Overview of global trends in international migration and urbanization

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International Migration
Nearly 2/3 of all international migrants live in Europe and Asia.
Percentage female among all international migrants, 2015

Women comprise slightly less than half of all international migrants.

Median age among international migrants and by region of destination, 2000 and 2015

Median age of international migrants Worldwide was 39 years, compared to 29.6 years for the total population.

Almost half of all international migrants worldwide were born in Asia.

Number of international migrants by region of origin, 2000 and 2015

In many parts of the World, migration occurs primarily within major areas.

Components of population change - Africa and Europe compared

Net international migration is slowing population decline in Europe – in Africa, it has hardly any effect

URBANIZATION
Urban and rural population of the world, 1950-2050

A majority of the world’s population lives in urban areas

Urban and rural population as proportion of total population, 1950-2050

Urbanization has occurred in all regions, but Africa and Asia remain mostly rural

Close to half of the world’s urban population lives in settlements with fewer than 500,000 inhabitants.

Global urban population by size class of settlement, 1990-2030

Percentage urban and location of urban agglomerations with at least 5000,000 inhabitants, 2014

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

Growth rates of the world’s cities, 2000-2016

Most of the world’s fastest growing cities are located in Asia and Africa.

Governments with policies or strategies in the past five years to encourage population redistribution, 2015

The majority of countries have policies in place to reduce rural to urban migration

Cities’ risk of exposure to natural disasters, 2014

Many cities are vulnerable to at least one type of natural disaster

City Population
- 300-500 thousand
- 500 - 1000 thousand
- 1-5 million
- 5-10 million
- 10 million or more

Exposure Risk
- No exposure
- Low/medium exposure
- High exposure to 1 type of disasters
- High exposure to 2 types of disaster
- High exposure to 3+ types of disaster

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Report of the International Conference on Population and Development

Cairo, 5-13 September 1994

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 September 2016
[without reference to a Main Committee (A/71/L.1)]

71/1. New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants

The General Assembly
Adopts the following outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants:

New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants

We, the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives, meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 19 September 2016 to address the question of large movements of refugees and migrants, have adopted the following political declaration.

I. Introduction

1. Since earliest times, humanity has been on the move. Some people move in search of new economic opportunities and horizons. Others move to escape armed conflict, poverty, food insecurity, persecution, terrorism, or human rights violations and abuses. Still others do so in response to the adverse effects of climate change,
Thank you!

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