United Nations Statistical Commission
Fifty-second session
1–3 and 5 March 2021
Item 3 (g) of the provisional agenda
Items for discussion and decision: migration statistics

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Statement provided by: Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician, Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM)
Statement:

a) Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) take note of the work carried out by the Statistics Division and the Expert Group on Migration Statistics on the improvement of Migration statistics.

b) DOSM also agree the revised conceptual framework on international migration and mobility and accompanying definitions as the core elements for the upcoming revision of the United Nations Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration. Five elements of the revised framework and definition are as below:

   i.   Building stronger links with data need for policymaking;
   ii.   Revisiting the concept and definition of international migrant and related phenomena;
   iii.   Covering new migration patterns and new data sources;
   iv.   Incorporating relevant frameworks, such as the 2018 International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics and the ILO guidelines concerning statistics of international labour migration; and
   v.   Providing guidance on data collection and analysis.

c) Prior to 2014, Malaysia relies on Population and Housing Census to estimate and improve the non-citizens data. Administrative registers were used as the main source of international migration statistics starting 2014. Which consists of:
   i.   Work permits from Immigration Department of Malaysia;
   ii.   Students visa from Ministry of Education (MOE);
   iii.   Population registers (citizens and foreign citizens) from National Registration Department (NRD); and
   iv.   Number of registered refugees and asylum seekers from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

d) For the compilation of statistics on international migration and temporary mobility, two types of populations are needed which are the resident population and temporary population. Currently, DOSM only compiles the **resident population** statistics to be used as input for mid-year population estimates for non-citizen categories and supported by **births and deaths data** from NRD.

e) 2010 Census data reported that the non-citizen in Malaysia was 10 percent of the total population. For the intercensal population estimate, the non-citizen population has been estimated at 10 per cent. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, migration statistics were also affected in Malaysia following the closure of national borders. According to the Immigration

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	Department and MOE, there are no new intakes and renew of passes for foreign workers and international students since the implementation of nationwide Restriction of Movement Control Order beginning 18th. of March 2020.
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