

**FOURTEENTH ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING  
ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

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**CONTRIBUTION  
TO THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

*Center for Migration Studies (CMS)*

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<sup>1</sup>The views expressed in the paper do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the United Nations Secretariat.

## QUESTION 1.

**Please describe briefly the initiatives and activities your entity has undertaken in 2015, or is planning to undertake in 2016, to monitor and implement migration-related commitments related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1) and the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (A/RES/68/4).**

The Center for Migration Studies (CMS) is a New York-based educational institute devoted to the study of international migration, to the promotion of understanding between immigrants and receiving communities, and to public policies that safeguard the dignity and rights of migrants. CMS makes substantive contributions to the migration and development dialogue through its programmatic work in four principal areas. First, CMS publishes cutting-edge journals, books and policy-related articles on international migration, including scholarship focused on migration and development, and on refugee protection issues. Second, CMS sponsors conferences, meetings, briefings, and seminars on migration-related issues and policies. Third, CMS has actively participated in international dialogues and consultative processes on the theme of migration and development. Fourth, the global dimension of CMS is reinforced through its affiliation with the Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN), a faith-based network which links 270 programs for migrants worldwide.

The Center's signature publication, the *International Migration Review* (IMR), is a leading social science journal in the field of international migration. By providing a forum for interdisciplinary perspectives on migration and development, IMR has supported and strengthened the growing body of policy-relevant research on these issues. Over the past decade, IMR has published over 40 peer-reviewed articles, book reviews and conference proceedings specifically focused on migration and development. These publications include the address of United Nations (UN) former Secretary General Mr. Kofi Annan to the first High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and the Chairperson's Summary of the High-Level Dialogue in 2006.

In 2015, IMR continued to contribute to migration and development research and scholarship. Among other topics, the publication featured articles on: how permanent and temporary migration benefit income and reduce poverty in source countries (see "The Impact of Temporary Migration on Source Countries" by Nicola Cantore and Massimiliano Cali, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/imre.12178>) how migrant status amplifies health disadvantages in Europe as a result of language barriers, lack of social capital, culture-related health behavior, and access to healthcare (see "How Migrant Status Affects Health Beyond Socioeconomic Status: Evidence from Austria" by Sascha Sardadvar <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/imre.12108>) how Indian-American religious organizations influence development ideologies in India through financial and social remittances (see "Divine Development: Transnational Indian Religious Organizations in the United States and India" by Rina Agarwala, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/imre.12188>) and how forced return migrants are more vulnerable to negative labor market outcomes and poor sociocultural integration in their origin countries than are voluntary returnees (see "Back to Square One: Socioeconomic Integration of Deported Migrants" by Anda M. David, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/imre.12208>).

In addition, CMS continued to build its new public policy publication, the *Journal on Migration and Human Security* (JMHS), a peer-reviewed journal devoted to US and international policy debates on migration. The journal's theme of "human security" is meant to evoke the widely shared goals of creating secure and sustaining conditions in migrant sending communities promoting safe, legal migration options and developing immigration and integration policies that benefit sending and receiving communities and allow newcomers to lead productive, secure lives.

In 2015, JMHS published articles covering topics such as: the need for legislative reform of the US legal immigration system in light of long-term trends in unauthorized migration to the United States (see "Beyond DAPA and DACA: Revisiting Legislative Reform in Light of Long-Term Trends in Unauthorized Immigration to the United States" by Robert Warren and Donald Kerwin, <http://dx.doi.org/10.14240/jmhs.v3i1.45>) and the need to reform the US immigrant detention system and replace it with a network of supervised release, case management, and community support programs (see "Unlocking Human Dignity: A Plan to Transform the US Immigrant Detention System" by Migration and Refugee Services / US Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Center for Migration Studies, <http://dx.doi.org/10.14240/jmhs.v3i2.48>). In 2015, CMS also published a special JMHS edition on the US refugee protection system that offers analysis and recommendations, and features articles on: the US government's obligations under national and international laws to protect Unaccompanied Alien Children fleeing violence in Central America (see "Humanitarian Protection for Children Fleeing Gang-Based Violence in the Americas" by Elizabeth Carlson and Anna Marie Gallagher, <http://dx.doi.org/10.14240/jmhs.v3i2.47>) and the need to address unmet assistance and protection needs of noncitizens in countries experiencing crises (see "On the Margins: Noncitizens Caught in Countries Experiencing Violence, Conflict and Disaster" by Sanjula Weerasinghe, Abbie Taylor, Sarah Drury, Pitchaya Indravudh, Aaron Gregg, and John Flanagan, <http://dx.doi.org/10.14240/jmhs.v3i1.42>).

CMS holds an average of one event per month and speaks in many more events organized by other entities. CMS events serve as a platform for dissemination of research, policy analysis, information, and ideas among a broad range of stakeholders on international migration issues. In September 2015, CMS hosted a conference on reforming

the US Immigrant Detention System with several experts who discussed ideas for and barriers to reform, the system's growing privatization, and cross-cutting issues and lessons from the criminal justice and national security field. In October 2015, CMS hosted a conference featuring leaders of diverse Catholic institutions, scholars, service providers and immigrant communities. The conference featured discussions on innovative and successful models by faith-based institutions to promote and facilitate immigrant integration. Finally, CMS convened scholars and practitioners in October 2015 for an academic and policy symposium to discuss emerging and cutting-edge migration issues with a focus on migration and development. The conference featured Prof. Mark Mark Miller of the University of Delaware, Prof. Hein de Haas of the University of Amsterdam, Karen Mercado of the Be Foundation, Claudia Cappa of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and Juan Ricardo Ortega of the Inter-American Development Bank. The speakers presented on birth registration and access to rights, the connection between migration and development, and the rule of law and migration in the Northern Triangle states of Central America.

## QUESTION 2.

**Where relevant, please provide a schematic overview of your organization's contribution to the follow-up and review of the migration-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda.**

Eradicate human trafficking (5.2, 8.7, 16.2)

In 2015, CMS interviewed Fr. Bruno Ciceri, Director of the Apostleship of the Sea for the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant Peoples. Fr. Ciceri discussed the problems facing seafarers (including involuntary servitude) and the apostolic work of the Catholic Church in providing hospitality and pastoral care to seafarers, fishers and their families. The interview is available at <http://cmsny.org/mes-bruno-ciceri/>.

In addition, CMS is a member of SIMN, a global network of more than 270 entities that provide services to migrants and refugees, including migrant shelters, service centers, schools, research institutes and other programs along migrant corridors and in migrant receiving communities. In 2016, CMS plans to partner with SIMN in documenting, reporting and advocating on human trafficking and other forced migration issues based on data collected at Scalabrini shelters and welcoming centers.

Protect labor rights of migrant workers (8.8)

In 2015, CMS published several articles related to the rights, health, and socioeconomic status of workers migrating from developing to developed countries, addressing issues such as: the worsening occupational status of African migrants in Europe (see "Understanding Transnational Labor Market Trajectories of African-European Migrants: Evidence from the MAFE Survey" by Eleonora Castagnone, Tiziana Nazio, Laura Bartolini, and Bruno Schoumaker, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/imre.12152>) how legal status impacts exposure to job hazards in the United States (see "The Occupational Cost of Being Illegal in the United States: Legal Status, Job Hazards, and Compensating Differentials" by Matthew Hall and Emily Greenman, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/imre.12090>) and the potentially negative effect of migration on Mexican women's employment outcomes in the United States (see "A Tale of Two Contexts: US Migration and the Labor Force Trajectories of Mexican Women" by Chenoa A. Flippen and Emilio A. Parrado, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/imre.12156>).

Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration (10.7)

CMS published numerous essays on issues of human security and migration. Among those publications, CMS published "The Emergence and Evolution of the Concepts of Human Rights and Human Security" by Leonir Chiarello, c.s., of SIMN. In early 2016, CMS published an essay on national security and refugee protection, titled "Treating Syrian Refugees as a National Security Threat: Do the Means Fit the End?"

Establish legal identity, including through birth registration (16.9)

As described in Section 1, CMS hosted a symposium in October 2015 to explore issues of migration and development. One of the panels included Karen Mercado, President of the Be Foundation, and Claudia Cappa, Statistics Specialist at UNICEF, who offered policy and research updates about birth registration.

Disaggregate data by migratory status (17.18)

In 2013, CMS launched its "Democratizing Data" initiative. Under this initiative, CMS has made widely available detailed US Census data on non-citizens. The purpose of this initiative is to provide quantitative evidence for policy-makers, government entities, NGOs and researchers as they craft, implement and evaluate programs that benefit immigrants. CMS developed estimates on the size and characteristics of the US unauthorized population at the national, state and sub-state levels. CMS also launched data tools, including an interactive map, to make this information accessible to a wide cross-section of users. In late 2015, CMS expanded the scope of this initiative by releasing estimates of the eligible-to-naturalize population. It has also begun to develop estimates on the US refugee population.

CMS disseminated policy findings based on its estimates through articles in JMHS and via its website. The two publications include:

- “Beyond DAPA and DACA: Revisiting Legislative Reform in Light of Long-Term Trends in Unauthorized Immigration to the United States” by Robert Warren and Donald Kerwin, available at <http://jmhs.cmsny.org/index.php/jmhs/article/view/45>
- “The US Eligible-to-Naturalize Population: Detailed Social and Economic Characteristics” by Robert Warren and Donald Kerwin, available at <http://jmhs.cmsny.org/index.php/jmhs/article/view/54>

### QUESTION 3.

**Where relevant, please indicate any activities and initiatives your organization is planning to undertake in preparation for the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, scheduled on 19 September 2016.**

CMS seeks to contribute to the establishment of a global system of refugee protection that is better able to anticipate, prevent and mitigate the effect of crises that lead to displacement, and that broadens protection to “crisis” migrants. In advance of the General Assembly convening in September 2016, CMS is organizing a conference and producing a set of research papers that will contribute to the General Assembly dialogue and beyond. This work is supported by the MacArthur Foundation.

CMS’s two-day international conference on rethinking the global refugee protection system is scheduled for July 6-7, 2016 in New York City. The event will be a high-level gathering that includes representative from states, the UN system, supranational entities, academia, and leading NGOs. Its agenda will be set by an advisory of some of the world’s leading experts on refugee protection.

The intended outcomes of the conference include an assessment of initiatives to expand protections for vulnerable migrants who are not covered by the refugee protection system identification of strategies, ideas and recommendations to promote promising and successful avenues of state collaboration and to accelerate policy progress and, strengthened political will by states to adopt new principles, standards, legislation, and agreements, as well as to make concrete protection commitments.

To promote these goals, CMS will produce a set of peer-reviewed scholarly/research papers (with strong policy takeaways), which will be shared in working form with conference participants, finalized shortly after the event and included in a special collection of CMS’s Journal on Migration and Human Security. These papers will integrate research and scholarship, new insights and ideas related to a strengthened, re-conceptualized system of protection. They will also present new and promising ideas. As a complement to the papers, the conference will also produce a concise overview of policy recommendations for states, regional and UN entities. The overview will summarize the best policy ideas surfaced in the conference, the papers, and from other sources.