Chair-in-Office will be invited to attend the consultation.

With support from the Government of the United Arab Emirates, IOM undertook a rapid assessment of Migrant Resource Centers (MRCs) globally in providing good practices for the protection of migrant workers. The United Arab Emirates also hosted and organized a workshop in January 2011 together with IOM, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) on the labour recruitment industry in the United Arab Emirates. Jointly with UN Women, IOM prepared the annex to a background paper for roundtable 2.2 at the 2010 GFMD on the global care worker industry; a theme that will be followed-up in the 2011 GFMD.

In collaboration with the Migration Policy Institute, and with the support of the Governments of the Netherlands and Switzerland, IOM is producing a handbook on engaging transnational communities in development activities, as recommended in roundtable 1.2 of the 2009 GFMD. As a follow-up to roundtable 2.1 of the 2010 GFMD, IOM is preparing to carry out an assessment of cost-effective health-care models in a variety of migration scenarios, in partnership with relevant GMG agencies. Following the 2010 GFMD's endorsement of the MPs as a tool to promote policy coherence and evidence-based policy development, IOM continues to assist interested Governments in preparing MPs in different regions of the world. Together with GMG partners, IOM and UNDP will lead work on mainstreaming migration into national development strategies in several countries and will assist Governments interested in factoring migration into their development planning strategies and tools. Improving the coherence of the response of the United Nations, IOM and the international community on migration and development is an additional core objective and has been a key emphasis of each GFMD. Lastly, IOM is reviewing the outcomes of the 2010 GFMD with a view to assisting those Governments and other partners wishing to take forward any of its recommendations.

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NOTES

<sup>1</sup> For more information on Migration Profiles (MPs), see: <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/policy-research/migration-research/migration-profiles/cache/offonce/> (accessed 26 September 2011).

<sup>2</sup> For further information on the Online Community on Migration and Integration: Building Inclusive Societies (IBIS), see: [www.unaoc.org/communities/migrationintegration](http://www.unaoc.org/communities/migrationintegration) (accessed 26 September 2011).

<sup>3</sup> The 2009 Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs) was the second global gathering of RCPs following an initial meeting of RCPs that was convened in 2005 in the context of the Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM).

## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN THE ARAB REGION

### *Arab Observatory for International Migration of the League of Arab States (LAS)*

#### A. BACKGROUND

The Arab Observatory for International Migration (AOIM) was launched in 2004 by the Population Policies and Migration Department of the League of Arab States (PPMD/LAS) and has carried out a number of activities within the framework of the following objective: (a) filling the gaps in migration data in Arab countries; and (b) developing migration policies in Arab countries.

AOIM carries out activities to:

- Sustain the technical capabilities on international migration of relevant bodies in Arab countries;
- Contribute to the transfer of knowledge on international migration;
- Develop mechanisms to maximize the positive impacts of migration and migrants' experiences on the development of Arab countries, while promoting regional integration.

#### B. DECLARATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

##### *1. The Arab Conference on Population and Development: Facts and Perspectives*

At the "Arab Conference on Population and Development: Facts and Perspectives" held in Doha, Qatar from 18 to 20 May 2009 participants adopted the Doha Declaration on Population and Development. The declaration made a number of recommendations related to international migration, including to:

- (a) Develop and support systems and mechanisms providing quantitative and qualitative data on the various international migration issues to help fill information gaps; develop regional and national policies; identify monitoring and evaluation indicators to observe and document emerging issues in migration trends;
- (b) Revitalize the role of institutions in the Arab world working in the area of international migration research and studies, especially those focusing on maximizing the benefits and reducing the negative impacts of migration in order to strengthen integration of Arab labour markets;
- (c) Enhance national multi-sectoral policies and partnership with all concerned government bodies; provide technical support to institutions concerned with policy development and coordination of implementation; enact national and regional policies aimed at maximizing migration returns and investment of revenues; and increase migrants' skills in Arab and international labour markets;
- (d) Intensify dialogue and partnerships; facilitate labour mobility in accordance with the needs of both sending and receiving countries; curtail irregular migration and human trafficking networks; and maximize the benefits of labour migration in light of emerging economic and demographic transformations;
- (e) Develop appropriate policies and strategies to strengthen linkages among Arab migrants and between migrants and their countries of origin to increase the transmission of technical knowledge and investments to Arab countries;

- (f) Work on structural imbalances in the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) by enhancing and developing national human resources through education and training, increasing female participation in the labour force and lifting restrictions on inter-GCC labour migration;
- (g) Urge Arab countries, international and regional organizations to address the challenges arising from forced migration, and provide protection and services to the victims of forced migration.

## 2. *Euro-Arab Youth Conference on Youth, Migration and Development*

The Euro-Arab Conference on Youth, Migration and Development co-organized by LAS, the Italian Youth Forum, the Council of Europe and the European Youth Forum was held in Tunis, Tunisia and Ragusa, Italy from 22 to 30 July 2010. The meeting was attended by 150 young people who represented youth governmental and non-governmental organizations from both European and Arab countries. One of the main goals of the meeting was to elaborate and develop a document on migration policies based on the outcomes of the workshops.

The meeting produced the Ragusa Declaration on Youth, Migration and Development. The declaration underscored that: “Young people are in the front line of migration and are among the groups most vulnerable to its risks, as students, as migrant workers, as forced migrants, asylum seekers or refugees or as children of migrants often growing up separated from their parents. Young people are also directly concerned as children of migrants in host societies, often exposed to greater levels of discrimination, exclusion and abuse. (...) Young people, in particular young women and minors, are often in more vulnerable positions related to trafficking in human beings, resulting in exposure to forced labour and modern forms of slavery. Their human rights are often denied and violated and their legal situation makes the exercise of their rights a mirage. This concerns and affects migrants in European countries as much as in Arab countries, whether they are perceived as hosting or transit countries. Young people and youth organizations are key actors in promoting migration and integration policies embedding active citizenship and human rights, notably through non-formal education, human rights education and global education”.

The declaration identified a set of measures and actions that should be taken while addressing the issue of youth and migration, including:

- (a) Making visible and acknowledging the positive impacts of migration and the role of migrants to further the development and foster intercultural learning by challenging stereotypes and prejudiced views;
- (b) Recognizing the contributions of skilled migrants to the development of host societies, as well as their contribution to the development of their country of origin;
- (c) Creating in each country a national contact and support points for youth and children forced to migrate;
- (d) Applying the principles of *ius soli* (instead of *ius sanguinis*) in all countries. Guaranteeing access to education and health services for all children of migrant parents regardless of their migration status;
- (e) Giving priority to the issue of migration, including intra-regional migration, in the agenda of Euro-Arab cooperation and promoting the inclusion of migrants;

- (f) Providing informal education programmes and activities, emphasizing human rights, conflict transformation and intercultural dialogues;
- (g) Establishing an international day of social inclusion as well as an Euro-Arab youth campaign for the social inclusion of migrants;
- (h) Supporting the representation of young migrants within existing national youth councils and organizations;
- (i) Ratifying the United Nations International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.

### 3. *The Exceptional Arab-African Summit*

LAS convened the Exceptional Arab-African Summit held in Sirte, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 10 October 2010. The summit made the following recommendations:

“We stress the importance of activating the joint mechanisms on human rights and democracy in the two regions as well as activating the partnership in addressing issues of common interest in combating the crime of human trafficking and illegal migration as well as all conventions concerning the rights of the people in two regions in freedom of movement and migration”.

#### C. THE GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Social Sector of PPMD/LAS in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Arab Group (22 Member States of LAS) prepared the Arab Regional Contribution to the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) held in Mexico in 2010 and organized a series of preparatory meetings with IOM and Arab Government experts. The document included a set of recommendations related to the main themes of the GFMD, highlighting Arab Governments’ priorities on migration in the Arab region. The report of the Arab Regional Contribution is available on the GFMD official website.<sup>1</sup>

#### D. OTHER MEETINGS AND PUBLICATIONS

##### 1. *Second meeting of Arab Ministers in Charge of Migration and Expatriate Affairs*

The LAS hosted the second meeting of Arab Ministers in Charge of Migration and Expatriate Affairs in Cairo, Egypt from 14 to 15 November 2009. The meeting was attended by Ministers of Migration and Expatriate Affairs from Arab countries. The meeting aimed to:

- Follow-up on the recommendations developed during the first ministers’ meeting held in Cairo, Egypt in February 2008;
- Follow-up on the declaration and the plan of work by the Economic Social and Development Summit held in Kuwait in January 2009;
- Develop a set of recommendations to: (a) strengthen coordination between Arab Governments, Arab expatriates and transnational communities, and promote the exchange of experiences; (b) support the rights of migrants and Arab communities abroad; (c) correct misconceptions about

Arabs abroad; and (d) develop programmes to draw on the full potential of the Arab competencies abroad to support sustainable development programmes.

## *2. The regional launching of the 2009 Human Development Report*

The Social Sector of PPMD/LAS in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) organized a regional launching of the 2009 Human Development Report (HDR) *Overcoming Barriers: Human Mobility and Development* from 14 to 15 March 2010. The meeting was attended by 12 representatives of Arab Member States; 35 representatives from European and foreign embassies in Egypt; 25 representatives of international organizations, including UNFPA, IOM, the World Bank, and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); as well as by 25 Arab experts in the field of migration, environment and development. The meeting offered the chance to identify the priorities on migration in the Arab Region. The launching ceremony was followed by a workshop that shed light on different aspects of the report. The workshop included four discussion sessions on: (a) skilled migration; (b) migration economics: remittances and social transfers; (c) forced migration in the case of conflict; and (d) forced migration and climate change. The meeting developed a detailed set of recommendations.

## *3. Scientific Forum “Toward a comprehensive Arab strategy to combat human trafficking”*

The Scientific Forum “Toward a comprehensive Arab strategy to combat human trafficking” was held from 20 to 22 November 2010, organized by the Department of Legal Affairs of LAS in cooperation with the Naif Arab University for Security Sciences. Arab officials and experts in human trafficking issues, delegates from the United States of America and the European Union and representatives from European embassies and Interpol took part in the meeting. The meeting was devoted to discussing efforts by Arab countries to combat human trafficking regionally and internationally as well as their experiences in designing a Comprehensive Arab strategy to combat human trafficking. The meeting established the main features of a comprehensive Arab strategy and identified the PPMD and the Department of Legal Affairs and Human Rights as the two departments charged with following-up the implementation of the strategy. The meeting also called for the establishment of a new LAS department concerned with human trafficking.

## *4. The first Conference of Arab Expatriates*

The LAS held the first Conference of Arab Expatriates “A Bridge of Communication” at the LAS headquarters in Cairo, Egypt in December 2010. The conference was attended by 18 Ministers of Migration and Expatriate Affairs from Arab countries, drawing 296 participants. The participants included partner organizations, expatriates from Arab countries, Arab civil society organizations abroad, Arab expatriate youth, invitees by LAS’s Secretary-General from Active Arabs Abroad, representatives of Arab, regional, and international organizations, Ambassadors of countries with large Arab communities, in addition to the Head of Delegation of the European Union to Egypt and the President of the Permanent Delegation of the African Union to the LAS.

The meeting discussed:

- (a) The role of civil society organizations in the advancement of the Arab transnational communities;
- (b) The role of the Arab transnational communities in the development and strengthening of the dialogue of civilizations, cultures and religions;
- (c) Establishing an organizational and information framework for Arab expatriates.



The first conference of Arab Expatriates identified a series of recommendations on international migration and development, including:

- (a) Promoting the participation and engagement of Arab expatriates in political activities and political parties in their countries of destination;
- (b) Establishing an Arab house in the capital cities of major countries of destination, in cooperation with concerned Governments from countries of origin;
- (c) Supporting the involvement of the private sector and Arab civil society organizations, along with the Governments of Arab countries, to improve communication with Arab communities abroad;
- (d) Developing specific programmes to attract back skilled Arab migrants from abroad and invite them to contribute to the development efforts in the Arab world, linking them to Arab scientific institutions and entities.

#### 5. *Idafat magazine*

Within the framework of activities of the Social Sector of PPMD/LAS, the PPMD and the Arab Sociology Association published a special issue of *Idafat* magazine in October 2010 focused on Arab skilled migration, including an editorial by Mr. Khalid Louhichi, Director of PPMD/LAS. The issue contained research on skilled migration from Arab countries, including six articles on: (a) knowledge networks in transnational communities; (b) migration of skilled workers from the Maghreb to Scandinavian countries; (c) contributions in the social sciences of Arab researchers abroad; (d) the return of highly skilled migrants to Algeria; (e) financial remittances from Tunisian migrants; and (f) the “expatriates on its own” initiative. The magazine also reviewed the regional report on Arab Labour Migration “Brain drain, bleeding or opportunities” by Mr. Louhichi.<sup>2</sup>

#### 6. *Other initiatives*

The report on the “Labor mobility in the Arab region” was launched on April 19 2010. The event was organized by the Arab Labour Organization (ALO) under the patronage of H.E. Mr. Amr Moussa, Secretary-General of LAS, and in cooperation and coordination with IOM.

Other events which saw the active participation of LAS included:

- The regional conference “Working together to address irregular migration” organized by IOM in cooperation with the Egyptian Ministry of Interior Affairs and held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt from 1 to 3 June 2010;
- The conference “Migration and Development” organized by IOM and held in Cairo, Egypt on 12 July 2010;
- The international conference “The Egyptians abroad - Problems and solutions and the rights of migrants” organized by the National Council for Human Rights and held in Cairo, Egypt on 3 November 2010.

## E. UPCOMING EVENTS

### 1. *The Conference on the roles of health competencies abroad to strengthen the health sector in the Arab States*

The Conference on the roles of health competencies abroad to strengthen the health sector in the Arab States is scheduled to take place in September 2011. In accordance with the decision by the Council of Arab Ministers of Health, the Technical Secretariat of the Council of Arab Ministers of Health in coordination with PPMD/LAS will convene this conference at the headquarters of the LAS Secretariat in 2011. The preparatory committee includes a number of Arab doctors and representatives of health and migrant organizations. As part of the preparatory activities for the meeting, a session was assigned during the thirteenth annual meeting of the Presidents of National Population Councils in Arab countries, held in Sharm Shikh, Egypt from 29 November to 1 December 2010.

### 2. *The Arab Expert Group Meeting on Migration and Development*

LAS in cooperation with the IOM and with support from UNFPA will convene the Arab expert group meeting on migration and development in May 2011. The meeting will be attended by government experts from Member States of LAS, as well as representatives of civil society organizations and European embassies. The meeting is intended as a follow-up to the 2010 GFMD, as well as to identify migration priorities for the Arab region in view of the 2011 GFMD.

### 3. *Migration Newsletter 2011 (Idafat Sokanya on International Migration)*

The Social Sector of PPMD/LAS, in keeping with the tradition of issuing an annual newsletter on LAS/PPMD activities, is preparing to release its *Migration Newsletter*. The issue will include the latest activities of LAS on migration issues regionally and internationally and will shed light on key publications, reports and conference on international migration. The newsletter will include a section dedicated to the Global Forum meetings from 2007 to 2010, the Arab Contribution to the GFMD, the issue of youth and migration, as well as a migration experts' database.

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#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> For more information on the Arab Regional Contribution to the Global Forum on Migration and Development, see: <http://www.gfmd.org/mexico-2010/> (accessed 27 July 2011).

<sup>2</sup> For more information on the report on Arab Labour Migration "Brain drain, bleeding or opportunities", see: [http://www.caus.org.lb/Home/electronic\\_magazine.php?emagID=204&screen=0](http://www.caus.org.lb/Home/electronic_magazine.php?emagID=204&screen=0) (accessed 27 July 2011).

INDICATORS OF THE EFFECTS OF SOUTH-SOUTH MIGRATION ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT  
IN COUNTRIES OF AFRICA, THE CARIBBEAN AND THE PACIFIC

*The African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Observatory on Migration*

A. INTRODUCTION

The African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States Secretariat acknowledges that migration contributes to improving people's capabilities and to expanding individual choices for the achievement of better life standards through poverty reduction and improvement of education and health. The ACP Group of States Secretariat has recommended that policy and institutional coherence can be achieved by creating an overarching global consensus on migration that views the phenomenon as a livelihood strategy. The main objective of that consensus-building activity would be to create a human mobility framework in which the benefits of South-South mobility outweigh the costs. Thus, the question is whether there is scope for significant improvements in policies and institutions to make migration processes a positive-sum game for development.

Migration can achieve its full potential for development if some prerequisites related to fundamental freedoms of humans are fulfilled, including those related to the freedom of movement (Gallina, 2010). Research on the impact of South-South migration on development is becoming a core objective for the ACP Observatory on Migration. To ensure the assessment, monitoring and follow-up of such impacts, the Observatory established a set of indicators building on existing research and findings related to the migration and development nexus.

Human mobility is an essential strategy for improving individual well-being. It can be adopted to cope with conditions threatening human survival, be they from nature or man-made, or to seek better living conditions. Unequal distribution of opportunities and wealth combined with demographic imbalances are considered key drivers of migration. The age structure of populations is a central component of migration potential due to its impact on labour supply within a country. Most developing countries host growing and disproportionately youthful populations, where disparities in wealth distribution, levels of educational attainment, labour market needs and available resources could become push factors for mobility between countries.

Although growing discrepancies between richer and poorer countries have contributed to an increase in migration to developed countries, most migration occurs within countries or within regions. Three out of four migrants in the world are internal migrants rather than international migrants and nearly 70 per cent of international migrants in sub-Saharan Africa move within that region (Ratha and Shaw, 2007; UNDP, 2009). In 2010, one in three international migrants moved from a developing to a developed country while almost as many migrants moved from a developing country to another developing country (United Nations, 2010). This means that the South-South aspect of human mobility is worth researching in a dedicated programme.

*1. The positive impacts of migration*

Research has proven that migrant workers gain substantially from mobility in terms of the accumulation of income. Remittances can boost household incomes in countries of origin and can help reduce poverty. Moreover, migration can affect broader measures of well-being such as access to education, health and empowerment. However, since an exhaustive list of such impacts cannot be established, the focus of this paper is on those indicators that measure the impact of migration on the most disadvantaged population groups, acting through a multiplier effect. Research for the 2009 Human Development Report (HDR) *Overcoming Barriers: Human Mobility and Development* finds that in

general, migrants have better levels of health and education than those that stay in their countries of origin. Moreover, human mobility often leads to a transfer of human and social capital, as well as flows of ideas and values that can impact the cultural and political development of societies of origin.

## *2. The negative impacts of migration*

Migration does not always have positive impacts, at least in the short term. The potential gains described above are not guaranteed for every migrant. At the community and national level, evidence on the impact of mobility is also mixed. Migration is often prompted by unexpected emergencies (such as conflict or climate-related factors), forcing people who would have otherwise remained in their country of origin to migrate under dangerous conditions. Migrants who move under those circumstances can end up worse off as a result of integration challenges, lack of knowledge of new social and working environments or trafficking. Such negative outcomes can also befall migrants who move voluntarily, especially those who do not carefully prepare their migration, are misinformed or have unrealistic expectations about migration.

Available data indicate that the impact of remittances in the South-South context is smaller than in the South-North context. Further, financial transfers often hide the true costs of mobility and the loss in quality of life experienced by those who remit large parts of their savings; sometimes at a detriment to their own livelihood. Migrants and their family members often experience unequal access to education and health-care services in host countries due to inadequate integration policies or their status as irregular or forced migrants. Moreover, the poorest segments of the population, usually not being able to move, are subject to the adverse effects of remittances such as rising prices and increasing inequalities.

## *3. Indicators on the impacts of migration on development: drawing on existing experiences*

At present, there is no commonly accepted list of indicators on the impacts of migration on development. The Observatory aims to build on existing theoretical and empirical frameworks, focusing on indicators at the micro and macro levels, using survey and census data, together with information from existing national and international databases.

As a member<sup>1</sup> of the consortium and a member of the Academic Advisory Board of the ACP Observatory, the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) developed an innovative approach to measure the impact of international migration on development. The research project “Development on the Move: Measuring and Optimizing the Economic and Social Impacts of Migration” carried out by IPPR in partnership with the Global Development Network (GDN) created a new methodology for assessing the impact of migration. It gathered comparable data on a wide range of economic and social developmental effects of migration, thus presenting a new framework for mapping those impacts. Data were gathered on a diverse range of impacts and complemented with two additional types of new data: information collected from stakeholder interviews and nationally-representative household surveys.

The project examined the impact of migration on social and economic development across eight key dimensions: economic impacts, educational impacts, health impacts, gender impacts, wider social impacts, governance impacts, environmental sustainability and disaster relief. It described various mechanisms through which impacts could occur and surveyed the possible implications of each (Chappell and Sriskandarajah, 2007). The project also considered non-economic factors affecting development in countries of origin by using a combination of different research methods, including cross-country regression analysis, household survey rosters and specific household questions.

Based on a review of existing data and information as well as national consultations between policymakers, researchers and civil society representatives, the impact of South-South migration on human development has been identified as a research priority in most of the 12 pilot countries of the ACP

Observatory. Based on the demand from Governments, academia and civil society, impact studies will be carried out under the lead of IPPR, starting in Cameroon and the Republic of Tanzania, followed by studies in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Papua New Guinea, and Trinidad and Tobago.

A significant focus of those studies will be to build research capacity in the targeted countries. This will be done primarily through the commissioning of studies to be led by in-country teams, and supported by mentors, core staff and expert advisers within a “twinning approach”. Those efforts will be particularly valuable because migration issues have not been widely explored in ACP countries and, consequently, there is much to be gained from working to build research capacity in this area.

For this purpose, the existing IPPR impacts inventory will be used and developed further to identify a list of indicators to be included in a statistical annex for forthcoming studies. Additional indicators could focus on human rights, forced migration, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and the engagement of transnational communities (Newland, 2010; Puentes et al., 2010).

## B. PLANNED CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES OF THE ACP OBSERVATORY ON MIGRATION

The ACP Observatory on Migration is mandated to address the capacity-building needs of ACP Member States and regional bodies in relation to data management, collection, storage and analysis by, among others, harmonizing data management practices, fostering data sharing among ACP Member States, and providing the necessary information to design evidence-based policies. ACP capacity-building activities aim to address the need for improved data management and thematic priorities defined through national consultation processes.

The capacity-building workshops organized by the ACP Observatory on Migration in 2011 will focus on:

- Collection, storage and analysis of data on international migration in ACP countries with a thematic focus on transnational communities and remittances;
- Labour migration, cross-border migration, migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons, gender and human rights;
- Migration and environment, displacement, internal migration, and migration and health.

The training workshops in 2012 will be based on the data collected and the research conducted by the ACP Observatory in pilot countries and will focus on:

- Data analysis for policy development;
- National follow-ups to policy development.

The training workshops in 2013 will focus on ensuring the sustainability of research networks through project management trainings in close collaboration with the ACP Observatory. Training will also focus on project development and donor relations.

The workshops will create synergies with agencies in the United Nations system, universities, civil society organizations and experts with an interest in ACP-specific migration management. Such synergies represent an opportunity to diversify the knowledge-base on migration and development in the ACP countries as well as an opportunity to revisit previously developed training modules and materials with an emphasis on South-South migration.

Training manuals, toolkits, guidebooks and other training materials pertaining to migration and development issued by various agencies and representing the various aspects related to migration management will be available on the ACP Observatory on Migration's website.

### C. FUTURE RESEARCH ON SOUTH-SOUTH MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ACP OBSERVATORY ON MIGRATION

Existing research by the ACP Observatory on Migration has been synthesized into national and regional migration and development overviews, as well as into a compendium of practices.<sup>2</sup> Consultations have taken place between policymakers, researchers and civil society representatives in the 12 pilot countries.<sup>3</sup> Those consultations identified research priorities on South-South migration and development for the 12 ACP pilot countries and six regions<sup>4</sup> and contributed to the development of a Plan of Action for the studies to be commissioned by the ACP Observatory up to 2013. The broad research topics include:

- The impact of South-South migration on human development;
- Enhancing South-South remittances;
- Mapping transnational communities;
- South-South labour migration;
- The impact of internal migration on development;
- Forced migration as a consequence of natural disasters;
- Irregular migration in ACP countries, including trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants;
- The environment, climate change and migration in ACP countries;
- Cross-cutting issues, such as health, gender, human rights and other topics.

Starting in the Spring of 2011, two studies per pilot country and one per region will be commissioned each year according to the priorities mentioned above. A Consortium member will guide and coordinate each study in a "twinning approach" with academics and civil society organizations in ACP countries, based on the expertise and interests of the members of the Consortium. The researcher or research teams undertaking the investigations will be identified through calls for proposals.

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#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> For a list of Consortium partners, see: [http://213.246.207.152/acp/sites/default/files/Consortium\\_leaflet.pdf](http://213.246.207.152/acp/sites/default/files/Consortium_leaflet.pdf) (accessed 12 September 2011).

<sup>2</sup> For more information on the tools developed by the ACP Observatory on Migration, see: <http://www.acpmigration-obs.org/> (accessed 12 September 2011).

<sup>3</sup> The 12 pilot countries are: Angola, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Senegal, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Republic of Tanzania.

<sup>4</sup> The six regions are: the Caribbean, Central Africa, Eastern Africa, Southern Africa, Western Africa and the Pacific.

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ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES OF ONE PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATION  
INVOLVED IN GLOBAL CORPORATE MIGRATION

*Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP*<sup>1</sup>

The objective of the meeting being to exchange information on capacity-building initiatives on international migration, this report concentrates on the activities and initiatives taken by the law firm of Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP (the Firm), one particular organization in the private sector answering to the needs of the increasing stream of migrants around the world. This report tracks both the for-profit and *pro bono* activities of the Firm. It is intended not only to give participants an impression of the growth of an organization active in the area of global corporate migration and its regulation but also to express the willingness of the Firm to share, with Governments and intergovernmental organizations, the Firm's experience and its close relationship with other entities in the private sector.

A. AN INDICATOR OF THE GROWTH OF GLOBAL CORPORATE MIGRATION

Although the Firm has not specifically developed indicators, its rapid growth is itself an indication of the impact of a specific section of migration; i.e., the migration of highly skilled employees within the framework of multinational corporations and the growing national regulatory environment to which this workforce is submitted.

The Firm has grown during the last 20 years from a group of 17 lawyers practicing United States immigration law to an organization of 1,500 employees, including over 275 lawyers, barristers and solicitors and more than 800 paralegals and immigration professionals practicing exclusively in the area of global corporate immigration. Country specialists of the Firm work in 35 offices in 15 countries throughout Africa, the Asia-Pacific region, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East and Northern America.

The Firm has the capacity to assist companies and individuals doing business to comply with the national laws, regulations and procedures that govern migration to obtain the work permits, residence permits and visas needed when hiring and transferring highly skilled personnel, their families and accompanying persons among 120 jurisdictions in an expeditious and cost-effective manner while avoiding the risk of non-compliance with national laws or of erroneous filings which could result in delays and refusals of permits. Despite the recent global economic downturn, the Firm continues to see the rapid growth of global corporate migration and its expansion into more regions of the world.

B. CAPACITY-BUILDING

By acting exclusively in migration issues and concentrating on highly skilled workers and intra-company transferees, the Firm has developed the capacity to assist multinational corporations and organizations to employ and hire highly skilled migrants and to deploy this type of employee around the world. By creating an extensive and constantly-updated proprietary database of the rules on migration in the various countries and areas serviced, the Firm is able to analyse an arising migration situation and to indicate how to obtain the required documents and authorizations in order to hire and to transfer tens of thousands of members of personnel. The Firm partners with its clients to track the location and migration status of the clients' personnel.

For more than 50 years, all of the offices of the Firm were in the United States of America. However, as a result of the changing flows of migration, in 1999 the Firm saw the need to establish offices abroad. The Firm opened its first overseas office in Brussels, Belgium. Thereafter it established offices in Hong Kong, China (Hong Kong SAR); Singapore, Singapore; London, the United Kingdom; and Frankfurt, Germany. In 2004, the Firm acquired the Australian immigration practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers, establishing the Firm as the largest immigration practice in Australia. Between 2004 and 2006 the Firm opened two additional Australian offices, established its presence in New Zealand with an office in Wellington, and opened an office in Shanghai, China. In 2008, the Firm expanded its global practice to India with two offices, opened an additional office in Beijing, China, and opened offices in Toronto, Canada; San Jose, Costa Rica; and in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates. The Firm's newest office, located in Johannesburg, South Africa, was opened in December 2009. The global practice continues to expand rapidly as the Firm continues to establish offices in the jurisdictions where its clients require its presence.

In addition to numerous United States immigration law treatises, the Firm publishes the *Global Immigration Handbook* that provides information on global mobility and country-by-country analysis of migration in the major business migration destinations of the world. The Firm regularly advises United States government agencies and the United States Congress on business immigration matters.<sup>2</sup>

The experience in business migration has enabled the Firm to be active in *pro bono* work and its partners and associates assist hundreds of low income migrants in various jurisdictions. In order to institutionalize its training activities, the Firm has established a Fragomen Fellow at the New York City Bar Justice Center who, on a full-time basis, trains lawyers to represent indigent migrants and assists organizations such as the Catholic Charities and The Door. Among the other organizations the Firm is actively engaged in providing assistance to are Casa Cornelia, The Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC), Communities Overcoming Violence (Harbor COV), Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, and Partners in Health.

Similarly, partners of the Firm are active in the International Section of the American Bar Association (ABA). In 2006, as a result of the urging of the Firm, the ABA adopted policy "supporting multinational cooperation and consultation in the formulation of national laws and policies relating to migration and urging the United States Government to enter into regional and international discussions and agreements governing the flow of workers".<sup>3</sup>

Representing the ABA and on its own behalf, the Firm has been active in the Civil Society Days at the Global Forums on Migration and Development in Brussels, Belgium; Athens, Greece; and Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, attempting to draw attention to, and underline the importance of, the field of business migration in the overall discussion on migration and development.

As a result of the experience of the Firm and its importance as an operator in the marketplace, it was invited by the United States Council for International Business (USCIB) to collaborate in bringing the message of the specific needs of highly skilled migration to various international forums. In cooperation with the USCIB, the Firm pleads for a continuous, open and transparent dialogue among legislators in the public sector and migration professionals in the private sector.

The USCIB asked a partner of the Firm to represent the Business and Investment Advisory Committee (BIAC) to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) at meetings of the OECD in Amsterdam, the Netherlands and Paris, France on the subject of highly skilled migration. Most recently, the USCIB asked the Firm to cooperate in writing its submission to the 2010 Global Forum on Migration and Development entitled "The Importance of Global Mobility and Business Migration".

In the framework of its *pro bono* commitment to the development of the rules applicable to migration, a partner of the Firm is President of the Commission on Immigration and Nationality Law of the Union Internationale des Avocats, the Paris-based association of more than 200 national bar organizations around the world.<sup>4</sup> In this way, the Firm can help direct the thinking of this international organization of lawyers, and maintain awareness of the evolutions of the legislation, regulations and procedures concerning migration in the private sector of the international legal community.

The rapporteur represents the American Bar Association and the Union Internationale des Avocats at the United Nations Economic and Social Council in Geneva, Switzerland and, in that capacity, participated in the work of the Global Commission on International Migration and spoke at the 2008 Symposium in Geneva, Switzerland on Mode 4 of the GATS.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Austin T. Fragomen, Jr., Chairman of the Firm, spoke at the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development at United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States of America in September 2006. Partners of the Firm are active in the International Bar Association and its Immigration Committee.

The Firm would welcome any initiatives tending towards developing clear and transparent policies and procedures, standards and definitions, best practices or even harmonization of migration laws on a regional or global basis. The Firm is willing to put its particular knowledge and experience at the disposal of any Government or other entity interested in moving towards these goals.

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NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Paper prepared by Ms. Ellen G. Yost, Partner, Fragomen, Del Rey Bernsen & Loewy, LLP, New York.

<sup>2</sup> For a full description of the Firm's capabilities, see: <http://www.fragomen.com> (accessed 9 September 2011).

<sup>3</sup> To access the recommendations of the American Bar Association, see: [http://www2.americanbar.org/sdl/Documents/2006\\_AM\\_123B.pdf](http://www2.americanbar.org/sdl/Documents/2006_AM_123B.pdf) (accessed 9 September 2011).

<sup>4</sup> For more information on the Union Internationale des Avocats, see: <http://www.uianet.org> (accessed 9 September 2011).

<sup>5</sup> For more information on Mode 4 of the GATS, see: [http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/serv\\_e/mouvement\\_persons\\_e/sym\\_sept08\\_e/sym\\_sept08\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/mouvement_persons_e/sym_sept08_e/sym_sept08_e.htm) (accessed 9 September 2011).



PARTNERSHIPS FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVES IN THE CONTEXT  
OF DEVELOPMENT AND MIGRATION

*NGO Committee on Migration*

The NGO Committee on Migration, in agreement with the Statement of the Civil Society Days at the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, welcomes the progress made in both process and content, particularly on: first, the importance of more engagement between civil society and Governments in the discussion of issues, input into policies and practices, and joint partnerships; and second, more emphasis on development, especially on its human dimension.

As we move toward the informal thematic debate on international migration and development to be held at the United Nations General Assembly on 19 May 2011 and to the 2011 GFMD under the Swiss Chair-in-Office, we look forward to a strong focus on people-centered development and a recognition that migration, despite its contributions to countries of origin and destination, is not and cannot be used as a substitute for development.

A. PEOPLE-CENTERED DEVELOPMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF MIGRATION

All too often, human development has been defined purely in terms of economic growth, without regard for the dignity and human rights of individual persons. We, however, concur wholeheartedly with the view expressed in the Global Migration Group (GMG) *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A Handbook for Policy-makers and Practitioners*,<sup>1</sup> which focuses the definition of human development on improved quality of life and the expansion of the range of opportunities open to individuals. Pursuing human development means “pursuing all avenues to improve a person’s opportunities and freedoms”, including those which improve a person’s life, preserve his or her political, social, and economic human rights, and enhance the opportunity for an individual to provide for family needs and family cohesion. Such avenues would include availability of jobs, expanded social services, reduced vulnerability to risk and political participation.

Strategies to ensure human development must be people-centered, an approach which ensures the migrant access to education, basic health services, portable certifications, portable social security, and gender equality. Such initiatives encourage both professional and human growth. Furthermore, people-centered development must ensure that migrants have the choice whether to migrate or not.

To further this enterprise, in the following sections we:

- (a) Summarize our Committee’s position, in concurrence with that of civil society at the 2010 GFMD, on the most important tasks to promote people-centered development;
- (b) Provide examples of partnership projects that our Committee has solicited from our member networks, that have focused on the human development of migrants, and that have helped ensure that migration is voluntary;
- (c) Identify core strategies, such as those which have been discussed by the GMG, to promote people-centered development.

B. TASKS TO PROMOTE PEOPLE-CENTERED DEVELOPMENT:  
ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF MIGRATION

We emphasize, in concurrence with the outcomes of the Civil Society Days at the 2010 GFMD,<sup>2</sup> that the right to development is a basic human right that guarantees the social, economic and cultural rights of all. It must include opportunities for human growth, access to decent work at home and abroad, health care, education, security of life and persons, and the full participation in political and social processes.

We call on Governments to assess the impact of trade policies, agricultural subsidies and unsustainable development programmes that displace a large number of people from their homes and livelihoods;

We emphasize that migration by choice requires the creation of jobs at home that provide adequate income and decent work conditions and public services, such as health and education, that ensure people's well-being;

We underscore that women are active agents contributing to development, and that their economic, cultural and social rights, including the right to decent work, must be ensured in both countries of origin and destination;

We call on industrialized countries to provide technical and financial resources to help countries of the Global South address the impact of climate change. Adaptation strategies should consider ways to help people remain at home when possible.

C. EXAMPLES OF PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS TO FURTHER PEOPLE-CENTERED DEVELOPMENT<sup>3</sup>

1. *Partnerships for migration and development*

NGOs with consulates:

- Provision of continuing education by countries of origin within host countries (various countries in Latin America).

NGOs with municipal Governments:

- Partnerships with the local police, hospitals, legal services and civil defence forces to provide counselling and provide capacity-building for exploited and abused migrant workers (Singapore).

NGOs with federal Governments:

- Work with the national assembly to support integration plans for migrants through intercultural dialogue (Portugal).

2. *Partnerships for human mobility and human development*

NGOs with local communities and local Governments:

- Programmes to teach citizens about the culture of countries from which immigrants are arriving (France, Italy, Malaysia, Portugal and the Republic of Korea);

- Education programmes regarding the rights of migrants and the risks of migration for domestic workers (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Panama).

NGOs with labour organizations:

- Bilateral trade union partnerships between countries of origin and countries of destination for the achievement of decent work, equal treatment, access to public services, and the elimination of discrimination against migrant workers and their families (Barbados, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Fiji, Ghana, Japan, Kenya, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom and the United States of America).

### *3. Partnerships for policy and institutional coherence*

NGOs with Governments, the private sector, and labour organizations:

- Development of third-party certification systems involving unions, workers' associations, and private sector employers to promote fair food systems that combine sustainable traditional agricultural practices, fair trade practices and respect for labour rights (Canada, Mexico and the United States of America);
- Microfinance initiatives to assist persons who would otherwise be forced to migrate as a result of climate change. Such initiatives include community collaboration as well as teaching accounting and banking skills (various countries);
- Establishment of centres which provide identification, shelter, education, meaningful projects for trafficked youth and young people who have been forced to move by both slow and rapid onset climate change (Malaysia).

### *4. Partnerships to address vulnerability of children in migration*

- Promotion of programmes for young migrants who after finishing school are prevented from working or learning a profession (Germany).

## D. CORE STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE PEOPLE-CENTERED DEVELOPMENT

As the preface of the GMG handbook states,<sup>4</sup> mainstreaming migration is different from mainstreaming other issues. Fundamentally, this is because migration is about human beings. It is vital, therefore, that migrants' human rights be placed at the centre of any migration mainstreaming exercise.

Key policy recommendations aimed at promoting human development in the GMG handbook include:

- Labour policies grounded in human and labour rights and targeted labour market policies, such as vocational training, educational programmes, and job search assistance;
- Gender-sensitive social protection policies;

- Agreements that ensure the portability of social security entitlements;
- Access to health services, including access to maternal health services; migrant inclusive health policies;
- Interventions that build-up the educational infrastructure and provide migrants with access to education, especially children; tertiary education policies that promote skills accumulation and facilitate the transfer of knowledge;
- Trade policies and agreements that incorporate respect for migrants' rights; the promotion of trade that guarantees a fair percentage of profits returning to producers and workers in the Global South (such as Fair Trade mechanisms) sufficient to support people-centered development; and the ending of economic policies such as agricultural and other subsidies in industrialized nations that undercut the viability of development initiatives in the Global South and tend to exacerbate the root causes of migration;
- Agreements that address the issue of migrants' rights;
- Environmental policies that minimize forced displacement and promote long-term sustainable development.

In the course of four meetings of the Global Forum on Migration and Development it has been widely recognized that migration can make positive contributions to development in countries of origin and countries of destination, as well as countries of transit. The nature of this development, however, must be carefully defined, and mechanisms must be put into place to ensure that it is understood not only in economic terms, in which human beings are seen merely as the engines of economic enrichment, but as a complex human phenomenon involving the personal dignity and human rights of individual migrants and their families. Such mechanisms must include opportunities for education, decent employment, health, personal and subsistence security, and full understanding and participation in the political processes that affect their existence.

We, therefore, respectfully urge Member States to devise and put into place people-centered development policies and practices that will protect and promote the well-being of migrants, their families, and societies worldwide to which they contribute the richness of their work.

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#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> For more information on the Global Migration Group (GMG) handbook entitled *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A Handbook for Policy-makers and Practitioners*, see: [http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&products\\_id=661](http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=661) (accessed 12 September 2011).

<sup>2</sup> To access the statement of the Civil Society Days at Global Forum on Migration and Development held in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico from 8 to 9 November 2010, see: <http://ngomigration.files.wordpress.com/2010/12/statement-civil-society-days1-eng.pdf> (accessed 12 September 2011).

<sup>3</sup> To access the NGO Committee on Migration's paper on partnership projects, see: <http://ngomigration.files.wordpress.com/2010/12/gfmd-partnership-statement-for-mexico1.doc> (accessed 12 September 2011).

<sup>4</sup> See Part 3: Compilation of programme experiences on migration and development.



INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN EASTERN EUROPE:  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

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A. INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN THE EASTERN EUROPEAN CONTEXT

Since the fall of communism in the early 1990s, international migration from Eastern Europe increased greatly, mainly as a result of economic factors. Consequently, in the last two decades there has been an increase in the number of Eastern European migrants worldwide (Robila, 2010). About 10 per cent of legal migrants in the United States of America originated from Eastern Europe, representing about 70 per cent of all recent European migrants in the United States (United States of America, Department of Homeland Security, 2008). Migration of Eastern Europeans to other European countries is even more widespread. For example, in the United Kingdom, in 2006, 37 per cent of arrivals were from the Eastern European countries that acceded to European Union after 2004 (United Kingdom, Home Office Report, 2008). While research on migration from Asia or Latin America has increased in the last decades, the literature on Eastern European migrants remains limited.

Eastern Europe has experienced major population movements as a result of the opening of borders with the West and the economic challenges posed by the transition to a market economy. After decades under a centrally planned economy, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita in Eastern European countries in 2010 varied greatly, ranging from US\$27 thousand in Slovenia to US\$2 thousand in the Republic of Moldova (CIA, 2010). And while the accession to the European Union or the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has contributed to improving the situation in some countries, Eastern Europe continues to face significant economic challenges, such as high unemployment rates and low wages.

Financial hardship has forced many people to move abroad in search of higher wages, leaving their children behind in the care of grandparents or other relatives. At least 17 per cent of the population in the Republic of Moldova emigrated in search of work, leaving an estimated 150,000 to 270,000 children without one parent and around 40,000 children without either parent (Lozinski, 2006). As a result, about 30 per cent of children in the Republic of Moldova live without one or both parents (Sarbu, 2007). The situation is common across Eastern Europe. In Romania, approximately 20 per cent of children aged 10 to 15, equivalent to 170,000 children, had one or both parents working in another country (Toth et al., 2007).

Migration brings significant opportunities and challenges at the family and societal level. The following sections explore the benefits and difficulties for countries of origin resulting from international migration. The paper concludes with a set of recommendations for the development of social support programmes.

B. EASTERN EUROPEAN MIGRATION: OPPORTUNITIES

Remittances, the money migrants send home, are one of the positive outcomes of international migration. Remittances can help family members in the country of origin lead better lives by being able to purchase household goods and services that otherwise they might not be able to afford (IOM, 2007). In many Eastern European countries, remittances represent a significant share of GDP. In 2006, remittances accounted for more than 20 per cent of GDP in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Republic of Moldova (IFAD, 2006). The highest recipients of remittances in Eastern Europe included Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, and the Ukraine (IFAD, 2006).

Economic migration is widespread in many countries of the region. In the Republic of Moldova about one quarter of the economically active population in 2006 was employed abroad and the remittances sent home represented about one third of the country's GDP. With more than US\$ 1 billion in remittances, the Republic of Moldova had one of the highest ratios of remittances to GDP in the world. Between 1998 and 2006 remittances contributed to reducing poverty levels from 40 per cent to 20 per cent among Moldovan households with a migrant member abroad (poverty levels only decreased from 40 per cent to 32 per cent for non-migrant households during the same period) (IOM, 2007). Data indicate that most households used remittances primarily for daily consumption, including food, clothes or rent. Remittances were also used to acquire consumer durables such as TVs or computers and for home renovations, investments or education (IOM, 2007). Similar patterns of remittance use are found in other Eastern European countries.

### C. EASTERN EUROPEAN MIGRATION: CHALLENGES

The challenges of economic migration for Eastern European families and children are not yet well understood (UNICEF, 2008). Most migration policies in countries of origin focus on developing advantageous labour mobility agreements with countries of destination. Relatively little attention has been paid to the social and psychological impacts of international migration on children and families. Consequently, relatively few social support programmes for children and parents in migrant families have been developed. In past years, an alarming number of children committed suicide whose parents were absent for long periods of time (Dabija, 2006). This situation underscores the urgency of understanding how migration might impact child development.

The media compounds the problem by presenting migrant parents as uncaring and neglectful of their children (Dabija, 2006). For the majority of families with a migrant member, remittances represent the only way out of poverty. Many migrant parents accept positions they are overqualified for in order to provide for their children. Moreover, the emigration of workers has a positive impact on countries of origin by easing pressures on local labour markets or in the form of remittances (Fratini, 2007). As such, these highly motivated parents need to be supported by society.

Previous research indicates that parental migration poses several challenges (Cortina, 2006). Studies of Mexican parents who migrated to the United States for work while leaving their children with relatives in Mexico show that parental absence for a prolonged period of time can have lasting negative consequences on the social or psychological well-being of children. Due to lack of parental monitoring and support, children left behind by migrant parents are at higher risk of psychological and behavioral problems. In many cases their academic performance is also affected, as indicated by higher drop-out rates or lower grades compared to children whose parents have not emigrated. Children of migrant parents abroad have also been found to be at higher risk of being abused or becoming victims of human trafficking.

### D. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MIGRANT SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

The recent increase in the number of international migrants from Eastern Europe offers new opportunities for the study of this group's adaptation to migration. A major problem in countries of origin is the lack of structures and expertise at the community level to tackle the problems of migrant families. Migration has been noted as one of the major contemporary policy concerns. Governments have been urged to integrate a family perspective into their international migration policy and to develop effective family-friendly policies to help maximize the opportunities and minimize the challenges of international migration (Robila, 2009 and In press). Given that migrants are part of family systems, a family perspective is recommended in developing policies related to international migration.

Several types of support programmes for migrant families are in order, targeting migrants themselves, the family left behind (spouses, children and other child caregivers such as grandparents) and other stakeholders, such as the school system.

Programmes should aim to better prepare migrants before they leave their countries of origin by informing migrants about the rules and regulations of host countries, helping them to have realistic expectations about migration or providing information on organizations that could support them in countries of destination. Research indicates that migrants consistently express the wish that they “were more prepared to immigrate”, had more information about the laws of the host country or knew the language better (Robila, 2010). This type of programme would also increase migrants’ awareness of the impact of migration on their families and children and provide strategies to address potential challenges, such as the decrease in the quantity and quality of spousal or parent-child communication.

Programmes should also target family members who remain behind in the country of origin. Specific programmes such as individual counseling or support groups could be offered to spouses of migrants in order to provide coping strategies and facilitate the sharing of experiences.

Age-appropriate support programmes are also necessary for children whose parents live abroad. Play therapy programmes can help smaller children express their emotions regarding the absence of their parents, while support groups for older children can give them an opportunity to share challenges and coping strategies. Research has shown that migration affects children differently depending on their sex. For example, boys become less adaptive in adolescence than girls, perhaps due to their lesser ability to identify social support systems (Lamb and Bougher, 2009). As such, gender-specific programmes targeted at boys and girls are recommended.

Child-caregivers represent another category that might benefit from social support programmes. There are many situations in which both parents migrate, leaving children to be cared for by another family member, often a grandparent. In Eastern Europe, grandparents are frequently very involved in the upbringing of their grandchildren regardless of the parents’ migration status. However, rearing a grandchild alone can pose a number of challenges (Goodman et al., 2008). Having support programmes for caregivers can be beneficial in providing a source of comfort and releasing anxiety.

Lastly, programmes should aim to prepare school and community officials to support the children of migrant parents. Given that a child’s universe is mostly focused on school, it is very important for the school personnel to be prepared on how to support the children of emigrants. There is evidence that sometimes teachers are not supportive, underlining only the negative consequences of migration and approaching children of migrant parents as “being neglected”. Instead a more supportive attitude and efforts to reach out to parents abroad to inform them about the child’s progress are recommended.

Given the impact of remittances and the economic benefits brought by international migration, Governments should provide the types of strategies that would increase the benefits of migration and diminish its negative impacts.

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NOTE

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INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS: STATISTICAL MODELS  
FOR USE IN POPULATION PROJECTIONS

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INTRODUCTION

The Laboratory of Populations at The Rockefeller University and Columbia University, New York City, United States of America is an academic research unit devoted to understanding human and non-human populations. This document summarizes the results of recent research on human international migration by the Laboratory of Populations and its collaborators, and indicates plans for future research. Collaborators in those studies have been colleagues at the United Nations Population Division (Ms. Marta Roig) and the Department of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison (Mr. Keuntae Kim) as well as former members of the Laboratory of Populations (Mr. Daniel C. Reuman and Mr. Cai Gogwilt).

A. BACKGROUND

International migration will play an increasing role in the demographic future of nations if fertility continues to decline. Net immigration already accounts for roughly 40 per cent of population growth in the United States of America and about 90 per cent in the original 15 countries of the European Union (EU-15) (Howe and Jackson, 2006).

In projecting international migration, the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (UNDESA) (United Nations, 2003, paragraphs 57-59) identified the need for a demographically plausible, programmable algorithm that automatically projects a zero world balance of net migration and prevents projected net emigration from completely depleting the population of any country of origin. To meet this demand, the Laboratory of Populations and collaborators proposed models and empirically based equations for projecting future numbers of international migrants from any country or region to any other. These algorithms are comparable to standard cohort-component methods of projecting births and deaths.

Most theories of international migration draw on social, economic or political factors to explain migration (Bijak, 2008; Faist, 2000; Massey et al., 1993 and 1998), such as differences among countries in gross domestic product (GDP), labour markets, migration policies, social networks of prior migrants, and cognitive and behavioural attributes of individuals (Howe and Jackson, 2006; Dorigo and Tobler, 1983; Ritchey, 1976). Although Governments influence migration via their laws and regulations, and some past empirical studies attempted to incorporate some form of policy measures, data on this subject are sparse, and predictive models of policy are not available. For multi-decadal demographic projections, it is more difficult to project such non-demographic variables than it is to project demographic variables such as fertility or mortality.

The intellectual antecedents of the new proposed models include Zipf's model of inter-city migration (Zipf, 1946 and 1949), which is one of several "gravity" models in the social sciences (Rogers, 2008). The proposed models assume the availability only of constant geographic or historical variables and of population sizes which can be projected incrementally in time by accepted demographic procedures.

The models make possible deterministic and stochastic projections of migration and hence of population. The approach presented here is different from methods of projecting migrant flows currently adopted (Bijak, 2008; Raymer and Willekens, 2008; Rogers, 2008; Howe and Jackson, 2006; Fertig and Schmidt, 2001).

## B. MAJOR FINDINGS

The dependent variable of the models is the logarithm (base-10) of the annual number,  $m_{ijt}$ , of migrants from origin country  $i$  to destination country  $j$  in the calendar year  $t$ . This dependent variable, called log migrant flow, has advantages and disadvantages. Compared to the choice of net migration as a dependent variable, migrant flow has the advantage of assuring that the world total of net migration will be zero (Cohen, 2008, p. 418). However, migrant flow as a dependent variable has the disadvantages that many countries do not produce reliable data on migrant flows, and that among countries that do publish such data, the definitions of what constitutes a migrant frequently differ from country to country.

Two models were developed for different purposes. The purpose of the first model (Cohen et al., 2008) was to find equations useful for the prediction of migrant flow from any origin to any destination. The coefficients of the equations were estimated using 43,653 records of annual migrant flows from 11 developed countries during the period 1960 to 2004. The countries were: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Of these countries, 11 reported annual numbers of immigrants by country of origin and 8 reported annual numbers of emigrants by country of destination.

The dependent variable log migrant flow was described by a log-linear model with independent variables that took account of whether the data referred to the calendar or fiscal year, the populations in the countries of origin and destination, the geographical land areas of the countries of origin and destination, the great-circle distance from the capital city of the country of origin to the capital city of the country of destination, indicator variables for each of the 8 countries that provided emigration data, indicator variables for each of the 11 countries that provided immigration data, indicator variables to identify the country that provided the migrant flow data, and a random error term.

An additional variant of this model included a “neighbour” multiplier if the country of origin and destination shared a common border. Adding this variable did not greatly improve the overall goodness of fit of the model, probably because few origin-destination pairs were geographical neighbours, but did indicate that being geographically adjacent increased the predicted number of migrants by 84.5 per cent when the influence of all other variables was taken into account.

To clarify the operation of this model, consider migrant flows from Australia to the United Kingdom as reported by Australia. The indicator variable for the origin Australia gave a multiplier for the proclivity of Australians to emigrate, after accounting for all other variables. The indicator variable for the source of the data (which was also Australia in this example) gave a multiplier for the specific definition and completeness of the enumeration of the Australian statistical system. The indicator variable for the destination, the United Kingdom, gave a multiplier for the “receptiveness” to immigrants of the United Kingdom, after accounting for all other variables.

In a second example, consider migrant flows from Australia to the Plurinational State of Bolivia. As the Plurinational State of Bolivia provided no migrant flow data in this study, the only possible source of data is Australia. Indicator variables are invoked for Australia as in the previous example. No indicator variables for the Plurinational State of Bolivia are involved in predicting log migrant flow from Australia to the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

In a third example, consider migrant flows from the Plurinational State of Bolivia to Kenya. Neither country is a source of the migrant flow data used for this study. Consequently, no indicator variables are involved in predicting log migrant flows from the Plurinational State of Bolivia to Kenya. The model's predictions are based entirely on the populations and areas of the countries of origin and destination, the distance between their capitals, and the calendar year. The coefficients are estimated from all the data provided by the 11 reporting countries even though data were not provided by either the Plurinational State of Bolivia or Kenya. This model makes it possible to estimate migrant flows from any country of origin to any country of destination.

A second model (Kim and Cohen, 2010) estimated one equation using 48,832 records of migrant inflows to 17 developed countries and a separate equation using 28,826 records of migrant outflows from 13 of those countries for the period 1950 to 2007. In the first equation, the dependent variable was log migrant inflows. In the second equation, the dependent variable was log migrant outflows.

Among the independent variables considered for inclusion in these equations were demographic, geographic, social, historical, and temporal determinants of migrant flows. The demographic determinants included population sizes, potential support ratios (the number of people aged 15 to 64 over person aged 65 or over), infant mortality rates, and percentages of urban population. The geographic determinants included distance between capitals, land area, being landlocked, and sharing a common border (as in "neighbour" above). The social and historical determinants included sharing a common official language, sharing a minority language, and having a prior colonial relationship. The temporal determinants were a term that was linear in the calendar year and another that was quadratic in the calendar year.

The independent variables most influential on log migrant inflows were demographic (log population of origin and destination and log infant mortality rate of origin and destination) and geographic (log distance between capitals and log land area of the destination). Social and historical determinants were less influential. For log outflows, the most influential independent variables were log population of origin and destination, log infant mortality rate of destination, and log distance between capitals. A young age structure in the destination was associated with lower inflows while a young age structure in the origin was associated with higher inflows. Urbanization in destination and origin increased international migration.

The infant mortality rate affected inflows and outflows significantly but oppositely. For inflows to the 17 developed countries, a higher infant mortality rate in the country of destination was associated with more immigration, while a higher infant mortality rate in the origin was associated with lower inflows. For outflows from the 13 developed countries, a higher infant mortality rate in the destination was associated with less emigration from the origin, while a higher infant mortality rate in the origin was associated with higher outflows. Being landlocked, having a common border, having the same official language, sharing a minority language and colonial links also had statistically significant but quantitatively smaller effects on international migration.

The second model answered four questions raised by the first model. Should migrant inflows to wealthy developed countries be modelled in the same way as migrant outflows? (No, the coefficients and the included independent variables were different.) Is the assumption (made in the first model) of uncorrelated residuals better than alternative error structures? (Yes, surprisingly). How much do other demographic features besides population size influence migration? (The infant mortality rate mattered more than the potential-support ratio, but both mattered significantly.) How much do social and historical factors influence migration? (Substantially, but less than demographic and geographic factors).

The second model provides more refined estimates than those of the first model for migrant flows from Australia to the Plurinational State of Bolivia and for migrant flows from the Plurinational State of

Bolivia to Australia. It provides two estimates of migrant flows from Australia to the United Kingdom, one from the outflow equation with Australia as the origin, the other from the inflow equation with the United Kingdom as the destination. The two equations of this second model provide no predictions for migrant flows from the Plurinational State of Bolivia to Kenya or *vice versa*.

### C. FUTURE PLANS AND CONCLUSIONS

Within the framework of the two models just described, it would be desirable to make at least three kinds of quantitative comparisons of predicted migrant flows:

- From a developed country to another developed country given by the first model and the two equations (for inflows and outflows) of the second model;
- From data-source countries to other countries given by the first model and the migrant outflow equation of the second model;
- To data-source countries from other countries given by the first model and the migrant inflow equation of the second model.

It would also be desirable to compare the net migration of every country according to both models with the estimates of net migration produced by the Population Division of UNDESA.

It would be desirable to obtain data for additional countries and years, while harmonizing the definitions of migrant flows used by different countries (de Beer et al., 2010; Raymer, de Beer, and van der Erf, 2010; Raymer, 2008).

From a theoretical point of view, it would be desirable to study the asymptotic behaviour of projection models with an embedded non-linear migration model such as the two models summarized here. Cohen et al. (2008, p. 15274) gave detailed mathematical questions.

To embed migration models such as these in a conventional population projection model, it would be necessary to distribute the projected total numbers of migrants by age and sex (Raymer et al., 2010; Raymer and Rogers, 2008; Rogers et al., 2003).

An alternative approach, namely, estimating migrant flows from differences in time-series of migrant stocks, is under active development. Özden et al. (2009) estimated global bilateral migration by sex but not by age at decennial intervals from 1960 to 2000. Cunningham (2010) estimated historical and projected future, foreign-born age profiles (not by sex). These efforts are hampered by missing and incomplete data and differences in definitions among countries. Eventually it would be desirable to find a way to integrate data on migrant stocks with data on migrant flows.

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#### NOTE

<sup>1</sup> Paper prepared by Mr. Joel E. Cohen, Ph.D., Dr. P.H., Abby Rockefeller Mauzé Professor, Laboratory of Populations, The Rockefeller University and Columbia University, New York, New York.



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**PART THREE**

**ANNEX**





# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
6 March 2007

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,<sup>1</sup>

*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,<sup>2</sup> and recalling the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>3</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>4</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>5</sup>

*Recalling* the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,<sup>6</sup>

*Recalling also* Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See resolution 60/1.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

<sup>7</sup> 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,<sup>8</sup>

*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;<sup>9</sup>
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;<sup>10</sup>
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

<sup>8</sup> See resolutions 55/2 and 60/1.

<sup>9</sup> A/60/871.

<sup>10</sup> 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

Distr.: General  
30 June 2008

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,<sup>1</sup>

*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,<sup>2</sup> 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,

<sup>1</sup> See resolution 60/1, paras. 61 and 62.

<sup>2</sup> 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,<sup>3</sup>

*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,<sup>4</sup> 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,<sup>4</sup> 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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<sup>3</sup> See A/60/871.

<sup>4</sup> 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

Distr.: General  
10 March 2009

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<sup>1</sup> 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,<sup>2</sup>

*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,<sup>3</sup> and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>4</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>4</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>5</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>6</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See resolution 60/1.

<sup>2</sup> A/CONF.212/L.1/Rev.1.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>4</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>5</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

*Recalling* the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,<sup>8</sup> 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,<sup>9</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development,<sup>10</sup>

*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;<sup>11</sup>
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;

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

<sup>9</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5 (E/2006/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>10</sup> A/61/515.

<sup>11</sup> 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*





# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
17 March 2011

Sixty-fifth session  
Agenda item 22 (c)

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/65/438/Add.3)]

### 65/170. 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, 61/208 of 20 December 2006 and 63/225 of 19 December 2008 on international migration and development, as well as its resolution 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions 62/156 of 18 December 2007 and 64/166 of 18 December 2009 on the protection of migrants and its resolution 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development,

*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>1</sup> 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 the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, adopted on 24 December 2008,<sup>2</sup>

*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* the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document<sup>3</sup> and follow-up,

*Recalling also* the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See resolution 60/1.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 63/239, annex.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 63/303, annex.

<sup>4</sup> See resolution 65/1.

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>5</sup> and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>6</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>6</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>7</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>8</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>9</sup>

*Recalling* the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,<sup>10</sup> and reiterating the call to Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority and the request to the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote and raise awareness of the Convention, particularly in the context of the twentieth anniversary of its adoption,

*Recalling also* the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session, as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

*Recalling further* Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,<sup>11</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development,<sup>12</sup>

*Acknowledging* that the 2006 High-level Dialogue provided a useful opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and heightened awareness of the issue,

*Taking note* of the United Nations Development Programme *Human Development Report 2009: Overcoming Barriers — Human Mobility and Development*,<sup>13</sup>

*Acknowledging* the complexity of migratory flows and that a significant proportion of international migration movements also occurs within the same geographical regions,

*Reaffirming* the resolve to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and members of their families,

*Bearing in mind* the obligations of States under international law, as applicable, to exercise due diligence to prevent crimes against migrants, including those perpetrated with racist or xenophobic motivations, to investigate such crimes and to

<sup>5</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>6</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>7</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

<sup>11</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5 (E/2006/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>12</sup> A/61/515.

<sup>13</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.III.B.1.

punish the perpetrators and that not doing so violates, and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of, the human rights and fundamental freedoms of victims, and urging States to reinforce measures in this regard,

*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, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the international level, including at the United Nations, in relation to development,

*Acknowledging also* the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development,

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

*Recalling* that migrant workers are among the most vulnerable in the context of the financial and economic crisis and that remittances, which are significant private financial sources for households, have been negatively affected by rising unemployment and weak earnings growth among migrant workers in some countries of destination,

*Noting with concern* that in many countries of destination international migrants are experiencing higher unemployment than non-migrants,

*Recognizing* the contributions of young migrants to countries of origin and destination, and in that regard encouraging States to consider the specific circumstances and needs of young migrants,

*Noting with concern* that the financial and economic crisis has increased the risk of misperceiving the economic effects of migration as negative, and noting in this regard that national public planning should take account of the positive effects that migration has in the medium to long term,

*Recognizing* that remittance flows constitute sources of private capital, complement domestic savings and are instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients,

*Recalling* its resolution 63/225, in which it decided to hold a high-level dialogue on international migration and development during its sixty-eighth session, in 2013, and to convene at its sixty-fifth session, in 2011, a one-day informal thematic debate on international migration and development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>14</sup>
2. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to continue to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, in particular by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration;
3. Recognizes the importance of renewing the political will to act cooperatively and constructively in addressing international migration, including

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<sup>14</sup> A/65/203.

regular and irregular migration, to address the challenges and opportunities of international migration in a balanced, coherent and comprehensive manner and to promote respect for and protection of human rights in the development and implementation of policies regarding migration and development;

4. *Emphasizes* that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants is essential for reaping the benefits of international migration;

5. *Expresses concern* about legislation adopted by some States that results in measures and practices that may restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants;

6. *Stresses* that the penalties and treatment given to irregular migrants should be commensurate with their infraction;

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

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

9. *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant organizations, including the International Organization for Migration, to continue to support efforts aimed at promoting and protecting the rights of migrants, especially those in vulnerable situations, and to provide them with access to these rights, including rights to legal processes and access to entities, such as national migrant resource centres, that provide advice and assistance;

10. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to incorporate a gender perspective into 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;

11. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution made by migrants and migration to development in countries of origin and destination;

12. *Encourages* all countries, in accordance with domestic legislation, to take appropriate measures to facilitate the contribution of migrants and migrant communities to the development of their countries of origin;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of enhancing the capacities of low-skilled migrants in order to increase their access to employment opportunities in countries of destination;

14. *Also 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, including by exploring ways to lower the transfer costs of remittances, garnering the active engagement of expatriates and fostering their involvement in promoting investment in countries of origin and entrepreneurship among non-migrants;

15. *Reaffirms* that there is a need to further 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 take 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;

16. *Reiterates* the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education affects the development efforts of developing countries in order to address the negative impacts and optimize the potential benefits of such migration;

17. *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;

18. *Calls upon* Member States to address the effects of the financial and economic crisis on international migrants and, in this regard, to renew their commitment to resist unfair and discriminatory treatment of migrants;

19. *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, in the context of the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and with respect for human rights;

20. *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;

21. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their cooperation in the promotion and development of methodologies for the collection and processing of internationally comparable 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;

22. *Notes* the Global Forum on Migration and Development, which is an informal, voluntary, open, State-led initiative and which held its first meeting in Belgium in 2007, followed by its meetings in the Philippines in 2008, Greece in 2009 and Mexico in 2010, as a contribution to addressing the multidimensional

nature of international migration and a step towards promoting balanced and comprehensive approaches, and also notes the generous offer of the Government of Switzerland to assume the Presidency of the Global Forum for 2011;

23. *Notes with appreciation* the announcement by the President of the General Assembly that the informal thematic debate on international migration and development will be held during the first half of 2011;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the organizational details of the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, including possible themes;

25. *Invites* the regional commissions, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system as well as the International Organization for Migration, to organize discussions to examine regional aspects of international migration and development and to provide inputs, in accordance with their respective mandates and within existing resources, to the report of the Secretary-General on this item and to the preparatory process of the High-level Dialogue;

26. *Invites* Member States, through appropriate regional consultative processes and, as appropriate, other major initiatives in the field of international migration, including on international migration and development, to contribute to the High-level Dialogue;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session, under the item entitled “Globalization and interdependence”, the sub-item entitled “International migration and development”;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

69th plenary meeting  
20 December 2010