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

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**English only**

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**United Nations Expert Group Meeting on**  
**Measuring international migration: Concepts and methods**  
**4-7 December 2006, New York**

**Organization of Work (Provisional)**

<p><b>8:30–10:00</b></p>	<p><b>Registration of participants</b></p>
<p><b>10:00–10:15</b></p>	<p><b>1. Opening</b></p> <p>Introductory remarks  <i>Paul Cheung, Director, United Nations Statistics Division</i>  <i>Jeremiah Banda, Chief, Demographic and Social Statistics Branch, UNSD</i>                      Selection of Chair and Rapporteur</p>
<p><b>10:15–12:15</b></p>	<p><b>2. The need for and uses of statistics on international migration</b></p> <p>This session will address the demand for statistics on international migration in response to government policy. It will examine emerging issues in migration policies and their implications for data collection, identifying priority areas and needs. The discussion will identify categories of ‘migrant’ population that countries are interested in measuring based on their migration policies; review the purposes that flow and stock data serve in different countries; present gaps and deficiencies in the available statistics; and identify weaknesses that need to be addressed by national, regional and international stakeholders.</p>
<p><b>10:15–10:45</b></p>	<p><b>Presentations</b>                      (Documents: ESA/STAT/AC.119/1, 119/2, and 119/23)</p> <p>Emerging issues in migration policies: Implications for data requirements (/1)  <i>Bela Hovy, United Nations Population Division</i>                      International migration statistics in Africa (/23)  <i>Oumar Sarr, African Center for Statistics</i>                      Gaps in statistics on international migration (/2)  <i>Haoyi Chen, United Nations Statistics Division</i></p>
<p><b>10:45–12:15</b></p>	<p><b>General discussion</b></p>
<p><b>12:15–13:00</b></p>	<p><b>3. Concepts and definitions</b></p> <p>There is a need to critically review the United Nations recommended concepts and definitions for statistics on international migration and their applicability to various contexts, given the difficulties encountered by countries in adopting them, from both conceptual and operational points of view. The session seeks ideas to improve the current concepts and definitions with a view to broadening their relevance, applicability and acceptance. It will also deliberate on the need for defining categories of international migrants not currently included in the United Nations recommendations.</p>

<p><b>13:00–14:30</b></p>	<p><b>Presentations</b> (Documents: ESA/STAT/AC.119/3 to 5)</p> <p>A review of the United Nations recommendations for statistics on international migration (/3) <i>Erlinda Go, United Nations Statistics Division</i></p> <p>Key issues for European countries regarding the implementation of the UN recommendations on international migration statistics (/4) <i>Michel Poulain, Universite Catholique de Louvain</i></p> <p>Improving the quality and availability of Migration Statistics in Europe (/5) <i>David Thorogood, Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat)</i></p>
<p><b>13:00-14:30</b></p>	<p><b>Lunch break</b></p>
<p><b>14:30–16:00</b></p>	<p><b>General discussion</b></p> <p><b>4. Measuring international migration flows</b></p>
<p><b>16:00–17:30</b></p>	<p><b>(a) From administrative registers</b> Some countries have long experience in the use of administrative registers to identify various segments of international migrants. Registers are effective statistical tools when well-monitored and maintained (e.g., population registers in Nordic countries) but can be fraught with problems of coverage, definitions, etc. In all cases, the problem of under-deregistration exists. This session will cover the challenges encountered by countries in the use of register data to estimate immigration and emigration flows.</p>
<p><b>16:00–16:45</b></p>	<p><b>Presentations</b> (Documents: ESA/STAT/AC.119/6 to 8 )</p> <p>Sources of statistics of international migration in CIS countries (/6) <i>Olga Chudinovskikh, Moscow State University</i></p> <p>Using register data to monitor the immigration and emigration of immigrants (/7) <i>Vebjørn Aalandslid, Norway</i></p> <p>Measuring immigration and foreign population in Italy (/8) <i>Maria Pia Sorvillo, Italy</i></p>
<p><b>16:45–17:30</b></p>	<p><b>General discussion</b></p>
<p><b>17:45–18:30</b></p>	<p><b>Reception</b></p>

<p><b>9:30–10:30</b></p>	<p><b>4. Measuring international migration flows</b></p> <p><b>(a) From administrative registers (continued)</b></p> <p><b>General discussion (continued)</b></p>
<p><b>10:30–13:00</b></p>	<p><b>(b) From other administrative sources</b></p> <p>This session will consider the use of residence permits, work permits, applications for asylum, exit permits and other administrative sources in the measurement of migration inflow and outflow, and deliberate on their utility in the production of aggregate statistics on international migration flows.</p>
<p><b>10:30–10:45</b></p>	<p><b>Presentations</b> (Documents: ESA/STAT/AC.119/9 and 119/24)</p> <p>Mexico: Practices in measuring stocks and flows of international migration (/9) <i>Francisco Javier Gutierrez, Mexico</i></p> <p>Measuring forced displacements in industrialized countries: data sources, methods and challenges in estimating refugees and asylum-seeker numbers (/24) <i>Khassoum Diallo, UNHCR</i></p>
<p><b>10:45–13:00</b></p>	<p><b>General discussion</b></p>
<p><b>13:00–15:00</b></p>	<p><b>Lunch break</b></p>
<p><b>15:00–17:30</b></p>	<p><b>(c) From border data collection systems</b></p> <p>The experience of countries in using border data collection systems will be presented and discussed. In this regard, the use of duration and purpose of stay questions to identify international migrants will be considered, in particular those pertaining to intentions. The session will also look at how countries use border statistics with other administrative data to estimate migration flows.</p>
<p><b>15:00–15:45</b></p>	<p><b>Presentations</b> (Documents: ESA/STAT/AC.119/11 to 13 )</p> <p>Development of international migration statistics in Sri Lanka (/11) <i>H. R. Gunasekara, Sri Lanka</i></p> <p>Measurement, concepts and definitions of international migration: the case of South Africa (/12) <i>Heston Phillips, South Africa</i></p> <p>Migration flows – A summary of the UK’s recent experience and the immediate challenges ahead (/13) <i>Michael O’Rourke, United Kingdom</i></p>
<p><b>15:45–17:30</b></p>	<p><b>General discussion</b></p>

<p><b>9:30–11:00</b></p>	<p><b>4. Measuring international migration flows (continued)</b></p>
<p><b>9:30–11:00</b></p>	<p><b>(d) The role of population census and other household-based field enquiries</b>          The session will review country experiences in the use of population censuses and household sample surveys to measure migration flows as well as to validate and complement administrative data used for measuring flows.</p>
<p><b>9:30–9:45</b></p>	<p><b>Presentations</b>          (Documents: ESA/STAT/AC.119/14 and 119/25)</p> <p>New alternatives for estimating migration to the United States using the American Community Survey (/14)  <i>Dean Judson, United States</i></p> <p>International migration statistics in ESCWA region (/25)  <i>Neda Jafar, ESCWA</i></p>
<p><b>9:45–11:00</b></p>	<p><b>General discussion</b></p>
<p><b>11:00–13:00</b></p>	<p><b>5. Measuring migrant stock</b>          This session will present country experiences in measuring migrant stock. It will examine the criteria, definitions and policy considerations that countries use as a basis for measuring “international migrant stock”. Some criteria used by countries to identify such “stock” are place of birth (to identify foreign-born), citizenship (to identify foreigners), and having a foreign/immigrant background. The session will also deliberate on the relevance of the United Nations concept of “international migrant” to the measurement of migrant stock.</p>
<p><b>11:00–12:00</b></p>	<p><b>Presentations</b>          (Documents: ESA/STAT/AC.119/10;15 to 17)</p> <p>The population census as a vehicle for measuring migrant stock (/15)  <i>Haoyi Chen, United Nations Statistics Division</i></p> <p>The Argentinean experience in the collection and compilation of statistics on international migration (/10)  <i>Alicia Maguid, Argentina</i></p> <p>Estimating the immigrant stock in the United States by legal status using administrative and census data (/16)  <i>Michael Hoefer, United States</i></p> <p>Data sources on international migration: Case of the Russian Federation (/17)  <i>Olga Antonova, Russian Federation</i></p>
<p><b>12:00–13:00</b></p>	<p><b>General discussion</b></p>

<b>13:00–14:30</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>
<b>14:30–15:00</b>	<b>General discussion (continued)</b>
<b>15:00–17:30</b>	<p><b>6. Special efforts to estimate emigration</b>  Whether derived from population censuses, surveys or administrative records, emigration statistics has proved to be more problematic than immigration statistics, for various reasons. In this session, some country practices will be presented. The feasibility of using other-country data to estimate emigration will be discussed.</p>
<b>15:00–15:45</b>	<p><b>Presentations</b>  (Document: ESA/STAT/AC.119/18 to 20)</p> <p>Measuring international migration in the Philippines (18)  <i>Lina V. Castro, Philippines</i></p> <p>Estimation of emigration from the United States using international data sources (/19)  <i>Jason Schachter, International Labour Office</i></p> <p>Measuring emigrants: Different options for a difficult challenge (/20)  <i>Enrico Bisogno, UNECE</i></p>
<b>15:45–17:30</b>	<b>General discussion</b>

<b>9:30–11:00</b>	<b>7. Data sharing arrangements</b> The session will review existing arrangements for data sharing and the challenges encountered. It will identify issues that need to be considered in developing data sharing protocols to facilitate the sharing and use of information by countries and organizations.
<b>9:30–10:00</b>	<b>Presentations</b> (Documents: ESA/STAT/AC.119/21 to 22)  The joint UNSD-Eurostat-ECE-Council of Europe-ILO questionnaire on international migration statistics (/21) <i>Sabine Warschburger, United Nations Statistics Division</i> The IMILA project: International migration statistics database for Latin America (provisional title) (/22) <i>Dirk Jaspers, ECLAC</i>
<b>10:00–11:00</b>	<b>General discussion</b>
<b>11:00–13:00</b>	<b>8. Next steps</b>
<b>13:00–14:30</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>
<b>14:30–16:00</b>	<b>Adoption of the recommendations</b>