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COORDINATION MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Population Division

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

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**UNFPA SUPPORT TO DATA COLLECTION ACTIVITIES
IN THE AREA OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION ***

United Nations Population Fund **

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** United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), New York, NY.

UNFPA Support to Data Collection Activities, in the Area of International Migration

A) At the interregional level:

1. In response to ICPD, UNFPA has been a co-sponsoring agency of the International Migration Policy Programme (IMP) since 1998, jointly with ILO, IOM and UNITAR. Through a multi-disciplinary approach, the Programme aims at strengthening the capacity of governments to deal with migration and forced displacement issues at national and regional levels, and to foster cooperation among States in these areas for best practices in migration and asylum management, and protection of refugees and other vulnerable groups.

Between November 1998 and May 2002, IMP organized eleven major regional seminars or conferences, some of which are to follow up on previous ones. These gatherings involved more than 600 middle and senior level government officials from more than 100 countries in the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe, East Africa, the Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes Region, Central Asia, the Caucasus and Neighbouring States, South-East Asia and the Pacific, Southern Africa and West Africa.

As reported in IMP's contribution to the meeting, UNFPA is supporting the collection of data on migration, which started in 2001, with a pilot project for the region of Central Asia, the Caucasus and Neighbouring States. Under its capacity building and inter-State cooperation approach, IMP has also been collecting, with UNFPA support, migration data for the regions of the Caribbean; West Africa; East Africa; the Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes Region. In agreement with UNFPA, the final objective is to collect comparative data for all regions and produce for ICPD+10, a document entitled "Migration at a Glance: Global, Regional, and Sub-Regional Migration Data". As indicated in IMP's contribution to the meeting, this publication will also focus on the challenges of gathering, analysing, disseminating and using migration data for policymaking within and between countries and regions.

2. UNFPA has also supported the collection of information on refugees from Kosovo in Albania; and those from Sierra Leone in Guinea.

B) At the regional level:

1. Through its Regional Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa, UNFPA has funded in 1993, a survey to collect data on migratory movements in the Sahel Region by CERPOD (Centre d'Etude et de Recherche en Population et Développement). The survey, which collected, retroactively, information from 1988 to 1992, covered eight countries (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal). Several publications have been produced using this rich database.

2. Through its Regional Programme for the Division of Arab States and Europe, UNFPA is supporting the Arab League, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), in their efforts to maintain databases on cross-border movements between the countries of the region, among other things.

3. In Asia, through the country programme of Myanmar, UNFPA supported a Cross-border Migration and Reproductive Health Survey, initiated by the country's Department of Population Immigration, in 1999. The data analysis report is being finalized.