United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Statistics Division, Demographic and Social Statistics Branch

in collaboration with

United Nations Conference on
Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Improving the Compilation of International Migration Statistics

Results of a United Nations Workshop[1]

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[1] For more information on international migration see:
http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/migration/index.htm

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I. PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

A. BACKGROUND

1.   An increasing number of countries —sending, receiving and transit— are concerned with international migration issues. In order to formulate appropriate policies and make informed decisions, more complete and timely international migration statistics are needed. The Workshop on Improving the Compilation of International Migration Statistics, which was held in Geneva, 15-17 September 2003, was to guide statisticians on the application of the United Nations recommendations for the collection and compilation of international migration statistics at the national level and to explore the requirements for and uses of international migration statistics, including the needs of trade in services. It was organised by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) in collaboration with United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

2.   Specifically, the workshop sought to:

- Introduce the United Nations guidelines[2] for the compilation of international migration flows from available national data sources.
- Examine sources of data for the collection of international migration statistics.
- Consider national practices on procedures for compiling international migration statistics.
- Assess the feasibility of compiling international migration flows statistics using the framework presented in United Nations *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration*.

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[2] United Nations (1998). *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1*. United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.XVII.14.

B. PARTICIPATION

3.   An expert primarily responsible for the collection and/or for the compilation of international migration data, from the statistical office of the following countries participated: Argentina, Botswana, Cameroon, Czech Republic, Estonia, India, Italy, Jordan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russian Federation, South Africa, Venezuela and the United Kingdom. Representatives of several international organisations the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Migration Policy Programme (IMP), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the World Health Organization (WHO) and Eurostat also participated in the workshop. Professor Michel Poulain from the University of Louvain participated as a resource person. The list of participants is attached in Annex I.

4.   Participants highlighted in their expectations of the workshop that they wished to improve their understanding the international recommendations. They noted that presence of representatives from national statistical offices from different regions of the world provided an opportunity to share a wide range of experiences with regard to data sources and methodologies in the field of international migration statistics. Several participants stated that they hoped to improve their knowledge of methods of estimating migration and sought ways to better combine different data sources in particular they wished to be introduced to techniques and international standards for the compilation of migration statistics.

C. ORGANISATION

1.   Training programme

5.   There were two main parts to the training programme. The first was a "Pre-workshop assignment" (see Annexes II and III), which participants were requested to complete prior to the workshop. The second assignment corresponded to the following outputs:

- A report on country experience in the compilation of international migration statistics.

- Trial completion of a draft questionnaire on travel and international migration statistics, as illustration of the availability of data at the national level.

6.   The first assignment was designed to help participants prepare for the workshop, and was aimed particularly at describing the current data sources. The second was aimed at testing the draft United Nations *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaire on travel and international migration" in order to obtain feedback on the relevance of the draft questionnaire and at the same time to test the applicability of the United Nations *Recommendations* in different national contexts.

2.   Training sessions

7.   The workshop agenda (see Annex IV) comprised four substantive sessions, in addition to the opening and closing sessions:

- Session I: Policy implications: requirements for and uses of international migration statistics

- Session II: The compilation of statistics on stocks of migrants

- Session III: The compilation of statistics on flows of migrants

- Session IV: Use of the international migration framework as an instrument for compiling statistics

8.   During the last three plenary sessions the participants were divided into groups to consider the main issues highlighted during the presentations and plenary discussions. The group discussions were guided by a set of questions on the topics of the sessions (see Annex V).

3.   Materials and documentation

9.   The main training documents were:

–   *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1*, United
    Nations (1998).

–   *Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services*, United Nations
    (2002).

–   Draft "United Nations *Demographic Yearbook* (DYB) questionnaire on travel
    and international migration".

III. AREAS OF CONCERN

A. INTRODUCTION

10.   A representative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) opened the meeting highlighting the importance of the interaction between different disciplines in order to maximise both the quality and relevance of the information available. He noted that the movement of persons has changed worldwide and in an era of globalisation it is increasingly difficult to satisfy countries' need for uniform statistics. The easing of and the liberalisation of movements through international agreements has, on one hand, increased the potential for commercial opportunities, and on the other hand, has created an urgent need for data and procedures that would facilitate the measurement of flows of people across countries. He concluded by raising two questions that he wished the participants would answer in the course of their deliberations:

- To what extent has the taxonomy of international flows been implemented to face all the changes in the international community?
- and how to distinguish between permanent and temporary migrants?

11.   A representative of the United Nations Statistics Division noted that international migration was a worldwide phenomenon that had featured prominently on the international, regional and national agenda. Many countries are affected in different ways by the permanent and non-permanent movement of persons from their usual place of residence. Consequently, there is need to produce relevant, reliable, comparable and timely statistics to fulfil the need of analysts to study this phenomenon systematically and comprehensively, and for policy makers to formulate informed policies.

12.   The representative of UNSD reiterated that the primary objective of the workshop was to promote the adoption of the latest revision of the United Nations *Recommendations on International Migration Statistics* issued in 1998, for the collection and compilation of international migration statistics at national and international levels, and to explore the requirements for and uses of international migration statistics.

13.   In this review, a process of consultation among representatives of national and international agencies is essential. Questions that would need to be addressed by the workshop.

14.   From the conceptual point of view it is important to analyse whether the revised recommendations on the framework of statistics of international migrant flows and measurement of stocks are still relevant to the study of international migration and to the policy needs of national and regional economies. Furthermore it is relevant to see to what extent the revised classification (taxonomy) of international migrants was being applied in particular to be able to make a distinction between short-term and long-term migrants**.**

15.   From the point of view of the applicability of the Recommendations UNSD wished to see during the workshop how the major types of data sources (administrative registers, administrative sources, border collections and household-based field enquiries) are used in the suggested ways to produce the proposed tabulations.

16.   In order to find ways to link the international migration needs to those of the GATS agreement it is important to analyse whether the key categories of migrants and classifications of the GATS agreement are addressed in the *Recommendations*. Also the extent that differences can be minimised between international migration recommendations and other international standards on national accounts and balance of payments and tourism statistics was thought to be important.

17.   The comments that arose during the workshop also took into account the conceptual development of statistics for mode 4 on the delivery of international services through the movement of natural persons under the General Agreement of Trade in Services (GATS). This conceptual development along with its compilation guidelines are linked to the deliberations on the revision of the *Balance of Payments Manual, Revision 5,* as well as the revision of *System of National Accounts 1993* and its related *Common Product Classification (CPC).* Furthermore the considerations raised during the workshop were to form part of the documentation currently being collected on the

country and agency experiences in applying the revised United Nations Recommendations on International Migration Statistics[3].

B. POLICY IMPLICATIONS: REQUIREMENTS FOR AND USES OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION STATISTICS

18.   The first session gave an overview of the requirements for and uses of international migration statistics in light of policy needs. The session highlighted the importance of the dialogue between policy makers and statisticians in order to generate more meaningful and policy-relevant information. A panel of presenters composed of representatives from the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) introduced the activities of their respective organisations, stating their data requirements and the need for more timely, comprehensive and comparable international migration statistics. At the end of the session the representatives of each country introduced their data availability and the major challenges that the national statistical offices have to face when working on international migration data.

1- The IOM experience with international migration data

19.   The representative of IOM firstly analysed some of the major issues related to international migration data that her organisation had experienced in the last years, secondly she summarised the conclusions of the two days workshop on "Approaches to Data Collection and Data Management" that was held in Geneva, 8-9 September 2003.

20.   Migration is a central policy issue in the globalisation debate. Migration is both a primary result of and a primary driver of globalisation, and is increasingly understood to be both a natural and necessary feature of contemporary economic and social life.

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[3] *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migrations, Revision 1*, United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.XVII.14

21.   The magnitude, types and impacts of migratory flows are not well known or understood. Migration takes a variety of forms, documented and undocumented, temporary and permanent, forced and voluntary. Migration that used to be largely uni-dimensional, uni-directional and permanent is now multi-dimensional and multi-directional, with temporary and circular patterns that are more the norm than the exception.

22.   The question for policy makers is not whether to have migration but how to manage it in order to maximise its positive potential and minimise its negative effects. The complexity of the reasons for migration and its often-clandestine nature seriously impeded efforts to measure migration and adequately respond to its challenges.

23.   Furthermore data needs are particularly sensitive in many parts of the world today as policy-makers are grappling with balancing the need to know who enters a country against the rights of individuals to have personal information about them protected.

24.   During the second part the outcome of the results of the IOM workshop on data management that was attended by representatives of more than 70 countries and experts from over 30 international and non-governmental organisations was reported on.

25.   At the meeting, timely, reliable, comparable and comprehensive migration data was viewed as essential for policy-making and implementation. In this respect there could have been more emphasis in regional and global programmes on capacity building as there was a huge gap between the availability of data in developed and developing countries. There was also the necessity to consider the needs of the users when embarking on data collection. In particular the international organisations should have considered governments' needs when designing programmes to improve data collection and management capacity.

26.   Coordination among agencies responsible for the different data sources was also deemed important as was the development of new methodologies to exploit all the information currently available. According to the delegates, efforts at standardisation of

definitions and data should have not detracted from efforts to understand and compare data as it was produced.

27.   They also stressed that there should be more regional consultative processes on migration in order to provide a forum for informal exchange of migration data and experiences, and foster common understandings and cooperative approaches. They observed that networks at the national level would aid government departments to understand and make more effective use of the data that were available internally.

28.   In conclusion the representative of IOM remarked that as awareness of the importance of migration in today's global world increased, governments worldwide would see both the positive potential of properly managed migration, as well as the downside risks of the alternative, which would increase the pressure for reliable migration. Yet availability of resources to effectively respond to this pressure is still in question.

2- Temporary movement of natural persons under the GATS

29.   The representative from United Nations Conference on Trade and Development highlighted the data requirements of the trade in services with particular reference to mode 4 of the GATS. The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), which came into force on 1 January 1995, is the first set of multilaterally negotiated and legally enforceable rules covering international trade in services.

30.   According to the GATS, services can be supplied through four modes:

Mode 1 -cross-border supply- the service crosses national borders while the consumer remains in his or her home territory and the supplier is located in a different country.

Mode 2 -consumption abroad- occurs when a consumer moves outside his or her home territory and consumes services in another country.

Mode 3 -commercial presence in a market abroad- takes place when the company has commercial affairs abroad.

Mode 4 -presence of natural persons- occurs when an individual has moved temporarily into the territory of the consumer to provide a service, whether self employed or as an employee.

31.   There has so far been a limited liberalisation under GATS due to the fact that countries have had flexible types of commitment and also to the asymmetric distribution of commitments across modes (one to four). In particular the commitments are more limited in modes where there are domestic political and economic sensitivities. At this stage one of the main criticisms addressed to the GATS is that they do not address interests of developing countries. Examples of categories of interest for the GATS include: transferees working within their companies established abroad; foreigners employed in the domestic companies; independent service providers or self-employed; employees of companies as contractual suppliers without establishment; business visitors and graduate trainees and similar categories. Although not all the categories of relevance to trade negotiations and other concerned parties, are covered under the agreement, negotiations could lead to more categories being identified.

32.   In order to measure the movements classified as mode 4, it is be possible to utilise the information collected through the IMF Balance of Payments statistics, the United Nations Statistics of International Migration, the ILO employment statistics, the Statistics on Foreign Affiliates Trade in Services and other relevant information such as work permits, arrivals/departures, censuses and household surveys. The information needed for measuring the number of movements under GATS is: (a) the total number of persons working abroad, (b) the country of origin, (c) occupation, (d) skill level (if possible), (e) status in employment and sector of economic activity in the receiving country, (f) the length of stay, (g) the total remuneration received, and (h) remittances sent to home country.

33.   In conclusion the representative of UNTACD observed that the movement of persons internationally is of particular and demonstrated importance to developing

countries. Furthermore mode 4-related trades generate direct export of earnings which are of significant magnitude to receiving countries and resulting in an increase over time of the importance of mode 4-related global income flows. In light of a general lack of information on the movements of people across countries, it is of increasing importance to promote collaboration in the collection of this type of information. The joint effort of different sectors such as migration and trade can maximise the level of information obtained on international movements of people.

3- Specific policy needs with respect to labour migration

34.   The representative of the International Labour Organisation noted that immigration and emigration policies were complex with varying data requirements both in countries of origin and countries of destination. There is an increasing need for development-oriented data that treats migration as a human resource and development issue, rather than a phenomenon to be controlled and regulated. Furthermore available data are not being effectively used for policy making. Close interaction among producers and users is crucial to ensure relevance and quality of the statistics produced. In particular the misuse and abuse of migration statistics for political and other purposes should be avoided.

35.   Statisticians have the duty to contribute to informed debates on immigration and emigration policies nationally, regionally and internationally and to provide a partial basis for formulating, implementing and evaluating policies for international labour migration. The collaboration between statisticians and policy makers should strengthen the protection of the rights of migrant workers in compliance with international conventions such as the International Labour Organisation convention and the fight against racism, xenophobia, stereotyping of migrant workers.

36.   There are, however, several gaps between data needs and data availability as there are still no comprehensive statistics on labour migration with particular relevance to the gender dimensions, skill profiles, irregular migration, and return migration (both flows

and stocks). It would be useful, for example, to obtain information on the working conditions and treatment of migrant workers. For skilled migration there are data gaps in receiving country and sending countries, particularly up-to-date information on short-term movements (e.g. health workers), on the profile of skilled persons, the student migration, the transition from temporary to permanent migration, and impact of skilled migration on the economy of the receiving country.

37.   From a human rights point of view, the speaker pointed out the importance of obtaining information on treatment of migrant workers and nationals with reference to wages, working conditions, access to employment and social protection. He suggested that there should be a monitoring of abuses on migrant workers and on employers' compliance with international labour standards. The data currently available does not give a clear picture of the situation.

38.   In conclusion, the representative of ILO stressed the need to generate migration statistics within a broad framework of statistics on labour markets and employment as well as on international movements of persons. There is the need for statisticians and policy makers to explore and strengthen links between migration data and their use for policy planning and development. Furthermore, international organisations could aim to promote greater cooperation between countries of origin and host countries for better estimates of flows and stocks and support the development of capacity of countries to produce migration statistics. In particular he recommended that international agencies coordinate assistance to countries based on their respective mandates, competence, and in-house capacity in order to achieve synergy and coherence.

4- Country presentations

39.   The participants reported on major challenges of their statistical offices in meeting the needs of policy makers, the sources available in their countries and challenges with the different sources.

40.   The most common data sources are population censuses, population registers, permit registers, residence registers, and registers for foreigners, household surveys, passengers' surveys and border cards. The responsibility for these data is often shared by different institutions such as the ministry of labour, the ministry of interior, and the police. Therefore, the main challenge offices face when collecting international migration data includes the variety of data sources and in the degree of coordination required of the various institutions involved. Only a few of the countries were reported to have a centralised system where all the institutions relayed information to the national statistical offices. For these countries the main problems encountered in the coordination of the data were the lack of communication among offices and the lack of data quality standards applied to the data collected by different agencies similar to the ones followed by the statistical office.

41.   A further challenge that a number of participants highlighted was the difficulty to establish a dialogue between policy makers and statisticians. Policy makers, according to some of the participants, lacked vision in terms of planning allocation of resources for data collection activities for future data requirements. In terms of methodological problems the main challenge lay in the estimation of the illegal population of migrants. Several countries had problems in tracking movements across their borders and in adequacy of sources for capturing the illegal immigrants.

42.   **Argentina.** The main sources for international migration statistics in Argentina are the register of entries and exits produced by the national bureau of migration. The border register collects information on flows of people in a continuous manner through border cards. The population censuses and household surveys in the intercensal periods are both conducted by INDEC (the national statistical office). The census collects information on the stock of population by place of birth, place of usual residence and year of arrival in the country. The Permanent Household Survey has included questions on migrants only for a limited period between 1985 and 1993 and the information requested was restricted to urban areas. In addition to these systems of data collection there are two type of registers: the border register that collects information on all the people entering and leaving Argentina, and the register of foreigners. These two registers collect information on refugees and asylum seekers as well. The main challenge that INDEC is currently facing is the estimation of illegal migrants. This is mainly seen as due to weak controls at the borders and to difficulty tracking down people that have entered as tourist and remain in the country for an extended period.

43.   **Botswana.** The two main institutions involved in the collection of migration data are the Department of Immigration under the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs and the Central Statistics Office in the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning. The major source of information is the border card that is completed on the arrival and departure but only by non-citizens. Other sources of information are the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and censuses conducted every 5 years. The DHS information on internal movements whereas the information collected through census data refers to citizenship, place of birth and place of usual living.

44.   **Cameroon.** The institutions in charge of international migration statistics are the Immigration and Emigration Department of the General Delegation of National Security who is responsible for overseeing the records at entry and exit terminals. This information is based on the issuance of visa permits. The Justice Department of the General delegation of National security is responsible for issuing residence permits to

foreigners. The Service for demographic statistics, a unit of the department of statistics and national accounts, is responsible for assembling, compiling and publishing the migration statistics. The unit is also responsible for elaborating and undertaking surveys to assess and measure international migration. The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare is responsible for issuing work permits to foreigners while the Ministry of External Relations is responsible for issuing visas. The information collected through the census refers to the place of birth, place of former residence, duration of stay and nationality. The last census was held in 1987.

45.   **Czech Republic.** The data on migration of Czech citizens are obtained from individual self-reporting of individuals on migration filed by municipal residence registration offices. Furthermore, data on international foreign migrants are obtained through information generated automatically on a monthly basis from the database of the foreigners operated by Foreign and Border police. Other type of information, such as the asylum process, acquisition of citizenship and migrant workers statistics are obtained on ad hoc basis from the responsible ministries and institutions. Data on tourism and on national border workers are generally collected through ad hoc surveys. The census collects data on citizenship, nationality (self-declared), mother tongue, and permanent residence of mother at the time of birth, residence one year before the census and the country (place) of work.

46.   **Estonia.** The Ministry of Internal Affairs is responsible for recording people arriving in and departing from Estonia. There are three authorities: Board of Border Guard, Citizenship and Migration Board, and Population Registration Department under the Ministry of Internal Affairs that collect data on international arrivals and departures. The Citizenship and Migration Board processes all information related to asylum, visa, residence permits and citizenship requests. This information is collected by separate registers that cover every person that has submitted an application. The Board of the Border Guard is responsible for the control of the legitimacy of stay of aliens in Estonia. At the borders of Estonia, persons and means of transport are checked when entering and leaving the country. The border crossing, border control and surveillance, follow the Schengen principles. The Population Register is a centralised database that includes

records of all Estonian citizens and all foreigners living in Estonia legally on the basis of the residence permit. This database includes the information on citizenship and about the residence permit.

47.   **India.** India has a decentralised statistical system for collection and compilation of statistics. This system is linked by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation that acts as nodal agency for coordination of statistical activities and development of an integrated statistical system in the country. CSO is also responsible for identifying gaps in the data and suggesting necessary remedial measures. The Ministry of Home Affairs is in charge of International Migration. The statistics are collected through censuses and sample surveys, and are available for the users either in published form or in electronic media.

48.   **Italy.** The National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT), together with the Ministry of Interior, is the main institution involved in the collection of stock and flow data on international migration in Italy. The Ministry of Labour and Welfare, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education collect migration data specific to their field of interest. There are special units in these institutions that are involved in the collection and dissemination of data; within the Ministry of Interior the special section "Servizio Immigrazione" (Immigration Service) deals with immigration issues. The migration unit within the Ministry of Interior collects data on residence and working permits in each province. The ministry is in charge of processing asylum requests. It is responsible, along with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for the processing applications for Italian citizenship. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is also responsible for entry visas. The role of these ministries is essentially administrative and they do not, in general, process the information in addition to data collected by these administrative offices. The National Institute of Statistics, apart from processing the information collected by the various ministries, collects all flow and stock data on internal and international migration and on foreign population from the Municipalities Population Registers.

49.   **Jordan.** The Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Labour and the Department of Statistics are responsible for the records of tourists and immigrants, emigration information remains a problem. However the main source on international migration data is the census of the population. The last three censuses were held in 1961, 1979, and 1994, and the next census is planned for 2004. The 1994 Census included questions on country of birth, citizenship, current and previous place of residence, and duration of residence. It also included a module on Jordanian emigrants, covering information supplied by relatives living in Jordan at the time of the census. Further information was collected from non-Jordanians, principally about the reason for entry (work, study, tourism, etc.) and duration of stay. Any foreigner planning to stay in Jordan for more than two weeks has to register with the police and obtain a residence permit upon entry. To obtain a residence permit, however, a foreigner needs to have a work permit which is issued by the Ministry of Labour.

Sample surveys carried out by Department of Statistics have included a question on citizenship, but relatively small sample sizes have generally limited their usefulness as a source for measuring migration. The Jordanian Living Conditions Survey of 1996 also included a question on the address of residence one year before the date of the survey. The Jordanian Statistical Office has conducted three Population and Family Health Surveys in 1990, 1997 and 2002, and these included a question for household members about the place of previous residence.

50.   **Korea, Republic of.** The institutions involved in the collection and compilation of international migration statistics are the Immigration Bureau, the Ministry of Justice and the National Statistical Office. The Migration Bureau is in charge of the arrival and departure cards for immigration purpose. Through this data source it is possible to collect information on citizens departing by sex, destination and purpose of departure, and on arriving foreigners by sex, age, nationality and type of visa, departing foreigners by sex, nationality and period of stay, registered aliens by nationality and type of visa. The National Statistical Office has since 1996 received data from the Immigration Bureau and produced tabulations for people staying for a period 3 months or more. Furthermore the statistical office is in charge of collecting census data that include information on:

country of origin, main purpose of stay, occupation, duration of stay in Korea, sex and age.

51.   **Mexico.** There are two main organisations generating international migration information in Mexico, the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics (INEGI), which is the national statistical office and the National Migration Institute (INM). INEGI collects statistics on international migration through censuses and sample surveys. INM provides statistical information from administrative records and generates cumulative monthly reports. The INM Statistics are based on definitions from a legal framework, while INEGI statistics are based on definitions developed for statistical purposes. There are also four organisations involved in a continuous survey on population flows across the Northern border: the National Migration Institute, the National Population Council (CONAPO), the Ministry of Labour and Social Benefits and the Northern Border College (COLEF).

52.   **Russian Federation.** In the Russian Federation the collection, compilation and analysis of migration data are undertaken by different ministries and administrations. In particular the Ministry of Interior is in charge of the Federal Migration Service and of the Passport Visa Service. The Federal boundary service is in charge of the border control data collection. The State Committee of the Russian Federation on Statistics is responsible for the population census and demographic statistics including monitoring current population trends, the labour census, and the employment census. The Federal boundary service of the Russian Federation collects and processes data on number of foreigners who arrive in or depart from the Russian Federation classified by citizenship. The Service also processes data on Russian Federation citizens abroad classified by the receiving country. All these data are classified by purpose of the trips and mode of transport. The Goskomstat of Russia (the Russian Federation statistical office) collects and analyses data on migrants from registration documents which are processed by the passport visa services of regional interior bodies.

53.　　**South Africa.** The data on departures and arrivals are collected by the Ministry of Home Affairs through the collection of border cards. These border cards record information on incoming migrants. However the shortcoming of this information stems from the fact that the best information is collected at airports (Johannesburg, Cape Town and Pretoria). The information collected at other entry points is not as reliable as the one from the airports. Statistics South Africa collects the census information on international migration. Limited information on internal movements is collected as well through sample surveys such as the Demographic and Health Survey and the Labour Force Survey.

54.　　**Venezuela.** The Ministry of Interior and Justice collects the main information on the entries and exits in the country through border cards. These cards to be completed by all persons entering or leaving the country. The Venezuelan National Statistical Office collects migration information through the population census. Attention is given in the census to the socio-economic collecting characteristics of foreign born population. Variables such as sex, age, citizenship and occupation are collected and cross tabulated. However the statistical office has limited responsibility in international migration statistics. This is mainly due to a low allocation of funds for this particular type of data. The major part of the funding is directed to the analysis of population census data.

55.　　**United Kingdom.** The Office for National Statistics (ONS) publishes international migration statistics for the United Kingdom. ONS is a non-ministerial government department. The area responsible for migration statistics within ONS is Migration Statistics Unit (MSU), which is part of the Population and Demography Division. The data used to produce migration estimates are obtained from several different sources. A separate area within ONS is responsible for the International Passenger Survey (IPS). The IPS is a sample survey of all passengers travelling through major air and seaports of the United Kingdom. The IPS is used to produce data on people coming to, or leaving, the UK. IPS data on migrants (people who enter or leave the country for more than 12 months) are also passed on to MSU, where they form a major part of the international migration estimates. The Home Office, which is a ministry, collects and publishes data on asylum seekers entering the UK, and other topics such as

control of immigration and persons granted UK citizenship. Data on asylum seekers and their dependants are collated in quarterly and annual bulletins. The Home Office supplies data on asylum seekers to ONS, and these are incorporated into the total migration estimates. Estimates of flows between the UK and the Republic of Ireland are based on the Irish Quarterly National Household Survey and the National Health Service Central Register. This information is crosschecked by the Irish Central Statistics Office and by ONS that agree on a common final figure.

C. THE COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON STOCKS OF MIGRANTS

56.   Participants were introduced to the sources of data on the migrant population stock. A distinction was made between stock and flows data as follows:

- A population stock is related to the situation of a population at a given time

- A flow concerns all events recorded for a given population during a specific period of observation

57.   Migration is a demographic event, and a person involved in migration is called a migrant. As countries or nations are not only territories but also populations there is a clear need to define the population attached to a given country. Persons that belong to the country may be called nationals or citizens while others constituted the foreign population. In this respect a series of variables could be used directly or indirectly to identify the foreign population of a country:

- Place of birth
- Place of usual residence
- Country where the larger part of income is obtained
- Country where the larger part of the individual's properties are located
- Country of work
- Current citizenship
- Citizenship at birth
- Ethnic nationality
- Right to live in the country on a temporary or permanent basis
- Characteristics of parents (i.e. whatever foreigners or not foreigners)
- Knowledge of national language, professing the same religion as the country of residence and living following the same cultural habits of the country of residence.

58.   However there is no common agreement about the criteria to be used for defining foreign population stock. Some of the variables mentioned above (such as place of usual residence) can be used to identify a migrant, but not the foreign population. Generally two criteria are often used to identify either the foreign born population or the population without the national citizenship (which is not the complement of the population with a foreign citizenship). Classification of all persons with the right to live in the country would be defined by combining at least three of the variables, presented in table 1, namely:

   a. Country of birth,

   b. Country of citizenship at birth

   c. Country of current citizenship

Table 1. Possible combinations of the three characteristics, by country of birth, current citizenship and citizenship at birth, for persons currently living in country A

Country of birth	Country of citizenship at birth	Country of current citizenship	TYPE
A	A	A	1
A	Non A	A	2
A	Non A	Non A	3
Non A	A	A	4
Non A	Non A	A	5
Non A	Non A	Non A	6

59.   This type of classification makes it possible, according to the presenter, to identify the range of cases that exist when trying to identify the foreign population of a country. For example *type 1* represents a citizen residing in the country who was born and had the citizenship of the country where he/she is currently residing. Whereas type 5 for example refers to a person born outside the country of residence and with the current citizenship of another country but who has the citizenship at birth of the country of residence. This signifies that the individual changed citizenship and also changed country of residence at least once.

Data Sources

60.   A the main sources of data on stocks of the migrant population are censuses, population registers, tax or social security registers and surveys (household survey, labour force survey and other sample surveys). Some sources such as the foreign population registers, the cumulative stay permit register, the cumulative work permit registers, the immigration visa or entry register, special registers for granted refugees and specific surveys that consider exclusively foreign population, only focus on a specific category of foreign population. In addition some countries keep track of nationals living abroad through consulate registers or special registers for nationals living abroad. Censuses might include nationals living abroad if they have a relative in the home country or have recently emigrated and are keeping some link with their place of origin. Censuses and other data sources available in the receiving countries are often the best sources for identifying nationals living abroad.

61.   The main problem of the data collected through these various sources is that they are not comparable most of the time. The non-comparability of figures describing foreign population is due to two main reasons:

(a).   Figures are based on different definition using different identification criteria

(b).   The data collected are not reliable due to under-coverage of foreign population or existence of missing information

62.   From an analytical point of view the following variables are useful and should be considered in order to characterise and compare foreign population:

- Age and sex
- Marital status and household situation
- Level of education and occupation
- Country of birth and country of citizenship at birth
- Country of current citizenship and ethnic nationality

- Year of first entry in the country

- Country of last residence

- Duration of residence (total and since the last entry)

- Information about the right to enter and stay in the country

- Basic characteristics for parents.

United Nations Recommendations on statistics on stock of migrants

63.   Participants were introduced to the United Nations *Recommendations* on definitions, data sources and tabulations of data on the stock population of migrants.

64.   The recommendations define as stock of migrants: the set of persons who have *ever changed* their *country of usual residence*. Where "*Having ever changed country of usual residence*" implies that these persons have spent at least one year of their lives in a country other than the one in which they lived at the time the data were gathered. The United Nations also defines a *foreign-born population* of a country as a population that includes all persons who have that country as country of usual residence and whose place of birth is located in another country. Similarly the *foreign population* of a country includes all persons who have that country as country of usual residence and who are citizens of another country.

65.   The recommendations stress the importance of collecting information on place of birth and citizenship through censuses and sample surveys. The latter in particular should be collected ensuring that both the country of current citizenship and the mode of acquisition of citizenship are recorded. It is furthermore recommended to cross-tabulate these variables by the basic variables usually available in census or survey data such as age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, labour force participation, occupation and industry.

66.   The inclusion of additional questions, in particular in the census questionnaire, could be costly. However it would be valuable in terms of the amount and quality of information that could be derived from them. It is increasingly important to share

information across countries and, as the information on immigration s easier to collect, it is important that countries of destination give an accurate picture of the stock of foreign-migrants present in their respective countries.

Discussion

67.   The participants highlighted the difficulty of implementing the United Nations recommendations, in particular, in relation to the definition of international migrant and related concepts. The definitions of long and short-term did not always represent the way data are collected at national level for various reasons: the cut off point to identify a migrant in general or more specifically, a short term migrant, differ from the definitions used in some countries. Furthermore, policymaking often dictated the type of data that were collected at national level and these might have not fit with the international requirements. The term usual residence as is now defined is an abstract concept that does not have relevance for policy makers, in future revisions of the recommendations consideration should be given to the revision of this concept. There was general agreement that the duration of stay is a fundamental variable for the determination of the status of migrant and emphasis should be on trying to develop techniques that allow accurate estimates of this component.

68.   The discussion focused as well on the importance of the variables place of birth and citizenship. While one might be relevant in one country the other one is more used in another country. For some countries the focus is shifting towards the place of birth due to the problem of dual citizenship and also because it is difficult to track changes in citizenship. The addition of the question on the citizenship at birth would be costly and it would therefore be difficult for some statistical offices to justify its inclusion on the census questionnaire. It was highlighted that policy makers often do not plan in advance the type of information they require from census data and that was often difficult for statistical offices plan and justify the inclusion of additional topics for the census and other data collection exercises.

69.   It was emphasised that census data should not always be given priority over other types of data sources such as registers, as they are conducted at ten year interval and the required migration statistics need more frequent updating. It was therefore suggested that more stress and attention be placed on sample surveys, such as household surveys or labour force surveys that could give an update of the information for intercensal periods.

D. THE COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON FLOWS OF MIGRANTS

70.   Participants were introduced to the sources of data on flows, and related definitions. The concept of international migrant is based on the concept of change of the *place of usual residence* from one country to another country. For a given country two types of international migration have to be distinguished international immigration and international emigration.

71.   In order to consider the change of country of usual residence as international migration, there is the need to apply some other criteria such as duration of stay, reason for moving, as well as some characteristics of migrant such as the country of origin and place of last residence.

72.   If the movement is considered simply through space, international migration is relatively easy to identify as a change of usual country of residence. Therefore international migration that includes one or more border crossings, and border checks should be the best way to identify international migration. Duration of residence in a country before and after border crossing is also essential for identifying an international migration. Duration of residence before migration is usually known through self declaration or based on administrative evidence (such as passport, border records, and population register). Duration of residence after migration could be based on the migrant's intention or is taken as the duration of the permit for stay.

Data Sources

73.   There are a wide range of sources for data on flows, and they include: border crossing accounts; passengers surveys; population registers; tax or social security registers; foreign register; visa applications; work permit applications; stay permit applications; and asylum applications.

74.   Statistical accounting based on border crossing might only be reliable if the number of border crossing points is limited, the number of persons crossing the border is relatively low and no possibilities existed for crossing the border illegally outside the border crossing points. If all these requirements are fulfilled and coverage of all persons entering or leaving the country is ensured then net international migration for a given year may be estimated through net border crossings. All passports should be stamped with the date of arrival or departure, including for both nationals and non-nationals. On this basis, it should have been possible to estimate ex post duration of every stay in the country or absence from the country and to produce statistical tables on international migration.

75.   The information collected at the border could be as basic as checking the type of visa and duration of validity, or the reason for entering or leaving the country.
On sample basis, more detailed questions may be asked in order to capture the immigrant intentions and their characteristics, including their intentions related to work and duration of stay. A similar survey may be organised for persons leaving the country.

76.   Population registers as well as tax or social security registers may help in measuring international migration. The registration system is usually based on self-declaration and therefore fully dependant on observance of administrative rules, level of punishment for non-observing persons and more generally the costs and benefits of registering or not registering the persons concerned.

77.   Moreover, these registers are maintained primarily for administrative purposes and statistical data are only a by-product. Therefore, it may be difficult to adopt some

criteria required for identification of international migrants following the United Nations *Recommendations*. Nevertheless registers are usually the best available tools for measuring international migration. For foreigners who enter the country with visa, work- or stay- permits, cumulative files may also be helpful for identifying the migrants among them.

78.   Files on applications for and decisions on asylum seekers would also be helpful for providing statistical data. Even if asylum seekers are usually not taken into consideration in the international immigration figures, they should be included when refugee status is or is not granted. Moreover an individual should not be considered as international immigrant as of the time they receive the status of refugees but rather as of the time the asylum claim is submitted.

79.   Estimates of international migration flows could be derived from direct and indirect techniques through censuses or in specific surveys, like household or labour force surveys. The direct technique is used with questions on previous country of residence and duration of stay, or a question on country of residence one or five years ago. When estimated indirectly net international migration is obtained by comparing two successive censuses and considering births and deaths in the intercensal period or by using country of birth data also in two successive censuses.

United Nations Recommendations on the compilation of data on flows

80.   Definitions of concepts linked to data on migration flows as with the current set of international recommendations were presented. The *Recommendations* review new international definitions and relevant data sources; and proposes a revised taxonomy of inflows and outflows of international travellers.[4] The *Recommendations* also present a framework for the compilation of flows statistics, giving particular attention to the compilation of policy-oriented statistics from existing data. In addition, the

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[4] The taxonomy presented in the 1998 *Recommendations* replaces one that was presented in *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration*(Sales No. E.79.XVII.18).

Recommendations give emphasis to the topics of asylum seekers and refugees, and present definitions of relevant concepts and recommended tabulations.

81.   The *Recommendations* aim for international comparability and minimising differences in national definitions. The main instrument to achieve this goal is the framework for the compilation of statistics of flows. The framework recognises the need for countries to have a more complete and flexible data compilation that would take into consideration the complexity and variety of sources utilised to compile data on flows. The definition of long and short term, as reported in the recommendations, does not always fit the countries' definitions of duration of stay for migrants. The framework considers different time frames for duration of stay and allows for the compilation of data for which the duration of stay is not reported. New categories of movements of travellers have been introduced to facilitate the completion of the tables by countries, conforming their data to the suggested tabulations. The concept of citizenship plays a central role in the *Recommendations*, in the taxonomy of international migrants and also in the framework for the compilation of international migration statistics to distinguish between different categories of migration flows. Both inflows and outflows are classified by citizenship, defined in two categories -citizens and foreigners**.**

82.   The collection of metadata is fundamental in understanding and combining the varied data sources, to obtain the type of indicators used for the duration of stay. Information on the metadata would provide a clearer picture of the data available, and facilitate international comparisons through the identification of the sources for different types of data.

Discussion

83.   Participants agreed that the flows data are usually more cumbersome to collect than data on stocks, as they rely on various data sources not set up for statistical purposes. The main data sources for migrant flows are administrative registers, permit registers and border cards, and are administered by institutions other than the statistical office, such as

the ministry of interior, ministry of labour or by the police. It is sometimes challenging for the statistical office to obtain data from these institutions because of the lack of coordination among institutions, in particular with institutions not directly involved in statistical activities such as the police. The other drawback of these data sources is that the quality of information does not comply necessarily with the standards set by the statistical offices.

84.   Information on flows is essential for measuring movements in the period between two censuses or between two surveys. In particular it is fundamental to collect information on short-term movements for the analyses of trade in services. Trade negotiators and migration specialists could collaborate in order to maximise outputs minimising the efforts in the compilation of data on these types of movements. There is therefore a need to collect more information on *reason and duration of stay*.

85.   The participants highlighted some of the problems that make border registrations of migrants difficult. One of the most important shortcomings of border data is the lack of registration for people coming from countries that are part of regional or bilateral agreements. As in the case of the European Union countries, for example, there are no controls at the borders for citizens of member countries. Analogously, in most countries, there is no obligation to register returning nationals and it is therefore difficult to track the movements of citizens. Another problem with the border data is the fact that people who enter the country with tourist visa may remain in the country either legally or illegally. It is difficult to register the changes of status.

E. TRANSLATING THE FRAMEWORK INTO AN INSTRUMENT FOR COMPILING INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION STATISTICS

86.   Participants were introduced to the framework of in the UN *Recommendations* as applied to the *Demographic Yearbook* trial 'Questionnaire on international travel and migration statistics'. The presentation covered: (a) the purpose of international data collection; (b) users of the *Demographic Yearbook*; (c) the *Demographic Yearbook* data

collection, and described the rationale for changing the old migration questionnaire and the proposal for change reflected in the trial questionnaire.

87.   The presentation underlined the importance of international data collection and the need for comparable and more complete data. In particular due to the difficulty of collecting data on emigration, it is important to improve inter-country collaboration and in particular, in the sharing of data. Sending countries would therefore be able to obtain information about their nationals abroad from the data collected by the receiving countries.

88.   The *Demographic Yearbook* represents a source of data in a format that allows international comparison at cross-national, regional and global levels for users from national statistical offices, academic and research institutions, international organisations, and the general public. The *Demographic Yearbook* data collection includes six questionnaires of which three are annual: Population estimates; Vital statistics and International migration and travel statistics. The other three are sent out to countries when it was known that a census is undertaken: Population census; Population Census - Economic characteristics and Population Census - Household characteristics. The first two of these questionnaires include tables that collect information on the stock of migrant population.

89.   The old questionnaire on international migration and travel statistics, was a regular annual questionnaire,[5] and the data on flows were obtained from three tables:

(1)   Major categories of international departures and arrivals;
(2)   Long-term emigrants and immigrants by country of intended long-term residence or by country of last long-term residence, and
(3)   Long-term emigrants and immigrants by age and sex.

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[5] This questionnaire was not sent to countries in 2002 as the international migration data collection procedures (including the questionnaire on "International Migration and Travel Statistics") are currently under review.

The usual sources for this type of yearly information are border collection and population registers.

90.   This questionnaire needed to be changed as the level of response declined over the last three decades, and the information collected on departures and arrivals is difficult to interpret. The low response levels for data on flows were due to the collection of these data being usually difficult. In order to obtain a complete picture of the migratory movements it was necessary to compile the information needed by combining different data sources (border data, permits, registers, etc.). A review of the data collected by the Statistics Division also revealed that for countries that provided international migration data, the framework presented in the old United Nations *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaire was not sufficiently flexible to accommodate the range of categories of national data. Furthermore the questionnaire needed to be brought in closer conformity with the latest set of *Recommendations*.

91.   The changes made involved the revision of the structure to provide a more flexible set of categories, require classification of all data by sex, and to collect more detailed information on the data sources. The proposed changes follow the structure of the framework reported in the *Recommendations*. The list of tables included in the questionnaire are as follows:

1A   Inflows of foreigners by duration of stay, reason for admission and sex;

2A   Inflows of citizens by duration and reason for stay abroad and sex;

3A   Long-term immigrants by age, country of citizenship and sex;

1B   Outflows of foreigners by duration of stay, reason for admission and sex;

2B   Outflows of citizens by reason for stay abroad and sex;

3B   Long-term emigrants by age, country of citizenship and sex;

4   Long-term immigrants by country of last residence, long-term emigrants by country of next residence, and by sex.

92.   Comments from participants were invited on the availability of data and how these can be used to complete the tables. Issues raised will be used for a further revision

of the questionnaire and for determining the degree of applicability of the
Recommendations to national data.

Discussion

93.   The participants were divided into two groups for group discussion following the
guidelines of the questions that they were given in advance (see annex V).

94.   A major concern of the participants was the length of the questionnaire as well as
the time of the year when it was received, in particular for European countries. It was
noted that other international agencies sent their questionnaire during the same period
resulting in the overburdening of statistical offices. Many of the statistical offices do not
have enough personnel to be able to dedicate the time needed for the questionnaires'
completion. Furthermore the questionnaire on international migration by nature required
the collaboration of different institutions within the same country as different sections of
the questionnaire imply different data sources. The data on visa permits or on border
cards, for example, are generally collected by the Ministry of Interior or by the police.
Due to the lack of centralisation of the information, the statistical offices are not able to
gather information from different institutions, often unwilling to release the information
for security reasons.

95.   It was noted that the information requested on the questionnaire relied strongly on
border data. In an era when movements are eased, it is increasingly difficult to record
movements of people across borders. It was however highlighted that in some countries
border controls have been further restricted and also that the information could rely on
visa permits rather than just border cards.

96.   The participants recommended shortening the length of the questionnaire in order to avoid putting further burden on the statistical offices. Some of the participants recommended that tourism statistics should not be collected together with inflows and outflows data as they were often difficult to gather or simply not available. It was also recommended the amount of information requested from countries be minimised and the required information obtained from the World Tourism Organisation.

97.   On the structure of the questionnaire and tables on inflows and outflows (Tables 1A, 2A, 1B, 2B), some of the participants suggested that a separate table be created for migrants and non-migrants as they required different sources. Other participants thought that the present format of the tables, with migrant and non-migrant populations in one table, would allow for more flexibility and would reduce the likelihood of double counting. According to the participants the number of categories proposed, though detailed, needed to be increased. For this reason the participants suggested that some blank cells be added at the end of the table to allow countries to include the categories that were not represented in the list of categories.

98.   The detailed breakdown of the duration of stay was deemed to be counterproductive and did not represent some national realities. Furthermore several countries already faced problems estimating the duration and were therefore not able to fill in the table by duration of stay.

99.   It was noted that the information on the metadata was crucial and there would therefore need to be adequate space allocated in the questionnaire to for this information to be reported. Countries would thereby be able to highlight the differences between their definitions and those recommended by the United Nations and also between the categories by duration of stay present in the questionnaire and those used by the national statistical offices. It should be clear what type of information the countries insert inside the blank cells of the questionnaire in terms of data source and categories included in each cell. Furthermore it was suggested that the metadata be collected periodically such

as once every five years and not every time the questionnaire is sent off. Alternatively countries could be asked to provide the metadata just once and ask in subsequent each years whether the information has changed and if so to update it.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND EVALUATION

A. Conclusions and Recommendations

The following conclusions and recommendations were made:

Introduction

100.   The growing importance of international migration in the agenda of policy makers has raised the awareness on the need for more complete, timely and comparable international data on the movement of people across countries. Yet, with the increasing globalisation of travel and the progressive elimination of border controls between countries, it is progressively more difficult to collect information on international migrants. At the same time, the number of users of such statistics is increasing, as is the variety of the information required: international migration data, not only required for demographic purposes but also for other fields, such as international work-related movements and trade in services, tourism, and national security. Countries are facing new challenges in trying to gather information on international migration from sources of data created for administrative purposes, such as border cards or visa permits. In this context, coordination of international efforts is critical to help strengthen the capacity of national statistical offices and relevant agencies to compile and disseminate international migration statistics.

Conclusions

101.   An important contribution of the United Nations *Recommendations* is the taxonomy, framework and cells that could be used at national level to assess statistics on travel and cross-border movements that are being compiled, and to combine data from different sources. As conceptualised, the *Recommendations* primarily fulfil the purpose of demographic analysis. There is need to broaden its scope to cover diverse descriptive and analytical needs required for different policy purposes, including various types of descriptive analysis such as trade in services, employment and human resources.

102.   A methodological handbook is needed as a practical guide on the application of *Recommendations*. The guide would, in addition to addressing gaps in the recommendation, reflect different countries' experiences with respect to, among others, policy concerns, concepts and definitions, sources of data, methods of data collection and minimum statistics requirements. The Handbook should present concrete examples of how actual statistics are being compiled, to address specific problems that countries face when collecting and compiling international migration statistics; and provide guidance on how countries might combine different data sources in order to get better estimates.

103.   Among the gaps that need to be addressed:

(a)   **Terminology**: There is the need to review and clarify several concepts used in international migration statistics, such as: citizenship, non-migrant, inflows that are not migration, usual residence (in light of frequent movements across borders), and resident population. Moreover, the use of the term "foreigner" is confusing, as there are different ways of interpreting the term. The general term "foreign population" could be used instead of the term foreigner to represent both foreign-born and persons with foreign-citizenship.

(c)   **Source of data**: The different sources for the data that are needed to give a complete picture of international migration will have, to a varying degree, under-coverage, double counting, and questionable reliability in the characteristics recorded. In most countries the *population census* is conducted every 10 years. The results provide a detailed and comprehensive picture of the structure and composition of the covered population, which progressively become obsolete. Sample surveys of households (for example, living conditions survey, labour force survey), as well as border surveys and establishment surveys, are normally more frequent. They can include questions relevant for statistics on migration, and these possibilities should be explored, taking into account methodological problems related to, for example, the sample size and stratifying needed to ensure adequate representation of the groups of interest.

(d)   **Measures and Methods:**

- *Duration of stay* should be estimated for all types of migrants when not available, especially when the stock of migrants is identified by the *country of birth*, in order to highlight special cases.
- In the era of ease of travel, there is a need to know both the *year of first entry* and the *year of last entry*.
- There is need to examine the implications of regional agreements concerning the free movement of persons, for the possibility of distinguishing between citizens and foreigners with traditional data sources.
- There is also a need to review the duration component of the definition of migrant to ensure that it can be applied for the different sources.
- The concept of *usual residence* needs to be examined in light of the increased frequency of movements across international borders.
- As international migration is one of the most important components of population change, methodologies need to be further developed to take this into consideration.
- There is the need to estimate the extent and structure of irregular migration, as this, in several countries, is the main component of migratory movements.

104.   **Policy requirements**: There is a wide range of users of statistics on the movements of persons across international borders, and for some of these, the most valid statistical definitions will differ from those preferred by demographers. Statistics should be produced to be relevant for policy requirements and not just for the sake of statistics. There is therefore need for a dialogue between different institutions to promote cooperation and sharing of the data and compiling statistics according to specific needs, and for policy makers and statisticians to plan in advance for the required data collection. To this end, it would be useful for officials from different institutions and

specialised agencies dealing with international migration issues, such as tourism, labour, trade, etc., and statisticians to participate together in these kinds of workshops.

105.   **Capacity**: Most statistical offices are currently not in a position to provide the statistics needed for government policies related to international migration or for the analysis of citizens and foreign populations. Statisticians need to improve their communication with policy makers, for a better appreciation of the difficulties in collecting and disseminating timely and reliable statistics. Many offices are understaffed and do not have enough funding, and the best combination of sources is heavily dependent on institutional infrastructure and capacity, i.e. competence in and understanding the registration process or statistical surveys.

B. Evaluation of the workshop and closing remarks

106.   In a general discussion, participants reviewed the outcome of the workshop in relation to both the stated objectives and their own expectations at the start of the workshop, and commented on the required next steps. The tone of the workshop, its content and its overall organisation were assessed to be very good. It was generally considered that the workshop gave a good insight into the international recommendations on standards and methodologies for the compilation of international migration statistics. A few of the participants reported that they would use at least part of the experience they gained during the workshop, to review the compilation of their national data on international migration. Most participants appreciated the representation of countries from different regions of the world, which they stated, had allowed them to share experiences and to learn from other countries' work. Furthermore they expressed the need to organise these kinds of workshops at the regional level, as well, in order to focus on problems specific to the situation in their respective regions.

107.   The organisers of the meeting expressed their appreciation of the discussion and of the level of participation of the representatives. It was highlighted that this was the first workshop on international migration organised by the United Nations Statistics Division

on the revised *Recommendations* and that the feedback and inputs gathered during the workshop would be used to further develop future workshops. Furthermore, the comments that had been made by the participants on both the Recommendations and the *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaire on International Travel and Migration Statistics, would be incorporated into the final report of the workshop and also in the revision of the questionnaire.

108.   The Statistics Division thanked the participants for their contribution and for the collaboration they had demonstrated prior to and during the workshop, and assured them that they would be kept informed on future activities.

ANNEX I

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ANNEX II

This assignment is part of the overall workshop programme and aims to prepare participants for the workshop, and will serve as a basis for their reporting on their country's experience with compiling international migration data from national sources. It has two parts:

  (1) Preparation of a 5-page report;
  (2) Filling in of the draft of the United Nations *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaire.

(1) Outline and content of the report

The questions in the pages that follow serve as guidelines for the preparation of the 5-page report. It is essential that participants familiarise themselves with the necessary national sources of data and consult with the authorities responsible for collecting relevant information on migrant flows and stocks.

(2) The Draft Questionnaire

The draft questionnaire on "International Travel and Migration Statistics" will be sent to you electronically. The questionnaire is to be completed and a copy of the completed questionnaire brought to the workshop. Please let us know, by e-mail (Workshops@un.org), if you do not receive the draft questionnaire by 15 August 2003.

The report should be submitted electronically to workshops@un.org no later than **29 August 2003**. For any enquiry please contact:

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Demographic Statistics Section
Attn: Tiziana Leone
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2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2 1556
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Parts I and II should be completed using national sources based on consultation with the relevant migration authorities in the country.

I. Legal framework

GATS agreement

- Has your country acceded to or ratified the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)? If yes what steps have been taken to implement or take advantage of the provisions of the Agreement? What statistics are needed to monitor the achievement of the goal/targets for implementation?

Visas

- What categories of visas are currently issued in your country?
- For each category of visa what are the eligibility criteria (i.e. level of education, purpose of stay, type of employment, etc.)?
  Is there a maximum duration of stay associated with any of the visa categories? Please indicate the maximum duration (and/or the range of duration) for each visa category.
  If there is a document providing all these details, please provide a copy of the relevant section(s).
- Are there any bilateral or regional agreements (e.g., trade, economic treaties, employment, etc.) that facilitate citizens of member states to travel or work in your country? (Specify)

II. International Migration statistics

(a) Institutions involved with data collection

- What are the main institutions involved in collecting international migration data in your country? Is it a Ministry, a department of a ministry, a branch, section or unit within a Ministry? (Please specify).
- For each institution, please specify what aspects of international migration statistics they cover (e.g., administrative recording/monitoring of entries/exits, processing of immigration requests, processing of administrative records for statistical purposes, data collection, data compilation, etc.).
- In what form is the information made available to potential users (e.g., database, regular publication such as newsletter, statistical compendium, report, etc., unpublished/print outs)?
- What is (are) the most recent publication (s) on international migration statistics produced by the institutions? Please provide a copy of at least one of these publications.

(b) National Statistical Office

- Is there a migration statistics unit or migration focal point in the national statistical office? Please indicate name, phone and email contact of the focal point.
- If there is, how long has it been in existence? What activities does the unit/focal point undertake?
- How are international migration records obtained? In what format (e.g., database, regular publication such as newsletter, statistical compendium, report, etc., unpublished/print outs)?
  How are they compiled?
- Have any international migration statistics publications been produced in the last five years? If yes (please provide a copy). What was the reason for producing this publication? Who are the main users? When is the next issue to be published?
  If no, are there plans to produce a migration statistics publication?

(c) Collaboration among institutions

- Is there any collaboration among the institutions identified in II (a) and the national statistical office?
- If yes, what kind of collaboration (Is the collaboration formal – administratively regulated or informal? What are the respective roles of each of the partners?) What kind of activities does the collaboration entail (e.g., meetings – how regular, sharing of data, etc.)?
- What are the main uses of migration data in your country and which are the institutions requesting these data?
- What are the main data items requested by users? Which of the requests are easily available? What data requests are not available? What are the constraints to providing these data?

III. *Data availability and Sources*

1. Indicate for each of the statistical information or variables in the tables 1 to 3, the information listed below:

(a) Institution collecting the data (e.g., Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Interior, etc).
(b) Type of output in which data are available to users (e.g., published census or survey report, analytical report by statistics office, other published products, report of research/academic institution or individual, unpublished tables at statistics office, central bank, other government office, please state).
(c) The title and the year of the latest publication.
(d) For Table 1 please also state the type of administrative source used (e.g. population registers, residence permits).
   For table 3 please report the titles and the data of the last two most recent surveys collecting information on international migration.

2.	Please discuss the relative strengths and weaknesses of these sources with respect to the categories. Which source of data you consider most appropriate for the information about the various categories and why?

Table 1 <u>Administrative Records</u> (e.g.: residence permits, population registers, etc.) collection of international migration data

	Institution collecting data	Type of admin. record [6]	Type of output[7]	Latest publication
Tourism				
Migration inflows				
Migration outflows				
Short-term migrant				
Long-term migrant				
Foreign migrants				
Citizen migrants				
Migration stocks				
Foreign born				
Foreigners				
Labour migration				
Asylum seekers/Refugees				
Other…please specify				

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[6] Please report one of the following options: (a)Residence permits, (b) working permits, (c) population registers, (d) registers of foreigners, (e) other (specify).
[7] Please report one of the following options: (a) Analytical report, (b) other published products, (c) research/academic institution or individual, (d) unpublished tables available at the national statistics office, central bank, other government office, please state.

Table 2 Border Crossings collection of international migration data

	Institution collecting data	Type of output[8]	Latest publication
Tourism			
Migration inflows			
Migration outflows			
Short-term migrant			
Long-term migrant			
Foreign migrants			
Citizen migrants			
Migration stocks			
Foreign born			
Foreigners			
Labour migration			
Asylum seekers/Refugees			
Other…please specify			

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[8] Please report one of the following options: (a) Analytical report, (b) other published products, (c) research/academic institution or individual, (d) unpublished tables available at the national statistics office, central bank, other government office, please state.

Table 3 <u>Sample Surveys</u> collection of international migration data

	Institution collecting data	Type of survey and date of the latest	Type of output[9]	Latest publication
Tourism				
Migration inflows				
Migration outflows				
Short-term migrant				
Long-term migrant				
Foreign migrants				
Citizen migrants				
Migration stocks				
Foreign born				
Foreigners				
Labour migration				
Asylum seekers/Refugees				
Other…please specify				

If you currently obtain information on international migrants from a sample survey please include a copy of the questionnaire or the survey report.

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[9] Please report one of the following options: (a) Survey report, (b) analytical report, (c) other published products, (d) research/academic institution or individual, (e) unpublished tables available at the national statistics office, central bank, other government office, please state.

c. Population census

- What questions about international migration are currently available in your population census questionnaire? (Please include a list of the questions or a copy of the census questionnaire) and census year.
- Is there any plan of modifying the international migration part of the population census questionnaire? If yes, what are the changes that are being proposed?
- Is there any census publication related to migration data? If yes please provide a copy.

d. Definitions

Please provide your country's definitions (if available) for the following list:

International migrant:

Long-term migrant:

Short-term migrant:

Non-migrant:

Permanent Residence:

Temporary residence:

Usual residence:

Place of birth:

Foreign born:

Citizen:

Foreigner:

IV.   United Nations Demographic Yearbook questionnaire (draft)

Please complete the draft questionnaire on 'International travel and migration statistics' that will be sent to you under a separate cover, send an electronic copy to workshops@un.org and bring it with you to the workshop**.** Your experience in completing the questionnaire and information provided on the questionnaire will be used in one of the sessions for group discussion.

Summary of experience in completing the questionnaire (issues to be discussed)

Clarity of the instructions: Please specify which instructions were not clear. What was the source of confusion, and how would you suggest the instructions should be modified? Did you find any of the tables difficult to complete? If yes please specify which tables and indicate the difficulties you encountered.   Please state any concerns you had on format, definitions, categories or tabulations when filling in the tables relative to the following aspects:

Division of flows into migrants and non-migrants: Are the available data routinely classified into migrants and non-migrants? Which of the categories (related to purpose for admission/of stay) of flows are generally included under (i) migrant and (non-migrant) population in your national data?

Differences in the lengths of duration of stay: What categories of length/duration of stay are used for the data on flows in your country? How does the breakdown compare with those requested in the questionnaire? How easy was it to fit your country's data into the duration of stay requested?

Distinctions among migrants: Are the data on migrants distinguished by temporary and permanent? If yes please specify the criteria used in making this distinction. Which of the sources of data provides the information used to differentiate between these types of migrants?

Categorisation of the reasons for admission in the country or staying abroad: Do the categories presented represent a complete list of what is listed in your country data? Which categories of reasons for flows, is any, could you not fit into any of the ones presented in the questionnaire? How did you handle the categor(y)ies in completing the table? How might the breakdown of the reasons be presented to better accommodate the categor(y)ies? Which of the categories presented could be eliminated or combined with another (which one)? Are there any categories of reasons (for flows) that you could fit in more than one of those presented in the questionnaire? If there is any overlapping please specify which one and in which table.

Treatment of dependants: What is the definition of dependents as presented in your country data? Are dependants tabulated separately from other categories in your national data? Please explain the reason why. Should dependents be distinguished by

reason (of the primary permit/visa holder), grouped under one category of dependents, or put in a residual category such as other? What are the merits and demerits of each of the approaches?

Are there any other issues you would like to raise about the questionnaire? Please give your overall comments on how the questionnaire can be made more appropriate and relevant to your country's situation.

ANNEX III

Please complete the draft questionnaire on 'International travel and migration statistics', send an electronic copy to workshops@un.org and bring it with you to the workshop**.** Please prepare a brief report of your experience in completing the questionnaire following the guidelines below reported. The information provided on the questionnaire will be used in one of the sessions for group discussion.

Summary of experience in completing the questionnaire (issues to be discussed)

Clarity of the instructions: Please specify which instructions were not clear. What was the source of confusion, and how would you suggest the instructions should be modified? Did you find any of the tables difficult to complete? If yes please specify which tables and indicate the difficulties you encountered.   Please state any concerns you had on format, definitions, categories or tabulations when filling in the tables relative to the following aspects:

Division of flows into migrants and non-migrants: Are the available data routinely classified into migrants and non-migrants? Which of the categories (related to purpose for admission/of stay) of flows are generally included under (i) migrant and (non-migrant) population in your national data?

Differences in the lengths of duration of stay: What categories of length/duration of stay are used for the data on flows in your country? How does the breakdown compare with those requested in the questionnaire? How easy was it to fit your country's data into the duration of stay requested?

Distinctions among migrants: Are the data on migrants distinguished by temporary and permanent? If yes please specify the criteria used in making this distinction. Which of the sources of data provides the information used to differentiate between these types of migrants?

Categorisation of the reasons for admission in the country or staying abroad: Do the categories presented represent a complete list of what is listed in your country data? Which categories of reasons for flows, is any, could you not fit into any of the ones presented in the questionnaire? How did you handle the categor(y)ies in completing the table? How might the breakdown of the reasons be presented to better accommodate the categor(y)ies? Which of the categories presented could be eliminated or combined with another (which one)? Are there any categories of reasons (for flows) that you could fit in more than one of those presented in the questionnaire? If there is any overlapping please specify which one and in which table.

Treatment of dependants: What is the definition of dependents as presented in your country data? Are dependants tabulated separately from other categories in your

national data? Please explain the reason why. Should dependents be distinguished by reason (of the primary permit/visa holder), grouped under one category of dependents, or put in a residual category such as other? What are the merits and demerits of each of the approaches?

Are there any other issues you would like to raise about the questionnaire? Please give your overall comments on how the questionnaire can be made more appropriate and relevant to your country's situation.

ANNEX IV

WORK PROGRAMME

Day 1   **Monday, 15 September**

9:00 - 9:30   Registration of participants

9:30 – 10:45   Opening:
                UNCTAD
                UNSD

10:45 - 11:00 Coffee break

11:00–13:00   Session I: Policy implication: requirements for and uses of international migration statistics
                Presentation 1: Policy requirements for complete, timely and comparable data on international migration.
                Presentation 2: Availability and optimisation of migration data for different purposes (e.g. tourism, trade in services).
                Presentation 3: Requirements for statistics on specific policy needs (health, labour, etc.).

13:00-14:00   Lunch break

14:00-15:30   Discussion

                Discussion: Countries will share experiences on how their international migration statistics are being produced, taking into account policy requirements.

15:30- 15:45   Coffee Break

15:45 17:30   Session II: The compilation of statistics on stocks of migrants

                Presentation 1: Overview of the main sources of data on international migration stocks
                Presentation 2: The stock data, its characteristics and recommended tabulations
                Country presentations: Experiences on the compilation of data on the stock of international migrants according different data sources

                Discussion

Day 2   **Tuesday, 16 September 2003**

9:30-9:45   Working group session 1
                 Introduction to the group discussion: stock data collection

9:45- 11:00   *Group activity and discussion*

11:00-11:15   *Coffee Break*

11:15-12:00   Presentation and discussion of Groups' Work

12:00-13:00   Session III: The compilation of statistics on flows of migrants
                 Presentation 1: Overview of the main sources of data on international
                 migration flows.
                 Presentation 2: International migration flows and their characteristics.
                 Country experiences: presentations and discussion on data collection

13:00 –14:00   *Lunch break*

14:00-15:00   Discussion

15:00-15:15   Working group session 2
                 Introduction to the group discussion: flows data collection

15:15- 15:30   *Coffee break*

15:30- 16:30   Group discussion

16:30-17:30   Presentation and discussion of Groups' Work

Day 3   **Wednesday, 17 September 2003**

9:30-10:00   Session IV: Use of the international migration framework as an instrument
                 for compiling statistics

                 Presentation: The United Nations *Demographic Yearbook* draft
                 questionnaire on international travel and migration statistics
                 Discussion

10:30-13:00   Working group session 3
                 Group discussion: DYB draft questionnaire

13:00-14:00   *Lunch break*

14:00-15:30   Presentation and discussion of Groups' Work

15:30-15:45   Coffee Break

15:45-17:30   <u>Session V: Summary, feedback and recommendations</u>

Recommendations for future work.
Evaluation of the workshop.

ANNEX V

Session 1: Stock of migrant population

1. What are the main challenges that countries face in the collection and compilation of stock data?

2. What sources of data are being used to compile statistics on migrant population? What are the characteristics used to categorise migrants? What are the limitations in the available data?

3. Which of these characteristics – place of birth, citizenship at birth and current citizenship – are generally collected in national population censuses? What are the constraints to adding them to the census questionnaire?

4. What are the experiences in comparing statistics between sending and receiving countries (i.e., matching emigrants from country A to B, with immigrants in country B from A)? What are the potentials for experimenting with data sharing among countries?

Session 2: International migration flows data

1. What are the main challenges that countries face in the collection and compilation of flows data?

2. What user needs do migration flows data currently fulfil? What other requests of users need to be addressed?

3. How can countries make the most of existing data sources? What kind of additional information could be gathered?

4. How can the framework of the UN recommendations be used in order to help in understanding better the data on flows?

Session 3: *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaire

1. What were the positive and negative experiences in completing the questionnaire?

2. How would introducing the migrants/non-migrants classification in tables 1 and 2, as proposed in the United Nations *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1,* (pages 31, 35, 44, 55 and 57) affect the completion of the questionnaire?

3. What kind of information about the population of your country that is abroad would you need to have? From the perspective of the users what are the tabulations that need to have priority?

4. What meta-data (such as information on data sources) should be collected and with what frequency should they be collected?

5. What recommendations would you give to the United Nations for improving its collection of international migration data?