UNITED NATIONS EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON SUSTAINABLE CITIES, HUMAN MOBILITY AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

New York, 7-8 September 2017

Report of the Meeting

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Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Population Division

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DESA

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat is a vital interface between global policies in the economic, social and environmental spheres and national action. The Department works in three main interlinked areas: (i) it compiles, generates and analyses a wide range of economic, social and environmental data and information on which States Members of the United Nations draw to review common problems and take stock of policy options; (ii) it facilitates the negotiations of Member States in many intergovernmental bodies on joint courses of action to address ongoing or emerging global challenges; and (iii) it advises interested Governments on the ways and means of translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, helps build national capacities.

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs provides the international community with timely and accessible population data and analysis of population trends and development outcomes for all countries and areas of the world. To this end, the Division undertakes regular studies of population size and characteristics and of all three components of population change (fertility, mortality and migration). Founded in 1946, the Population Division provides substantive support on population and development issues to the United Nations General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Population and Development. It also leads or participates in various interagency coordination mechanisms of the United Nations system. The work of the Division also contributes to strengthening the capacity of Member States to monitor population trends and to address current and emerging population issues.

Notes

This report is available in electronic format on the Division's website at www.unpopulation.org. For further information about this report, please contact the Office of the Director, Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, New York, 10017, USA, by Fax: 1 212 963 2147 or by e-mail at population@un.org.

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1. BACKGROUND AND SCOPE OF MEETING

Urbanization and migration are profoundly important demographic phenomena affecting population growth and decline and the spatial distribution of populations both within and between countries. The two processes have significant development impacts at the global, regional, national and subnational level, and they are interconnected, since migrants tend to gravitate toward cities. Cities are centres of demographic, social, economic and political change, and magnets for migrants from near and far.

While the themes of urbanization and internal migration are not new topics for international organizations, these have been overshadowed in recent years by concerns around international migration as a key area in the global developmental agenda. Internal movement, particularly to cities, has tended to be marginalized, as has the role of the city itself. After all, cities are the main destination for most international migrants, and they are also a source of many of those migrants. At a time when over half of the world's population live in towns and cities, it is appropriate to return the city to centre stage in the debate.

The Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) devoted chapter IX to "Population distribution, urbanization and internal migration" and chapter X to "International Migration". Both chapters address the challenges and opportunities of people on the move and emphasize that governments should formulate policies to promote "in an integrated manner the equitable and ecologically sustainable development of major sending and receiving areas, with particular emphasis on the promotion of economic, social and gender equity based on respect for human rights"[1].

Urbanization and migration also figure prominently in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including Goal 11 on sustainable cities. International migration and human mobility are linked to various parts of the 2030 Agenda, especially target 10.7, "Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies".

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted by the General Assembly in September 2016, launched a process of intergovernmental negotiations that should lead to the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration at an intergovernmental conference to be held in 2018.

Meanwhile, the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the Habitat III Conference in Quito in October 2016, recognized urbanization as one of the twenty-first century's most transformative trends, posing massive sustainability challenges in terms of housing, infrastructure, basic services, food security, health, education, decent jobs, safety and natural resources, among others.

Recognizing the importance of these topics, the Commission on Population and Development decided that the thematic focus of its fifty-first session in April 2018 will be on "Sustainable cities, human mobility and international migration". In preparation of the upcoming session and in order to inform the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the theme of the fifty-first session, the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) convened an expert group meeting on "Sustainable cities, human mobility and international migration", held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 7-8 September 2017.

The meeting convened experts from around the world to (a) review the latest evidence regarding trends in urbanization and migration; (b) discuss development impacts, including social, economic, political and environmental aspects; and (c) discuss implications for policy, governance and planning. The discussion

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[1] A/CONF.171113/Rev.1, chapter IX, 9.2.

ranged from the global to the local level, with the goal of identifying substantive connections across geographic and organizational levels, and encouraging coordinated policy responses based on a whole-of-government approach.

This report summarizes the presentations and ensuing discussions that took place within each substantive session of the meeting and highlights cross-cutting themes and recommendations. Materials from the expert group meeting can be accessed on the Population Division website: http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/events/expert-group/27/index.shtml

2. SUMMARY OF SESSIONS

A. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting was opened by the Director of the Population Division, Mr. John Wilmoth. After welcoming participants, Mr. Wilmoth noted that the meeting had been organized by the Population Division, with valuable input from colleagues from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Joint Programme on Human Settlements (UN-Habitat), and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), whom he thanked for their support.

Previewing the topics to be addressed over the two-day meeting, Mr. Wilmoth said that presentations and discussions would explore the concepts, definitions and data sources used in analysing migration and urbanization, including review of the latest evidence regarding migration and urbanization trends for different parts of the world. Discussions would also address how migration and urbanization are linked, how migration and urbanization impact development, and vice versa. Moreover, the meeting would review the roles of migrants in cities and consider policy implications, governance and planning issues.

Mr. Wilmoth reflected on global trends in urbanization and migration. The world was becoming more urban at the same time that the number of migrants worldwide was growing, with major changes in the direction and complexity of migration both within and between countries. The phenomena of urbanization and migration were interconnected, especially since migrants tended to gravitate towards cities. Migration and urbanization posed both challenges to and opportunities for development at the national and local levels. Although national authorities controlled the movement of people across international borders, internal and international migrants gravitated to cities and, therefore, cities often were at the forefront of the influx of people from near and far.

Migration and urbanization were global demographic phenomena that featured prominently on the global development agenda, such as the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda and the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. Mr. Wilmoth further explained that in 2015, Member States had agreed that resolutions and decisions of the Commission would be negotiated, and that the outcome of the discussions on the special theme in 2018 would contain substantive and action-oriented recommendations for implementing the Programme of Action, as well as key actions for implementation beyond 2014.

Mr. Wilmoth introduced Professor Ronald Skeldon of the University of Maastrich, who served as rapporteur of the meeting. Then, Ms. Christina Popescu, representing Mr. Ion Jinga, Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations and Chair of the fifty-first session of the Commission on Population and Development, took the floor. Ms. Popescu noted that rapid urbanization was one of the most transformative twenty-first century trends, and that the global urban population was expected to nearly double over the coming decades. Many social, cultural, economic, environmental and humanitarian activities were concentrated in cities, which raised challenges with respect to ensuring urban sustainability in the areas of housing, infrastructure, food security, health, education, decent jobs, and safety. Both urbanization and international migration featured high on the global development agenda. She noted that the forward-looking ICPD Programme of Action had devoted chapter IX to urbanization and internal migration and chapter X to international migration. Moreover, urbanization and migration were among the priorities of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including SDG 11 and target 10.7. More recently, the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants had aimed towards a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, to be adopted at an intergovernmental conference in 2018. The Global Compact was intended to be a comprehensive framework to manage migration by a set of common

principles. Additionally, the New Urban Agenda built upon the advantages of urbanization to ensure that no one is left behind, and it was instrumental to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. On the work of UN-Habitat, Ms. Popescu emphasized the need to ensure safe and resilient urban areas as increasingly more people, especially youth, were living in cities.

Ms. Popescu called attention to the particular needs of vulnerable people. In conflict areas, much of the housing, schools, health services, and water and sanitation infrastructure had been destroyed. Moreover, thousands of women and girls were in urgent need of protection from violence and abuse all over the globe. She underscored that more than 65 million people had been forced to flee their homes as of 2016, and that the Secretary-General had called upon all global leaders to do everything in their power to protect people caught up in conflict. Ms. Popescu concluded her remarks by urging participants to use this expert group meeting as an opportunity to look at the various international documents in conjunction with the international evidence and data on urbanization and migration.

Ms. Sabine Henning, Senior Population Affairs Officer in the Office of the Director of the Population Division, DESA, presented an overview of global trends in international migration and urbanization. She pointed out that much of the data and analysis in her presentation was produced by the Population Estimates and Projections, Migration, Population Policy and Population and Development sections of the Population Division, and she thanked her many colleagues for their contributions.

Ms. Henning noted that international migration and urbanization were profoundly important demographic phenomena that affected population growth and decline, as well as the spatial distribution of populations, both within and between countries. They had significant development impacts at the global, regional, national and subnational levels, and are closely interconnected. Consequently, international migration and urbanization figured prominently on the global development agenda.

Focusing first on trends in international migration, Ms. Henning noted that the number of international migrants had grown from 172 million in 2000 to 244 million in 2015. Nearly two-thirds of all international migrants worldwide lived in Asia and Europe. Northern America hosted the third largest number of international migrants, followed by Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and Oceania. Despite the continued growth, international migrants accounted for less than two per cent of the population of Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. By contrast, in Europe, Northern America and Oceania, international migrants comprised at least 10 per cent of the population.

Turning to the gender distribution of international migrants, Ms. Henning noted that slightly less than half were women, and that the percentage female among all international migrants in 2015 was highest in Europe (52.4 per cent) and Northern America (51.2 per cent). It was much lower in Asia (42.0 per cent) and Africa (46.1 per cent). In Latin America and the Caribbean and in Oceania, the numbers of female and male international migrants were about equal. Recent trends had seen increases in the stocks of male international migrants in both Africa and Asia. By contrast, in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern America and Oceania, the female migrant stock had grown faster than the male. Ms. Henning explained that the growing number of male migrants in Asia was fuelled by a strong demand for migrant workers in the oil-producing countries of Western Asia, whereas in Europe and Northern America, the greater number of female compared to male migrants was due in part to the presence of many older migrants in the population and the fact that women tended to live longer men.

Ms. Henning pointed out that most international migrants were of working age. The median age of foreign-born persons worldwide was 39 years in 2015, compared to 29.6 years for the total population. International migrants living in Africa had the youngest age distribution, with a median age of 29 years, followed by Asia (35 years) and Latin America and the Caribbean (36 years). International migrants in

Northern America, Europe, and Oceania, tended to be older, with median ages of 42, 43 and 44 years, respectively. Ms. Henning added that young migrants, under 20 years of age, numbered 37 million globally in 2015, accounting for 15 per cent of the world's migrant stock. Among the major regions of the world, Africa hosted the highest proportion of young persons among all international migrants (34 per cent), followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (24 per cent) and Asia (18 per cent). The share of international migrants under age 20 was smaller in Europe (9 per cent) and in Northern America and Oceania (11 per cent each). The relatively low share of young migrants was explained by the fact that children born to international migrants were not considered to be migrants in many countries.

Regarding regions of origin, Ms. Henning showed that nearly half of all international migrants worldwide were born in Asia and Europe. Between 2000 and 2015 the size of the international migrant stock from Asia grew faster than from all other major regions. Ms. Henning emphasized that more people migrated within regions than across them. For example, migrants originating in Africa tended to migrate to other countries in the region. The same was true for Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Oceania.

While international migration contributed significantly to population change in many parts of the world, the role of net migration in population change varied across countries and regions. Contrasting Africa and Europe, Ms. Henning showed that the total population of Africa grew continuously from the 1950s to 2015 primarily due to the surplus of births over deaths; net international migration (or the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants) had hardly any effect on the total population change in Africa over that period. In Europe, the opposite was true. The total population declined due to an excess of deaths over births in the region, but that decline was countered by net immigration to Europe, and thus was not as steep as it would have been in the absence of migration. Despite continuing migration flows to Europe, current trends in international migration were not sufficiently large to fully reverse population decline. She added that while, in general, migration could slow the increase in old-age dependency since a larger of international migrants were in the working ages relative to the overall population, international migration could not reverse trends in population ageing.

Turning to the topic of urbanization, Ms. Henning noted that in 2016, urban areas were home to most of the world's population, with 4 billion people, or 54.5 per cent of the global population, residing in urban settlements. She reminded the participants that the global urban population grew to exceed the global rural population for the first time in 2007, and that the world had remained predominantly urban thereafter. In 2050, it was expected that two-thirds of the world's population would reside in urban areas and one-third in rural areas, which was roughly the reverse of the urban-rural population distribution in the mid-20th century.

However, global trends in urbanization masked very different trends across countries and regions. In 2016, high levels of urbanization, at or above 80 per cent, characterized Latin America and the Caribbean and Northern America. Europe, with 74 per cent of its population living in urban areas, was expected to be over 80 per cent urban in 2050. Africa and Asia, in contrast, remained mostly rural, with 40 per cent and 48 per cent of their respective populations living in urban areas in 2016. Projections indicated that the level of urbanization would increase in all regions over the coming decades, with Africa and Asia urbanizing faster than the rest. Despite their rapid urbanization, however, Africa and Asia were expected to remain less urbanized than other regions in 2050.

Ms. Henning said that most urban dwellers were concentrated in Asia (53 per cent), despite the lower level of urbanization in the region. She reported that Europe had the second highest share of the world's urban population, with 14 per cent, followed by Latin America and the Caribbean with 13 per cent. Projections indicated that both Africa and Asia would experience a marked increase in their urban populations over the coming decades: by 2050, the urban population of Africa was likely to triple and that

of Asia to increase by 61 per cent. Consequently, close to 90 per cent of the projected increase in the world's population would take place in the urban areas of Africa and Asia. In 2050, a projected 52 per cent of the urban population would reside in Asia and 21 per cent in Africa.

While the vast majority of the world's rural inhabitants lived in Asia, projected growth of the rural population was fastest in Africa. Overall, the rural population of the world was concentrated in a relatively small number of countries: India has the largest rural population with 857 million, followed by China with 635 million. Together, these two countries accounted for 45 per cent of the world's rural population. Among countries in Africa, the largest rural populations were located in Nigeria (95 million) and Ethiopia (78 million). Whereas rural areas were home to more than 45 per cent of the world's population in 2016, that proportion was expected to fall to 40 per cent by 2030.

Turning to the populations of cities of different size classes, Ms. Henning said that one in five people worldwide lived in a city with more than 1 million inhabitants, while nearly half of the world's urban population resided in relatively small settlements with fewer than 500,000 inhabitants. Between 2016 and 2030, the population in all city size classes was projected to increase. "Megacities" were defined as those with more than 10 million inhabitants. A minority of the world's people resided in megacities: around 500 million in 2016, representing 6.8 per cent of the global population. However, as these cities grew in both size and number (there were 31 megacities in 2016 and projections indicated that there would be 41 in 2030), they would become home to a growing share of the population. Projections indicated that in 2030, 730 million people would reside in megacities, representing 8.7 per cent of people globally. Most of the megacities were located in the global South (24 out of 31 megacities in 2016). In 2016, there were six megacities in China alone, and another five in India. All ten of the megacities projected to emerge between 2016 and 2030 were located in the less developed regions, including Bogota, Bangkok and Luanda, to name a few.

Ms. Henning reported that the number of cities with at least one million inhabitants was projected to rise from 512 in 2016 to 662 in 2030. Ten of the 45 cities with between 5 and 10 million inhabitants in 2016 were projected to become megacities by 2030, while one (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation) expected to see its population decline to less than 5 million. Most of the cities with negative growth rates during the recent past were located in Eastern Asia, Europe and Northern America.

While the average annual growth rate of the world's cities with 500,000 inhabitants or more between 2000 and 2016 was 2.4 per cent, 47 cities grew more than twice as fast, with average growth in excess of 6 per cent per year. Of these, 6 were located in Africa, 40 in Asia (20 in China alone), and one in Northern America. Among the fastest growing cities, 31 (nearly two-thirds) had histories of rapid population growth, with average annual growth rates above 6 per cent for the period 1980-2000 as well. None of the 47 fastest growing cities had a population greater than 5 million in 2000, only 4 had between 1 and 5 million inhabitants, and 43 had fewer than 1 million inhabitants, underscoring the very rapid growth that some smaller cities were experiencing.

Ms. Henning then presented evidence regarding government policies focusing on population distribution, drawing on data compiled in the Population Division's World Population Policies database, 2015 revision. She also noted that one of the action items identified in the ICPD Programme of Action addressed balancing population distribution. Data indicated that 72 per cent of governments had adopted policies to reduce rural-to-urban migration, while 39 per cent had adopted policies to decentralize large urban centres to smaller urban, suburban or rural areas. Across the world's regions, policies were similar among governments in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, whereas government policies in Europe tended to be less concerned with population distribution.

The vulnerabilities of cities to natural disasters were a concern throughout the world. Citing evidence from a recent technical paper produced by staff members of the Population Division[2], Ms. Henning reported that of the 1,692 cities with at least 300,000 inhabitants in 2014, 944 (56 per cent) were at high risk of at least one of six types of natural disaster (cyclones, floods, droughts, earthquakes, landslides, and volcano eruptions). Taken together, 1.4 billion people lived in cities facing high risk of exposure to a natural disaster in 2014. Around 15 per cent of cities —most located along coastlines— were at high risk of exposure to two or more types of natural disaster; 27 cities —including the megacities Manila, Osaka and Tokyo— faced high risk of exposure to three or more types of disasters.

Ms. Henning concluded by emphasizing that both migration and urbanization were high priorities on the United Nations global agenda. She recalled that chapter IX of the ICPD Programme of Action was entirely devoted to population distribution, urbanization and internal migration, while chapter X contained one of the most comprehensive negotiated texts on international migration to date. More recently, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development included important language in the area of international migration and urbanization with specific goals (i.e. Goal 11 on sustainable cities) and migration-related targets (such as target 10.7 which called on countries to "facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies"). Ms. Henning said that since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, both the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and the New Urban Agenda had underscored the importance of international migration and urbanization to the global development agenda.

B. CONCEPTS, DEFINITIONS, AND DATA SOURCES

Mr. Ashraf El Nour, Director of the New York Office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), opened the second session of the meeting on concepts, definitions and data sources. He noted that the current demand for data was unprecedented and that there were large gaps in statistics on human mobility. Given the growing number of migrants worldwide and that population displacement was at a record high, there was a global interest in improving data and statistics on migration, which was essential to its management. IOM expected the movement of people, including refugees and migrants, to accelerate in the coming years as a result of the push and pull factors that determined mobility.

Mr. El Nour emphasized that migration was desirable when it was well-governed, responsible and well-planned, an issue specifically addressed by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 10.7. Good, timely, reliable, accessible, and comparable data on migration were the foundation of sound analysis that could inform good policies. He cautioned that use of sub-standard data could lead to faulty policies. A considerable amount of migration was undocumented, including situations of human smuggling and trafficking, and this was an impediment to data collection. Other challenges traced to the lack of resources and capacities in many national statistical offices to deal with migration statistics. Mr. El Nour pointed out that many recent international developments had created opportunities for improving migration data and statistics. He cited, in particular, the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, which called for disaggregating data by migratory status, as well as the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which urged that such disaggregated migration data include data on the economic impacts of migration and refugeed movements.

Ms. Keiko Osaki-Tomita, Chief of the Demographic and Social Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division of DESA then delivered the first presentation of the session, "Revisiting the concepts, definitions and data sources of international migration in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". She noted that there was a growing global awareness that data could inform policies and be used to assess programmes, and thus a concurrent increase in the demand for high-quality and timely data.

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[2] Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations. Technical Paper No. 2015/2, available from http://esa.un.org/unpd/wup/Publications/Files/WUP2014-TechnicalPaper-NaturalDisaster.pdf.

Recent global policy initiatives, including the 2030 Agenda and the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, highlighted the need for better data, for a clearly defined conceptual framework on international migration, and to better leverage existing migration data sources. The challenge of improving international migration statistics was not a new one. Efforts to improve migration statistics dated back to the late nineteenth century, when the Congress of the International Statistical Institute met in Europe to consider a standard definition or concept of migration. In the early twentieth century, the International Labour Organization (ILO) was also concerned with a standard definition or concept of migrant workers. Later, the League of Nations discussed the importance of standardizing migration statistics from the point of improving comparability. Despite these efforts, to date, little progress had been made. The latest attempt was made in 1998, when the United Nations Recommendations on the Statistics of International Migration defined a migrant as "a person who moves to a country other than that of his/her usual residence for a period of at least 12 months"[3]. This definition was simple and encompassed both the time and geographical elements needed for a demographic or statistical concept. However, a huge gap remained between the "standard" concept of a migrant and what was captured by current statistics.

Ms. Osaki-Tomita said that the 2030 Agenda was a wake-up call to the international statistical community to reconsider ways to improve migration statistics. For the first time, international migration was addressed in an international development framework. In the era of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), which were a first attempt to focus the attention of Member States on development issues, the subject of international migration was absent from all but the declaration portion of the agreement. By contrast, the 2030 Agenda reflects migration issues in 11 out of its 17 goals. Ten or more of the 169 SDG targets referenced issues pertaining to migration. In particular, SDG target 10.7 called for orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration, meaning that migration data must be captured for the purposes of migration management, in order to operationalize the terms, "orderly", "safe", "regular" and "responsible". However, it was questionable whether there was a shared definition of these terms, which affected efforts to develop a methodology for measuring SDG indicator 10.7.2 on the number of countries that have implemented well-managed migration policies.

Ms. Osaki-Tomita then invited participants to consider SDG target 16.2, intended to end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children. She explained that "trafficking in persons" was well-defined in the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons. To date, however, there was no established methodology on collecting human trafficking data. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was taking up this important task.

The guiding principle of the 2030 Agenda was to "leave no one behind", particularly those who were marginalized or discriminated against. Consequently, SDG indicators must be appropriately disaggregated by various population characteristics, including migratory status. Participants in a July 2017 expert group meeting hosted by the United Nations Statistics Division identified at least 24 out of 242 SDG indicators that required disaggregation by migratory status, including, for example, indicators related to education and health. Such disaggregation required a clear definition of migratory status, but thus far there was no consensus. Ms. Osaki noted that one could consider citizenship, place of birth, type of movement, or other factors to infer migratory status. Experts at the meeting agreed to recommend a stepwise approach, requesting place of birth or country of citizenship when collecting data on migratory status. She noted that countries with more specific interests could disaggregate further, such as by first or later generation of migrants, to better understand assimilation of migrants over time, duration of stay or reasons for migration.

Turning to the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, Ms. Osaki-Tomita noted that this instrument included a new look at the definition of refugee status. Unlike the definition of a migrant, the

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[3] ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/58/Rev.1.

definition of a refugee was well-established through international legal instruments. Over time, different regional efforts had adapted the definition to capture specific situations. Ms. Osaki-Tomita stressed that the gaps between the legal and statistical approaches to identifying refugees posed a substantial challenge. For example, from a legal perspective, third and fourth generation refugees were still considered refugees even if they had never crossed a border, whereas the statistical approach to identifying migrants required a border-crossing.

Various new policy instruments had prompted reconsideration as to how existing data sources might be used with respect to international migration. Conventional sources of migration statistics, including population and housing censuses, were still key sources of information for estimating the migrant stock, yet censuses were typically collected only once every ten years and were expensive undertakings. The United Nations encouraged all countries to conduct at least one census between 2015 and 2024, ideally close to 2020, to facilitate international comparability. The United Nations also recommended that census questionnaires include questions to identify migrants. She lamented that in past censuses, even when data on migration was collected, analysis and dissemination were given low priority, and the information often was outdated when it was eventually made available. Household surveys were another essential tool for the study of migration dynamics. The United Nations recommended that relevant migration questions be included in regularly conducted household surveys. The Statistics Division was considering producing a migration module with a core set of questions capturing key aspects of migration that could be included in all surveys to ensure comparability.

With respect to administrative data, most countries had a system in place to register foreign citizens, such as by issuing work or study permits. While such systems could yield important migration statistics, they were not widely recognized as valuable sources of information and were thus underutilized. The United Nations recommended that each country thoroughly assess their administrative records and try to produce migration statistics from those. In addition, the United Nations recommended integrating various data sources, such as by linking different administrative records, or linking survey data to censuses.

A fourth type of data that showed promise for migration statistics was big data. Big data sources, such as from mobile phone use or internet-based platforms, were especially promising for the study of population displacement or human trafficking. The international community was still debating the use of big data, which was produced by the private sector. She urged innovative thinking about how such sources could be utilized to improve migration statistics.

In concluding, Ms. Osaki-Tomita stressed the need for greater investment in methodological work, particularly to enhance national statistical capacities for producing migration statistics. Moreover, a forum was needed to facilitate sharing of innovative practices at the international level. She announced that DESA, together with IOM and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), would organize the first-ever international forum on migration statistics in January 2018, and she expressed the hope that many of the experts in the room would participate.

The second presentation of the session was given by Mr. Ronald Skeldon, Emeritus Professor at the University of Sussex and Professor of Human Geography at the Graduate School of Governance, Maastricht University, on "International migration, internal migration, mobility and urbanization: towards more integrated approaches". Mr. Skeldon said that his presentation would examine the tensions between the kinds of data available and the underlying realities of the global migration and mobility system. There was a mismatch between the required and the available data, which stemmed from the fact that migration was not constrained by the same biological limits as other demographic processes (one could be born only once and die only once, but could migrate multiple times or not at all). Understanding and defining migration required defining limits in space and time.

Over the last 20 years, despite many difficulties, substantial progress had been made towards measuring international migration, though somewhat less so for internal migration. One problem associated with international migration data was that they were collected and reported by States, and they failed to capture the specific sub-national localities that were sending and receiving migrants. Identifying the total number of migrants from China to the United States, for example, was less instructive than information on from where in China the migrants had originated and where in the United States they had settled. Since migrants tended to go to cities, cities had become central to the discussion. In addition, migrants also tended to be concentrated with respect to place of origin, but that such information was not readily available from States.

The role of cities in sending migrants was also important. For example, skilled migrants from Ghana originated mostly from Accra and Kumasi, the main cities of the country. Much was unknown about whether those migrants had moved first from rural areas to those cities. There were exceptions, where migrants originated primarily from rural areas. Examples included Bangladesh and Pakistan. Citing the work of Katy Gardner[4], Mr. Skeldon said that an estimated 98 per cent of migrants from Bangladesh to the United Kingdom originated in the district of Sylhet, which was considered mostly rural. In this regard, sub-national data were needed to understand the role of cities in international migration, but it was difficult to obtain such data.

The second challenge identified by Mr. Skeldon related to return migration, an important phenomenon that was not reflected in the data. He related his own experience of returning to his country of birth after spending most of his life living abroad and noted that, once he had spent 12 months again in his country of birth, he was no longer considered a migrant. Including return migration in migration statistics would yield a system that was even more extensive than was evident using current methods, particularly given the patterns of skilled migration, which exhibited potential for return migration. Mr. Skeldon cautioned participants to avoid binary interpretations, such as "forced or voluntary" or "temporary or permanent", or "North or South" with respect to the level of development.

Turning to consider internal migration, estimates of the magnitude could vary widely depending on the size of the geographic unit employed. Offering the example of internal migration estimates in India for the period 1966-71, Mr. Skeldon showed that the estimates of the volume ranged from just six million when considering mobility across states, to 44 million when considering mobility across townships. The specified time frame also affected assessment of migration volume, such as whether the move occurred during the last month, the last six months, or the last year. Whether one considered seasonal migration patterns or changes in the urban boundaries also impacted estimates of internal migration. Evidence indicated a decline in the volume of internal migration over recent decades in developed countries that were highly urbanized, including Japan and the United States. Presenting Zelinsky's schematic representation of changing mobility over time, Mr. Skeldon called participants' attention to the role of circulation. Tourism was a very important type of mobility, and it had increased at an astonishing pace over the past 20 years. There were obvious synergies between tourism and migration. Indeed, skilled workers in tourism often originated from other places.

Mr. Skeldon concluded his presentation by pointing out some dependencies in the SDG framework. In particular, he posited that safe, orderly and regular migration could not be achieved without simultaneously ensuring progress on SDG target 16.9, which aimed to provide a legal identity for all. While technology figured prominently in the 2030 Agenda, it had not been linked to migration. It was important to consider technology in migration issues, in part because it would affect the demand for labour. Moreover, progress on SDG 11, to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, had indirect implications for migration. Lastly, Mr. Skeldon pointed out that the SDGs had surfaced tensions between national governments and city governments, including on migration issues.

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[4] http://www.lse.ac.uk/anthropology/people/gardner.aspx.

Mr. Eduardo Lopez Moreno, Director of Research and Capacity Development at UN-Habitat delivered the third presentation of the session on "Concepts, definitions and data sources for the study of urbanization: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". Cities had become a positive force for addressing sustainable growth, development and prosperity. They were the places where political alliances and institutional consensus were formed, and crises were fought. Cities were where creativity, innovation and technology and consumption were mostly taking place. In short, cities were the invisible strings that connected all of the SDGs, having the density and economies of agglomeration that linked economy, energy, environment, science, technology and social and economic outcomes.

Mr. Moreno noted that there was a lack of consensus as to how a city was defined, which was an obstacle to analysis. For considering progress on the SDGs, the city should be the unit of analysis, but there were legal, statistical and administrative challenges to doing this. UN-Habitat, together with partners, was proposing that the international community adopt a supra-national definition of cities that would not replace the legal definition, but would provide for a consistent, comparable basis for analysis. Describing the definitions of cities and urban areas given in the Population Division's World Urbanization Prospects, Mr Moreno said that in half of countries there were at least two joint criteria that defined what was urban, such as population density, or the proportion employed in agriculture. Up to two-thirds of countries had administrative definitions of cities as urban centres, while 49 countries included only population size or density to define what was urban. He cited the example of Denmark, which defined as urban any settlement with at least 200 inhabitants, as compared to Nigeria and the Netherlands, where the criterion was 20,000 or more inhabitants, and Japan, where the criterion was 50,000 or more inhabitants. Similarly, wide variations were evident across countries that used density to define urban areas. In China, for example, an area with 1,500 people per square kilometre was considered urban, but in Germany an area needed only 150 people per square kilometre to be classified as urban.

There were various official definitions of city boundaries. The "city proper" was defined as the area confined within a city's original limits, or where the city was born. This definition did not account for other municipalities or communes that had since grown to be encompassed by what one typically thinks of as the city. Using the city proper to understand trends in city population had serious problems. Giving the example of Chongqing, China, Mr. Moreno explained that the city proper had a population of 6 million, but the urban agglomeration, according to the Population Division's estimates, encompassed 30 million people. He considered the urban agglomeration to be a more accurate definition of what constitutes the city, which integrated the "city proper" and suburban areas without regard to administrative boundaries.

Previewing the results of the urban extent definition proposed by UN-Habitat, Mr. Moreno said that their population estimates tended to be smaller than the estimates for urban agglomerations in World Urbanization Prospects. He explained that this was because many countries considered the urban agglomerations to be aggregations of municipalities, many of which contained rural areas. By contrast, UN-Habitat's urban extent definition was restricted to urban areas.

UN-Habitat advocated adopting clear city boundaries for monitoring and reporting progress on the SDGs. There were 15 indicators related to cities, nine of which needed to be collected at the level of the urban area. Countries should identify a consistent set or sample of cities to produce their national aggregates and it was crucial that the composition of the sample not change over time. Specifically, Mr. Moreno said that UN-Habitat had recommended to the Statistical Commission that countries: (a) adopt the urban extent as a statistical concept; (b) create a national sample of cities to monitor and report on SDG 11 indicators and to produce national aggregates in a consistent and systematic manner; and (c) adopt a monitoring platform that promoted the integration of the different SDG indicators to address, in a structured manner, the environmental, social and economic components of sustainability UN-Habitat called this a "City Prosperity Initiative" to develop a single value that described the state of the city, establish benchmarks for

national and global monitoring, generate a local monitoring mechanism, and identify priorities and transformative actions to achieve sustainable urban development.

Mr. Shlomo Angel, Senior Research Scholar and Adjunct Professor of Urban Planning at the Stern School of Business of New York University delivered the fourth presentation on "Notes on the urbanization of our planet". The urbanization of the planet was characterized by the movement of people from being closer to the land to being closer to each other in more densely populated cities and settlements. This process started in earnest around 1800, when 5 to 10 per cent of the global population lived in cities, and was likely to end by 2100, when it was expected that 75 to 80 per cent of people would live in cities. Because the world was approaching a high level of urbanization, the window of opportunity to build cities from the ground up was closing; thereafter, cities would have to be recycled and rebuilt.

Contrary to common perceptions, the growth rate of the world's urban population had been in constant decline, at least since 1950. Circa 1950, the urban population grew at approximately 3.1 per cent per year, but the growth rate had declined to 2.3 per cent circa 2000 and was expected to decline to 1.0 per cent per year by 2050. Consequently, the global urban population was expected to stabilize by 2100, at approximately 8 billion people if the growth rate continued at an average 0.5 per cent between 2050 and 2100. This was twice the world's urban population in 2015, when an estimated 3.96 billion people lived in urban settlements.

Turning to consider the land area occupied by urban settlements, Mr. Angel said that, given present trends, the urban extents were expected to triple by 2100, coinciding with the projected doubling of the urban population. Urban extents tended to increase faster than populations largely because of economic growth, whereby a city with twice the population of another would have an area that was only 80 per cent larger; a city with twice the GDP per capita of another but with the same population size would have an area that was 55 per cent larger. The global urban extent had tripled between 1990 and 2015, as both the urban population of the less developed countries and their GDP per capita increased by approximately 2.3 times.

A growing share of the world's urban population resided in the less developed regions, having increased from 40 per cent in 1950 to 69 per cent in 2000 and 75 per cent by 2015. Less developed regions were projected to contain 82 per cent of the global urban population in 2050 and 86 per cent in 2100. About 18 persons would be added to the urban population of the less developed regions for each person added to the urban population of the more developed regions and two regions —sub-Sharan Africa and South and Central Asia— were expected to account for almost 60 per cent of the urban population growth from 2015 to 2050.

The share of population residing in cities was positively associated with levels of economic development. Cities tended to have smaller household sizes and better health outcomes, including higher life expectancy and lower child mortality. The level of development of a country, measured by per capita GDP, increased with the level of urbanization, such that a 10 per cent increase in the level of urbanization was associated with a 75 per cent increase in per capita GDP.

Mr. Angel then explored the different definitions of "urban" used by countries to describe their urban settlements. The lack of comparability across countries was evident in the very different proportions of the urban population living in cities with at least 100,000 inhabitants. He said that much of the data gathering on cities lacked a rigorous spatial framework, but that adopting the "urban extent" definition that Mr Moreno had discussed earlier would facilitate estimation of the urban population at all city sizes with a consistent definition for all countries.

In closing, Mr. Angel urged a shift in focus in the discussion of urbanization from "people" to "land for people". Too often, discussions of urbanization began with numbers of people and stopped there. He advocated a greater focus on land, in part because of the opportunities to plan for urban expansion and

improve conditions for the people inhabiting urban land. Urbanization was both inevitable and desirable. Past government policies and programmes to limit migration from rural to urban areas had all failed, with the exception of the brief period in the 1970's during which China's hukou registration system was tied to rice rations in a way that limited migration to cities. All other policies intended to discourage migration to cities had failed, and efforts to pursue such policies were futile. Urbanization should not be feared, but rather embraced and celebrated, and forward-looking planning and policies should be implemented.

During the ensuing discussion, participants stressed the need for care and precision in wording migration-related items on census questionnaires. A suggestion was offered to include a question on whether anyone in the household was no longer living in the country, to assess levels of emigration. Ms. Osaki-Tomita agreed that some countries had attempted to capture emigration through census questions, but she added that many countries, even though they had collected the data, had not yet managed to effectively produce and analyse it. Participants also asked how it might be possible to capture the positive experience of migrants through SDG monitoring. Ms. Osaki-Tomita replied that data disaggregation was crucial to capturing the positive experience of migration. Several participants reflected on the difficult and context-specific issues surrounding the definition of international migrants. The example of migrants from Romania to Hungary was offered, in that they were not considered migrants by the Hungarian government because they had "Hungarian origin".

Participants inquired about ways of identifying small cities with fewer than 100,000 inhabitants, noting that evidence suggested that much of the urban growth was occurring in such cities. Mr. Angel called attention to the Global Human Settlements Layer project of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, which used remote sensing together with population grids to identify urban settlements of all sizes, including those with less than 100,000 inhabitants. Efforts were underway to study these smaller cities as well. Mr. Angel reiterated that he was opposed to policies intended to restrict people's movement, but he favoured other types of policies that could influence the spatial distribution of the population, such as rural development policies, or those that provided help for depressed regions, as well as those that decentralized government and resources.

On the question of the urban definition, participants noted that historically the United Nations had relied upon information reported by countries both on the urban definition and the delimitation of cities. Participants wondered whether a single urban definition was appropriate for countries with very different urban contexts. Mr. Angel replied that the credibility of the United Nations' estimates was harmed by the United Nations self-imposed limitation requiring that only official data provided by countries be used. The credibility of the estimates was particularly at risk when the information provided by countries was deficient. He envisioned a parallel system of urban and city population information that could be compared to a country's definition. Mr. Moreno recalled that a recent report of the Secretary-General on SDG 11 had used the urban extent definition, rather than official country definitions, and that the report had been well-received. Overall, the data reported needed to be relevant to policies, and reporting at the municipal level for certain indicators was needed, such as those on waste management, and at the metropolitan level for others, such as economic indicators. Moreover, Mr. Moreno emphasized that it was important not to become so focused on statistical problems with the unit of analysis that the key advantage of using cities as the unit of analysis was lost. Cities were the main producers of CO_2, and urban policies were essential for poverty reduction in both urban and rural areas. Mr. Angel added that the city should be the unit of analysis not just for the United Nations and SDG monitoring, but also to further knowledge and understanding more generally, such as regarding the economy of the city.

Participants also urged that rural areas not be forgotten in the intensive focus on cities. It was important to consider the interaction between cities and rural areas and the circulation of population between them.

The most commonly available data used to measure migration were the stock of foreign-born in specific areas and the flow of migrants to a specific area over a defined time period. While flow data were generally preferred, neither of these data sources adequately captured short-term movers, seasonal migrants, and those who circulated between places (e.g. between rural and urban sectors) at regular intervals. Those who return to their place of origin for a longer or shorter time tend to be omitted from the available data, and return migration remains a highly problematic methodological issue. Both historical and detailed micro-level studies showed that such return and circular movements were an integral part of all internal and international migration systems. Cities provided the nodes of interaction between systems of internal and international population movements. **While these movements basically redistributed populations towards the nodes, it was important to recognize that temporary and circular movements were integral to both systems**. Temporary movements and their linkages with longer-term movements pose challenges to both definition and policy.

The unprecedented demand for migration data and analysis had created an opportunity for national, regional, international statistical communities to work together for reliable, timely and fit-for purpose migration statistics. Participants therefore called for **(a) more investments in methodological work; (b) capacity-building at the national and sub-national level; and (c) the creation of a forum for sharing innovative practices**.

Participants recognized that **urbanization was an inevitable consequence of development: all highly developed countries were highly urban.** Cities tended to have smaller household sizes and better health outcomes, including higher life expectancy and lower child mortality, and the share of the population residing in cities was positively associated with levels of economic development.

Across the globe, development had evolved to the stage that more than half of humankind lived in urban areas, projected to increase to some two-thirds by 2050. In terms of absolute numbers, some 90 per cent of the projected increase to 2050 was likely to occur in Africa and Asia. Overall, **urbanization was both inevitable and desirable**.

While the transition to an urban society was to be welcomed as a positive dimension of development, it brought challenges and difficulties that required effective management to realize the benefits and mitigate possible harms, if the international instruments specified above were to be achieved. This reality, and the awareness that migration to and from cities must be more effectively managed, had generated a **demand for more data on migrants and on the drivers and consequences of their movements, particularly those related to cities**.

Data was available primarily for national units, that is for countries as a whole. Nevertheless, given the realities of specific origins and destinations of migration and the hierarchy of cities, **sub-national level data is needed, also data by sector, urban and rural**. Making such data available, however, poses a challenge both for data collectors and for coding. The UN-Habitat programme attempting to create a national sample of cities for specific countries may address this issue and also provide a framework for collection of urban-related data required for the monitoring of specific targets specified in the 2030 Agenda, particularly the ten targets under Goal 11, "Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable".

Clearly, data should be made available at the city level and across the entire urban spectrum, and cities should be stratified by size. These data, as well as detailed information on the specific origins and destinations of migrants, both internal and international, were required for policy-relevant analyses. While categories such as "urban" and "rural" or "migrant" and "non-migrant" were a necessary part of any analytical framework, the linkages across boundaries cannot be ignored. For example, urban or rural populations may circulate across any number of boundaries on a daily, weekly or longer-term basis, blurring clear distinctions. The importance of non-farm, urban-based temporary employment could be an important poverty-reducing strategy of rural populations and cannot be ignored in any discussion of the role of cities in projecting their influence into their hinterlands. **Hence, the importance of space and of interactions across space, and how these vary over time, must be a central part of any assessment of sustainable cities**. The statistical concept of the 'urban extent' should be adopted for delimiting and measuring cities and urban agglomerations. It should be used in parallel with the official national reporting of the city and urban populations. Despite the growth of urban populations, it should be kept in mind that the absolute numbers of rural dwellers would continue to increase in many parts of the developing world to 2050, and there were **linkages between urban and rural areas**.

Population numbers are obviously important to the analysis of cities, but so are the extent of cities over space, and their structure, i.e. how vertical or horizontal they are. There was a counter-intuitive finding that, globally, urban population densities appeared to be in decline despite rapidly growing populations. One third of cities encompassed open spaces, which was necessary for increasing human well-being.

The diversity of definitions of "urban" around the world is a challenge to comparative analyses. Examples ranged from countries that defined urban as those living in contiguous settlements consisting of just a few hundred people (Iceland and Denmark) to countries where urban settlements were distinguished from rural settlements at the level of the tens of thousands. This presented real challenges to comparative analysis. Further complicating matters for longitudinal analysis were expanding urban boundaries, and rural settlements that took on urban characteristics over time and were redefined as such. **Net natural increase, net migration, and re-classification contributed to urban growth, but their importance differed by region and country.** The role of re-classification was the most difficult to assess.

C. PATTERNS AND DRIVERS OF GLOBAL TRENDS IN MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION

The session included three presentations addressing issues related to patterns and drivers of global trends in migration and urbanization in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, there was a brief presentation on the role of local governments in urbanization and migration. Ms. Deborah Balk, Associate Director of the Institute for Demographic Research, City University of New York, moderated the session. In her introductory remarks and in light of today's state of urbanization and migration, she called for use of spatial analysis to better understand current levels and trends in migration and urbanization.

Ms. Emilia Saíz, Deputy Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) highlighted the role of local governments when discussing links between migration and urbanization. Cities were at the forefront of the influx of migrants from near and far, and there was often tension between local and national governments on issues concerning migrants in cities. At times, cities were very supportive of immigrants whereas national governments were opposed to the influx of migrants. Local governments were

only now being recognized at the global level as important stakeholders when discussing migration and urbanization. At the national level, local governments were often still ignored. She asked that a new concept of citizenship be created which should be based on the right to the city. She asked that the narrative on migration be changed and that the stigmatization of migrants be ended. Migration data, although useful and relevant for policy discussions, was often misused, and the privacy of migrants must be protected. Also, some of the data that were collected did not represent the reality on the ground. In the ensuing discussion, participants remarked on the usefulness of migration data, including spatially disaggregated data, and that it was needed to guide informed place-based policy decisions. Nonetheless, privacy concerns were very important and data on migrants should not be used against migrants.

Mr. Yu Zhou, Professor, School of Geography at Fujian Normal University, China, presented a paper on "The urban transition and beyond: facing new challenges of the mobility and settlement transitions in Asia". He said that Asia, with a total population of 4.5 billion people in 2017, had undergone profound socioeconomic transformations since the 1950s which had led to significant migration flows from rural to urban areas, especially toward large cities. About 50 per cent of Asia's population was now living in cities. Economic and social development in China since the 1970s had led to the emergence of a "floating population", defined as the increasing number of migrants without local household registration who had migrated primarily from rural areas to towns and cities. In recent years, an increasing number of urban-urban migrants have become part of China's "floating populations. These migrants were the main labour source for labour- intensive manufacturing industries, service industries, and industries related to information technology and cultural development. The inflow of these mostly young migrants also affected the age structures of major migrant destination cities, reducing the proportion of older persons.

In addition, Asia had undergone a "settlement transition" which involved "the urbanization of the countryside without massive rural-urban migration" in the extended areas of metropolitan areas in Asia. This settlement transition, or "*in situ* urbanization" refers to the process of rural settlements and their populations transforming themselves into urban or quasi-urban areas with little or no geographic relocation of residents. *In situ* urbanization was widespread in a range of areas in the south-eastern coastal provinces of China. In these areas, it had also led to the creation of new urban centres and functional and physical changes of rural settlements through the development of township and village enterprises (TVEs). As a result, reclassification played a dominant role in China's urban growth since the 1970s. Other countries in Asia, such as Bangladesh, India, Indonesia and Pakistan had also experienced *in situ* urbanization. Furthermore, many countries in Asia were experiencing urban-urban and intra-urban migration at high levels which would soon replace rural-urban migration and reclassification as the main sources of urban growth. In addition, it was likely that short-term, leisure- and business-driven circular migration would soon increase as well.

In summary, Mr. Zhou noted that countries in Asia were facing the following challenges: (1) continued relevance of rural-urban migration; (2) *in situ* transformation of rural to urban areas; and (3) emergence of urban-urban and intra-urban migration. The traditional paradigm of the mobility transition as put forward by Zelinksy in 1971 had to be revised to include *in situ* urbanization. In addition, different urbanization processes might develop in parallel which also needed to be included in the mobility transition model. Regarding policy implications, a new development approach should be explored that incorporated migration and *in situ* urbanization into a more integrated development framework at the local level. The widespread phenomenon of *in situ* urbanization and the increasing importance of urban-urban and intra-urban migration supported the view expressed in the New Urban Agenda advocating for "urban-rural interactions and connectivity by strengthening sustainable transport and mobility, and technology and communications networks and infrastructure, underpinned by planning instruments based on an integrated urban and territorial approach" (New Urban Agenda, paragraph 50)[5]. The presenter recommended that more

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[5] A/RES/71/256.

attention be paid to new forms of mobility and new dimensions of spatial connectivity. Spatial links and connectivity should be envisaged at finer spatial levels and policy-makers, including at the local level, should coordinate across boundaries to facilitate the mobility of people between and within urban and rural spatial units. This also required more attention to the portability of entitlements for social services, such as social security programmes and public services so that migrants were not disadvantaged by their mobility. The United Nations served an important role in coordinating data collection across boundaries so that adequate and comparable data could be obtained and inform decision-making.

Mr. Victor Gaigbe-Togbe, Chief of the Population and Development Section, Population Division, DESA, presented a paper written by Ms. Mariama Awumbila, Professor, Centre for Migration Studies, University of Ghana, who could not attend the meeting in person. Mr. Gaigbe-Togbe noted that the views expressed in this paper did not reflect the views of the Population Division. Mr. Gaigbe-Togbe began by saying that more than half of the world's population lived in towns and cities and that future urban growth was projected to be concentrated in Africa and Asia. Migration was an important contributor to urban growth, as people move in search of social and economic opportunity and from environmental problems. The inability of many cities and towns to plan for and integrate the increasing number of migrants had led to negative policy positions of governments, city authorities and host communities in many parts of Africa.

Although much attention had been paid to migration from Africa to Europe and Northern America, the majority of migrants originating in Africa migrated to other countries in Africa. Thus, migration in Africa was predominately intra-regional and often motivated by people seeking economic opportunities elsewhere. Major destination countries within Africa were Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa. In West-Africa, intra-regional migration accounted for 84 per cent of migration movements making it the region with the largest intra-regional migration in Africa. Despite the overwhelming dominance of intra-regional migration within Africa, recent data showed that since the 1980s, there had been an acceleration and diversification of emigration destinations from outside the continent, beyond colonial and linguistic patterns. There had been an increase in the number of Africans living in Europe, Northern America and other countries such as Australia and India, but there was also a diversification of African emigration to non-European destinations, particularly towards countries in the far east, such as China, Japan and the Gulf states, as well as some countries in Northern Africa, such as Egypt, Libya and Morocco. In addition, internal migration within African countries was very dominant, including temporary and seasonal migration which often formed part of a household strategy for income diversification. Lastly, rural-urban migration remained a dominant migration stream in many African countries, leading to the increasing urbanization of the continent.

Although the literature identified several drivers of migration, economic opportunities were often highlighted as major drivers of migration. However, drivers of migration did not occur in isolation from each other. Thus, migration and urbanization interlinkages in Africa were complex and highly context-specific social processes, with multiple, multi-directional and multi-dimensional linkages. Ms. Awunbila noted that recent increases in African migration seemed to be driven by social processes of development and social transformation which had increased the capabilities and aspirations of young Africans to migrate. In addition, state policies played an important role both for dominant intra-regional migration flows and the increasing African emigration trends. The general increase in visa restrictions on African citizens contributed to the increasing spatial diversification of migration patterns away from colonial patterns. Thus, rather than decreasing the overall volume of migration, immigration restrictions had changed its character.

Regarding urbanization trends and their linkages to migration, both natural increase and re-classification of settlements into urban areas contributed to urban population growth. Most of the projected urban growth was not expected to take place in megacities, but in intermediate and small cities and towns. Thus, the need for urban management was expected to be greatest in intermediate-size and smaller cities. Ms. Awunbila pointed out that migration policies should be beneficial to the countries of origin, countries

of destination, and the migrants themselves. In this regard, she posed a number of questions that all stakeholders should seek to address:

1. How can we leverage and engage the opportunities offered by the large flow of intra-regional labour migrants for Africa's development?

2. How can we promote migrants as "resources", beneficial to themselves as well as their communities and not considered to be a burden on destination countries or as "brain drain" for sending countries?

3. How can we build on "brain gain" initiatives in countries of origin and destination?

4. How can we enhance development opportunities in countries of origin?

5. How can we improve systematic data collection and analysis so as to inform policies that will address the drivers of migration in a holistic way?

6. How can we strengthen cooperation between and among states and other stakeholders on data collection in order to better understand and address the drivers of migration?

In conclusion, Ms. Awunbila noted that Africa was witnessing rapid urban growth with migration, with rural-urban migration in particular continuing to play an important role in the urbanization process. In an increasingly urbanized world, development challenges of the twenty-first century would be met in Africa's cities and towns and no longer in rural areas. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 2016 common African position on urban development provided the critical framework for understanding and addressing the drivers of both irregular and regular migration and for allowing individuals to live and work in healthy, safe and secure environments.

Mr. Jorge Rodriguez Vignoli, Sociologist, CELADE Population Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), made a presentation on "Patterns and drivers of trends in migration and urbanization: regional trends - migration and cities in Latin America and the Caribbean". He stated that Latin America and the Caribbean was the most urbanized region in the developing world, and that rural to urban migration was the driving force behind the region's high level of urbanization, despite its already high level of urbanization.

Analysis of 1950-2010 census data indicated that there was a significant increase in the total number of cities (localities with 20 thousand inhabitants or more) from 256 to 1,739 in Latin America and the Caribbean. One-third of the total urban population in 2010 was living in cities with more than one million inhabitants. Megacities in this region, cities with more than 10 million inhabitants, had all experienced net-outmigration in recent years, and some had done so since the 1980s. Intermediate-sized cities with populations from 100 thousand to one million inhabitants seemed to attract the most migrants, and they had experienced net in-migration in 1995-2000 and 2005-2010. Over the same periods, smaller cities and rural areas registered losses due to net outmigration. Given the age selectivity of migration, migration in Latin America and the Caribbean also contributed to a rejuvenation of the population in intermediate and larger cities. It had the opposite effect on smaller cities and rural areas.

In the past, cities in Latin America and the Caribbean had been attracting international migrants, mostly from Europe. Today, social and political conflicts, economic crisis, structural poverty and natural disasters were the driving forces between international migration flows affecting countries in the region. Often, international migrations tended to be highly segregated in certain parts of the destination cities, such as in Santiago de Chile and Panama City. The number of refugees moving to cities in Latin America was

increasing, but more research was needed to understand its impact. Overall, urbanization provided an opportunity for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

During the discussion, participants noted the important phenomenon of shrinking cities in some parts of the world, particularly in large cities in developed countries. Mr. Rodriguez pointed out that many cities in Latin America and the Caribbean experiencing net outmigration, such as those with more than one million inhabitants, were still growing due to natural increase. Regarding the contribution of urban-urban migration to the growth of cities, Mr. Rodriguez noted that CELADE had not yet studied this, and he reiterated that about one-quarter of urban growth in Latin America and the Caribbean was due to overall net immigration, and the other three-quarters were due to natural increase. It was also noted that with people leaving rural areas or smaller cities for intermediate cities, there was an issue of internal brain drain that had not yet been discussed in the literature. Regarding the difference between *in situ* urbanization and reclassification in China, Mr. Zhou noted that *in situ* urbanization could encompass reclassification, but it often referred to the broader process of a place becoming urban over a longer period of time. Asked about return migration in Western Africa, Mr. Gaigbe-Togbe cited examples of certain countries in the region experiencing return migration due to political conflict. In conclusion, Ms. Balk observed that the session had again highlighted the importance of place.

PATTERNS AND DRIVERS OF GLOBAL TRENDS IN MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION
- SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The discussions in this session focused on two features: the tensions between local and national interests, and the variations in trends in migration and urbanization across parts of the global south. According to the United Cities and Local Governments, an organization representing a global network of cities, local and regional governments, **coordination mechanisms need to be developed to include local voices in national bodies responsible for migration and city development, as well as the international instruments tasked with these issues, such as the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.** Such participation was seen as critical to the transfer of resources to the local level to support services required by migrants and urban residents.

While the drive for better and more fine-grained data on migration and urbanization was to be welcomed, it must be recognized that such data introduced the possibility of abuse. For example, they could be used to identify and remove those who might be deemed in some way undesirable. **The tension between the need for information and the possible abuse of that information is a challenge to modern society. The ethics of data use and misuse must be at the forefront of debates. Data are essential because without them an issue cannot be addressed; indeed, it may not even be seen to exist. Thus, the ready availability of data is a fundamental tool of transparency, but their use must be ethical and socially responsible.**

Discussions were further illustrated by examples from the major regions: Asia, Africa and Latin America. These provided contextual detail and illustrated the variations between different parts of the world. Detail on the components of urban growth, particularly reclassification or "*in situ* urbanization" in China and natural increase and net migration in Africa were provided. The vast systems of "floating population", legally temporary forms of migration, were highlighted.

Presenters argued that the traditional paradigm of the urban transition fuelled by rural-urban migrants had to be revised to **incorporate new forces contributing to an urban transition, such as *in situ* urbanization, urban-urban and intra-urban mobility**. More efforts should be devoted to **exploring new forms of migration, which should also be addressed to development planning that is informed by realities on the ground**.

PATTERNS AND DRIVERS OF GLOBAL TRENDS IN MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION
- SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Spatial links between places at different geographic scales and their connectivity should be envisaged at finer spatial levels, and policy-makers, including at the local level, should **coordinate across boundaries to facilitate the mobility of people between and within urban and rural spatial units.**

Presenters highlighted the **important role of intra-regional migration in many parts of the world**, in particular in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. For countries in Africa it was also observed that there had been a **diversification of migrant destinations outside the region and beyond colonial and linguistic ties**, in part due to social processes of development and social transformation which had increased the capabilities and broadened the aspirations of young Africans to migrate.

Where development had resulted in long-established and clearly identifiable hierarches of cities, as in Latin America, it was important to recognize that cities at the lower end of the hierarchy were often settlements experiencing net outmigration towards cities further up the settlement hierarchy. Settlements in the upper tier of the hierarchy of cities, but below 10 million inhabitants, were the net beneficiaries of intra-regional migration. Small towns, like rural areas, provided comparatively fewer benefits to their populations than the larger intermediate towns and megacities. **Place matters, not just in space, but in the settlement hierarchy.**

D. LINKING MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION: FROM GLOBAL CITIES TO SMALL TOWNS

The session focused on linking migration and urbanization, with an emphasis on the experience in global cities and smaller towns. Ms. Rachel Snow, Chief of the Population and Development Branch at UNFPA moderated the session. Mr. Richard Alba, Professor of Sociology at the Department of Sociology of the City University of New York in New York, gave the first presentation discussing two questions related to segregation within the geographic context of countries in Northern America and Europe: (1) how segregated are immigrant groups? and (2) how unequal are the communities they live in? Within this framing, he asked whether immigrant residential areas tend to become parallel societies, or perhaps even ghettos.

Recognizing that immigrants tend to move to areas of co-ethnic concentration, he asked whether immigrants have the opportunity to improve their residential situation over time. Everywhere, immigrants tended to concentrate in certain regions, although the degree of regional concentration varied from country to country. In many countries, immigrants were concentrated in large cities. For example, in France some 40 per cent of the foreign-born lived in Paris and its surrounding areas and another 20 per cent in and around Lyons and Marseille. Canada and the Netherlands exhibited similar concentrations in just a few regions. In the United States, regional concentration had weakened, with the emergence of "new destinations". In Germany, foreign-born were more dispersed, in part due to policies that directed immigrants to intermediate-sized and smaller cities, a trend that began with the inflow of guest workers in the 1970s.

Mr. Alba made the case that many studies of different genre had identified cities as the unit of analysis without factoring in immigrant settlements in advanced economies that contributed to the situation of cities. In fact, many regions of immigrant concentration were centred on large cities.

Based on census data for small areas in developed regions and focusing on the index of dissimilarity first, he noted that the level of segregation varied highly by country and among different ethnic groups within a country. Focusing on exposure and isolation indices, Hispanics were more segregated from Whites

than Asians in the United States of America and Hispanics were more segregated in Los Angeles and Miami than in New York.

While he acknowledged that it was hard to study inequality in neighbourhoods, a contextual comparison of living conditions of non-immigrant whites in immigrant and non-immigrant neighbourhoods showed large differences in the economic characteristics of the households. He concluded that income inequality at the individual level often translated into growing income inequality in neighbourhoods.

There was also a trend of "rising global neighbourhoods", with quantitative literature dwelling heavily on segregating forces rather than forces for integration. His work also showed that while areas with high immigrant concentration tended to be more receptive to ethnic diversity, areas with low immigrant diversity tended to be less so. For instance, the relatively low level of segregation in the Netherlands suggested that public policies had a mitigating effect, particularly the policy of social housing for all.

Ms. Marie Price, Professor of Geography and International Affairs at George Washington University, gave a presentation on "Revisiting global immigrant gateways: established and emerging turnstiles of human settlement". Globalization, the growth of cities and the global movement of people were increasingly interrelated processes. All countries were both senders and receivers of immigrants, but the intensity of these flows and rates of net migration varied greatly. In developed countries immigrants represented a larger share of the population at 11.2 per cent, versus developing countries where they were just 1.7 per cent of the total population. Yet in many metropolitan areas in developed and even developing countries, immigrants accounted for a far larger percentage of the total population. Concerns about "mass migration […] emerging as a permanent feature of geopolitical stress and global change" (Hassan 2017: 667)[6] were not surprising, especially in urban areas. Consequently, there was a need for better collection of data on the impact of immigrants on metropolitan areas.

Key challenges in studying this topic included: (a) irregularly collected data, often only once a decade and in different years in different places; (b) lack of data on foreign-born at the sub-national level; (c) inconsistent definitions of urban areas; and (d) differing definitions of foreign-born or migrant stock. The term "gateway city" was defined as a critical entry point in countries of destination that facilitated cultural exchange and provided nodes for the collection, circulation and dispersion of goods, capital and people. Some of these gateway cities were global cities with important links to other part of the world. Such cities were cities of opportunity but also of exclusion, vulnerability, and segregation.

For the purpose of her study, Ms. Price defined a "hyper-diverse gateway" as an immigration gateway where (a) at least 11 per cent of the total population was foreign-born; (b) no one country of origin accounted for 25 per cent or more of the immigrant stock; and (c) where immigrants come from all regions of the world. Examples of a hyper-diverse gateway were Copenhagen, New York and Toronto. A 'turnstile city' referred to a city with a rotating cast of immigrant labour, allowed to the country based on temporary immigrant visa or without authorization. In cities such as Abu Dhabi, Doha, or Shanghai, immigrants regularly moved through such urban turnstiles, often in highly precarious and temporary conditions. The turnstile function was observable in the labels given to the foreign born, such as 'labour camp residents' or 'temporary workers'. Although it was difficult to track individual movements of migrants into and out of these cities, the conditions in which they were admitted suggest permanent temporariness, for instance in Dubai, where 80 per cent of all foreign-born were from South Asia.

Ms. Price then introduced the concept of 'established' and 'emerging' gateways. Established gateways, such as Buenos Aires, Hong Kong, London and Los Angeles had attracted immigrants for at least a half-century. Emerging gateways, including Doha, Dublin, Santiago de Chile and Seoul, had experienced labour shortages in the 1990s and had set up mechanism to recruit foreign workers. In 2015, some 22 metropolitan

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[6] Hassan, M.H.A. 2017. "Migration-the choices we face", *Science*, 19 May 2017, vol. 356, issue 6339, p. 667.

areas with over 1 million foreign-born residents (9 in US and Canada, 5 in the Middle East, 3 or 4 in Europe, 2 in Australia, and 1 in Africa and East Asia) accounted for 18 per cent of the global foreign-born stock.

Ms. Price then identified foreign-born in metropolitan areas with a population of 1 million or more people worldwide, based on national census records and information from the World Urbanization Prospects for the period 2005 to 2015. It was estimated that there were 22 metropolitan areas with over 1 million foreign-born, totalling 44.3 million foreign-born. Nine of these areas were located in Canada and the United States of America, five in the Middle East, three in Europe, two in Australia, and one each in Africa and East Asia. These same 22 major destinations accounted for nearly one-in-five of the world's foreign-born stock in 2015 (18 per cent). In 2005, 18 such metropolitan areas had been identified representing 33.5 million foreign-born. Between 2005 and 2015, Abu Dhabi, Kuwait City, Madrid, and the greater Johannesburg area had joined the list of metropolitan areas with large numbers of foreign-born, whereas Moscow and Singapore had dropped off the list due to a declining number of foreign-born.

There were another 180 cities with populations ranging from a few thousand to nearly one million foreign-born, including Buenos Aires, Mecca, and Vancouver. Combined, these 200 metropolitan areas contained 84 million immigrants, or 34 per cent of the foreign-born stock in 2015. For many Northern American cities, the increase of foreign-born residents counterbalanced an outflow of native-born and older foreign-born cohorts.

Ms. Price concluded her presentation by saying that the data collection project on foreign-born in metropolitan areas was ongoing, and she welcomed suggestions for improving and expanding data collection efforts for major cities around the globe.

Ms. Ayse Çaglar, Professor in the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology of the University of Vienna presented her work on migrants in disempowered cities. Urban development narratives masked growing inequalities in and between cities, so it was important to question the tendency to theorize and make policy based on research on urban development and migrant settlement situated solely in urban centres with substantial political, social, and economic power. Instead, one should focus on cities of varying size, scale, and power, including disempowered cities. These were often marked by decimated economies and shrinking populations, tax bases, and economic, political and cultural power. She called for a new analytical vocabulary to (a) capture how city residents, including migrants, participate in the processes and struggles that remake their cities; (b) approach the urban inequalities and disparities in relation to the dispossessive processes and displacements underlying wealth generation through urban restructuring; and (c) capture the interdependencies among these processes as well as the common conditions of precarity and displacement, which mark the lives of many urban residents, which are often masked by urban redevelopment narratives.

Ms. Çaglar advocated using the concept of "displacement" rather than "mobility" in order to draw attention to the processes underlying migration. The nation-state often defines and institutionalizes what counts as mobility, and thus what kinds of mobility are rendered invisible. Not all mobile persons are designated as "migrants" (e.g expats), and many of those designated as migrants have not moved at all, and have been identified as, for example, third generation migrants.

Urban redevelopment, primarily based on the restructuring of capital, involved constitutive processes of displacements and dispossessions. Thus, it was important to draw attention to these processes, which were crucial for the accumulation of wealth and the revitalization of cities. The lives of increasing numbers of people around the world were negatively affected by these developments – people who had never moved, but had been socially dispossessed and displaced, and people who had migrated either within or across borders, only to face another cycle of displacement within urban regeneration. She defined the concept of 'emplacement', a relationship between the continuing restructuring of place within multiscalar networks of

power, and a person's efforts, within the barriers and opportunities offered by the contingencies of local place-making, to build a life within networks of local, national, supranational, and global interconnections. Unlike the terms 'integration' or 'assimilation', or discourse that targets migrants as threats to social cohesion, the concept of emplacement both invoked a sense of place-making and focused on a set of experiences shared by people who were generally differentiated by scholars and policy-makers as either migrant or native.

Focusing on three 'disempowered' cities —Manchester, NH, United States of America; Halle an der Saale, Germany, and Mardin, on the border of Turkey and Syria, she had explored forms and processes of dispossession and displacement of the people living in these cities, including migrants. While migrant-friendly narratives did not develop into migrant-specific policies with clear budgeting and funding implications, the business— and investment-friendly narratives developed into a plethora of programmes and incentives to attract capital and investment. These included subsidies, tax rebates, abolishing business and corporate taxes, provision of public resources (commons and treasury land), and access to corporate capital below market prices. Thus, city regeneration in disempowered cities was shaped by a dependence on public funding. Although these cities attracted corporate, private, and multinational investors, the public revenue streams of these cities did not increase. On the contrary, the "regeneration" projects left the cities with even fewer resources for public services. In fact, in all these cities, city debt increased after a decade of urban regeneration. The presence of migrants and refugees in these cities allowed city developers to gain access to supranational (i.e., EU, UNDP, UNESCO) and public funding (i.e., HUD) for the regeneration and renewal projects which were then channelled into rebuilding efforts that ultimately benefitted developers, multinational corporations, and public-private partnerships. In three of the cities, disparities and poverty increased, dispossessions and displacements intensified.

At the same time, these developments provided opportunities and challenges to migrant emplacement in all three cities. First, the 'disempoweredness' of these cities made it possible for migrants and refugees to find domains of commonality with the dispossessed and displaced city residents. Given the context of eroded public coffers, there were no city resources invested in provisioning of migrant-specific services, let alone religious or ethnic community-based services. However, the lack of resources and programmes for institutionalizing (ethnic and religious) difference opened opportunities for migrants, refugees and natives to build sociabilities based on domains of commonality, and to take part together in local politics as well as within social justice movements. In such conditions, domains of commonality established over and despite differences became more visible than in more powerful, well-resourced cities.

Second, in a context where the revenues decreased, the public resources eroded, public services failed, and disparities and debt increased, then the combination of migrant-friendly narratives and business-friendly narratives in urban redevelopment gave way to increased racism. Migrants were increasingly made the scapegoat of the dispossessive dynamics of capital accumulation and the draining of public resources from services to city residents.

Ms. Grainne O'Hara, Deputy Director of the Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in New York spoke about recent changes in refugee movements worldwide and how UNHCR was responding to a growing number of refugees not housed in camps but in urban settings. Over the past two decades, the global population of forcibly displaced people had grown substantially, from 33.9 million in 1997 to 65.6 million in 2016. The growth was concentrated between 2012 and 2015, driven mainly by the Syrian conflict, but also by other regional conflicts such as those in Iraq and Yemen, as well as in sub-Saharan Africa, including Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, and Sudan. Every two out three refugees and every four out of five internally displaced persons (IDPs) settled in towns and cities. Because refugees and IDPs had often lived in cities before they were forced to move, they were more likely to become urban refugees. Due to long encampment in some countries and the lack of opportunities for refugees, refugees would engage in secondary moves to urban

areas, leaving camps for cities in the same countries of destination. Once they had lived as urban refugees, refugees would also most likely return to the cities of their countries of origin if they repatriated, including second and third generation refugees being repatriated to countries of origin. In her conclusion, Ms. O'Hara called for collection, compilation, and dissemination of reliable and timely data on refugees, particularly in urban settings. UNHCR was working closely with national statistical offices to improve refugee statistics. If refugees were not clearly identified in urban settings, it was a major challenge for urban locations to attract the funding to which they were entitled under the burden-sharing framework when hosting refugees, in order to use these funds in urban settings. The Expert Group on Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons Statistics was currently developing international recommendations on refugee statistics. One of the guidelines recommended including a question on migratory reasons in questionnaires of the 2020 census round to identify movements on humanitarian grounds.

In the ensuing discussion, Ms. Çaglar stated that disempowered cities were often former industrial cities with a history of attracting migrant labour. UNFPA reported that it was advocating for the inclusion of the three core questions on international migration in national census exercises focusing on 'country of birth', 'country of citizenship' and the 'period or year of arrival'. As a member of the Expert Group on Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons Statistics, UNFPA was committed to promoting inclusion of a question about migratory reasons. Ms. O'Hara, when asked about the governance in camp settings, replied that UNHCR worked with national governments to integrate camps into national justice systems to avoid creation of parallel governance structures in camps. The goal was to move toward nationalization of camps and integrating refugees into local communities - one of the three durable solutions promoted by UNHCR. UNHCR further established a policy on alternatives to camps, which however is not an urbanization policy.

LINKING MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION: FROM GLOBAL CITIES TO SMALL TOWNS
- SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This session presented examples of linking migration and urbanization in specific urban settings. Data for small areas were needed to examine the issues of segregation and inequality. Results from studies in cities in Europe and the United States suggested considerable variation among migrant and ethnic groups. The bases of these studies were indices of dissimilarity and social isolation. One of the few generalizations to emerge was that a **greater polarization appeared to evolve over time, with inequalities and segregation of groups towards the bottom of a social hierarchy, and, at the same time, the emergence of "global" neighbourhoods further up the hierarchy,** with, in the United States, the virtual disappearance of the all-white community. Social policy, particularly directed at the provision of social housing, seemed to alleviate urban inequalities and segregation, as demonstrated in the Netherlands.

International migrants tended to concentrate in particular cities of entry, or "**gateway cities**". However, these did not constitute a uniform category: older ones could decline, new ones could emerge, and a few even persisted. They tended to be characterized by "superdiversity" and a "turnstile" or "churn" effect in which a turnover existed. Temporariness had become a permanent characteristic of at least part of the population. That is, **gateway cities were marked by the constant passing through of people, both internal and international: the individuals may be transient, but the location was permanent**.

Nevertheless, just as some sectors of an urban hierarchy could atrophy, so too, whole cities could lose their influence. Cities could lack power as a result of being within national systems that might, by accident or design, undermine the causes that gave rise to them in the first place. Resource use could change, or resources could be exhausted; globalization could change a city's position within regional systems, and the city could be "disempowered". History, however, like Ozymandias, taught us that civilizations do indeed rise and fall. **Cities were always the most visible symbols of civilization itself, of power and privilege, as well as of the less salubrious aspects of human development. Nevertheless, cities were constantly changing, and they would not persist in their current form indefinitely.** It was noted that much attention had focused on the situation of migrants in urban centres of global power. However, **there was need to study migrant settlement dynamics in cities of varying size and power, including "disempowered" cities that had less access to national power, capital investment, and global talent.**

The presence of migrants and refugees in "disempowered" cities enabled city regeneration shaped by a dependence on public and supranational funding, leaving the cities with even fewer resources for public services, ultimately benefitting mainly developers, multinational corporations, and public-private partnerships. However, migrants and refugees were able to find **domains of commonality** with the dispossessed and displaced city residents, which served to bring **them closer together in local politics and within social justice movements**. In a context where the revenues decreased, the public resources eroded, public services failed, and disparities and debt increased, the combination of migrant-friendly narratives and business-friendly narratives in urban redevelopment gave way to increased racism. **Migrants were often made the scapegoat of the dispossessive dynamics of capital accumulation and the draining of public resources from services to city residents.**

The discussion of such scenarios dovetailed with the intervention by UNHCR on behalf of those forced to move, the refugee, or the internally displaced. **Just as the human population was becoming more urban, so, too, was the refugee becoming more urban.** Refugee camps still exist, but they are being replaced as a destination for the displaced by cities. Also, returned refugees tend to return not to their rural origin but to a city, with its better security. Much modern conflict occurred in urban zones, and urban-dwellers displaced from conflict-ridden cities had no wish to move to or be housed in rural areas.

E. DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS OF MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION

Mr. Bela Hovy, Chief, Migration Section, Population Division, DESA moderated the session entitled "Development impacts of migration and urbanization". He observed that too often the discourse on migration had focused on the challenges of migration rather than the positive contributions of migrants. It was a critical moment to make progress in advancing the policy debate on migration. Several important intergovernmental processes were underway including those related to the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. He noted the relevance of the expert group meeting for identifying concrete recommendations, which would inform the debate at the fifty-first session of the Commission on Population and Development in 2018. Mr. Hovy also called attention to the important language on international migration and urbanization contained in the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action.

Mr. Ram Bhagat, Professor and Head of the Department of Migration and Urban Studies at the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai made a presentation on the development implications of India's migration and urban transition. He noted that the issue was often contested in terms of perceptions, and that there had not been sufficient emphasis to the linkages between international and internal migration. For instance, the "right to move", while recognised on paper in the context of internal mobility, often faced de facto limitations such as domicile or residencies rules and restrictions. Further, in India many benefits and rights, including the right to vote, were place-based, meaning that they were not portable across states.

The process of urbanisation in India was very different from what had occurred in Europe in the nineteenth century: in the latter, emigration from rural areas to urban areas as well as migration abroad had led to stalled rural population growth, but in India, both the rural and urban populations continued to grow. Policies and public planning, therefore, needed to focus on creating better opportunities in rural areas, with the understanding that, despite the continued out-migration to urban areas, rural population would continue to grow in India. Initiatives undertaken by the United Nations, including the ICPD's emphasis on the benefits of international migration, urbanisation and return migration, had informed policy-making in India. Unlike the MDGs, the SDGs had addressed migration and urbanization: SDG 8 ("Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all"); SDG 10 ("Reduce inequality within and among countries"); and SDG 17 ("Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development"). Further, the New Urban Agenda reaffirmed SDG objectives with regard to achieving sustainable cities and urbanization by acknowledging that safe, orderly and regular migration through planned and well-managed migration policies could enable the positive contribution of migrants to cities and strengthen urban-rural linkages.

Mr. Bhagat remarked that the processes of migration and urbanisation were interconnected. Places of both origin and destination could benefit from migration, with cities playing an important role. To help address some of the negative consequences of migration and urbanization, it was important that policies be designed that were city-centric and environmentally friendly. Evidence suggested a very strong positive correlation between urbanization and development. Urbanization could play a critical role in addressing some of the development challenges facing India, including access to services and credit. In India, populations in urban areas scored better than rural populations on a host of indicators, including access to basic amenities, regardless of income levels. He identified four areas in which migration affected development in a positive way: (a) labour demand and supply —migrant labour fills gaps in demand for and supply of labour; migration also contributed to an efficient allocation of skilled and unskilled labour with migrant labour eager to work; (b) remittances— remittances provide insurance against risks to households in the areas of origin; they increase consumer expenditures and investments in health, education and asset-formation; (c) return migration – provides knowledge, skills and innovation to the areas of origin; and (d) skill development —migration is an informal process of skill development; it enhances knowledge and skills of migrants through exposure and interaction with the outside world; new skills are learnt from co-workers and friends at the place of destination.

Mr. Bhagat called for integrating migration into development programmes with an emphasis on small and medium cities and towns and promoting linkages with rural areas. He also pointed out that in India natural increase accounted for nearly 44 per cent of population growth in urban areas in the period 2001-2011. Seasonal and temporary migration, which were often difficult to measure, were other important components that needed to be considered in policy-making, as well as the size of cities. Urban development was a regional issue, with decision-making regarding cities often being in the hands of states rather than local authorities. He concluded by reiterating three priorities: (a) promoting the development of small and medium cities and towns; (b) integrating migration with development; and (c) protecting the rights of migrants.

The presentation of Ms. Cecilia Tacoli, Principal Researcher at the International Institute for Environment and Development, focused on linkages between development, migration and inclusive

urbanisation. Urbanisation was context-specific, with significant local variations. In low- and middle-income countries, net rural-urban migration was often a key driver of urbanisation and was linked to rural transformation. Over the last 60 years, most economic growth had occurred in non-agricultural sectors, located in urban areas. Increases in productivity in agriculture had meant that fewer persons were required in rural areas. There had been relatively little change over time (between 1980 and 2010) in the relationship between gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and level of urbanization: the two were significantly, positively correlated.

In low- and middle-income countries, urban growth was often accompanied by the rapid expansion of urban slums. This unplanned growth frequently resulted in shortages in basic infrastructure and services, particularly in relation to housing, as well as over-crowding and increased exposure to environmental hazards. Rapid and unplanned urban growth can also adversely affect the health and nutrition of city inhabitants, especially children. Women, who were often the primary care providers to children and older persons, were particularly negatively impacted. The challenge, therefore, particularly in slums, was on how to provide better infrastructure.

Ms. Tacoli noted that there was insufficient evidence to link migration and poverty. Migrants were often over-represented among the urban poor, however not all migrants were poor. Migrant flows were characterised by a great diversity in composition, destinations and durations. Taking a rural perspective, it was often the wealthier person who could afford to migrate to cities or abroad, while seasonal migrants were often from the poorer strata of society. This translated into further exclusion from social protection and other citizenship rights across the various groups of migrants. Duration of migration was an important aspect in determining migrants' access to rights. First generation slums were often very similar to refugee camps, with high degrees of fragility and vulnerability. In contrast, persons living in multi-generational slums (such as a notified slum in Bangalore) were often better able to exercise their rights.

In terms of gender, migration to urban areas was often linked to changes in global and domestic labour markets. However, it was difficult to generalise owing to significant regional variability. Women were often disadvantaged both in the productive and reproductive spheres, and negatively affected by the gendered-responsibility for caring for sick persons. Further, in rural areas, women were often overrepresented as heads of households. Ms. Tacoli, in concluding, noted that there was little evidence to suggest that reducing migration would curb urban poverty. Policies to limit migration to cities would not slow inflows, however such movements would incur at higher human costs. Since migration did not occur in isolation, it was more effective to address the causes of urban poverty rather than to seek to modify migration through policy interventions. Social programmes, such as ration cards, that required proof of address were cited as examples of barriers that could be removed as a first step towards inclusive urbanisation. Collaboration between local governments and civil society, was key to providing relevant data and innovative solutions.

Mr. Vinicius Carvalho Pinheiro, Special Representative to the United Nations and Director of the International Labour Organization (ILO), Liaison Office in New York, gave a presentation on labour migration, decent work and development. He noted that there were an estimated 150 million migrant workers in 2015, approximately half of whom were women. Migrants had contributed $601 billion in remittances and were an important force for development. In spite of their contributions, migrant workers rarely benefited from full equal treatment. They were often in low-skilled, precarious employment and tended to be overrepresented in agriculture, construction, and domestic work. Migrant workers, particularly those in an irregular legal situation and female migrant workers, were especially vulnerable to abusive recruitment practices and exploitation as well as to human trafficking. The rapid increase in the number ofpersons forcibly displaced from their homes had given raise to additional challenges. While nearly 41 per cent of refugees lived in a host country for more than five years, access to formal employment was often prohibited or restricted by law. Refugees were also exposed to human trafficking and the worst forms of child labour.

Mr. Pinheiro drew attention to ILO's normative role in setting international labour standards on migration. The ILO was the custodian of several instruments on labour migration and protection of migrant workers, including C97 Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949, and C143 Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975, as well as other applicable international labour standards. Both conventions —C97 and C143— had common features, namely that: (a) migrant workers, including those in an irregular situation, should enjoy basic human and labour rights; (b) once admitted to employment, regular migrant workers should enjoy equal treatment with nationals; (c) the social consequences of labour migration also needed to be addressed; and (d) labour migration process needed to be regulated within a rights-based rule-of-law framework.

In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the call for decent work for all was omnipresent and there was recognition of the positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development. The commitment to leave no one behind was overarching. SDG 8, 10 and 17 with their respective targets and indicators had addressed links between decent work and migration in different facets. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda had called for reducing migration costs by providing access to and portability of earned benefits; enhancing the recognition of foreign qualifications, education and skills; and lowering recruitment costs for migrants.

In relation to the global compact on safe, orderly and regular migration, Mr. Pinheiro highlighted a number of proposed actionable commitments for addressing irregular migration, improving skills matching with labour market needs; as well as promoting fair recruitment and employment. These included: (a) increased cooperation between countries of origin and destination on providing alternatives to irregular migration; (b) pathways out of irregularity, including through adoption of principles and guidelines for national regularization programmes; (c) more open channels for regular migration, particularly for low-skilled workers; (d) labour market information systems in cooperation with trade unions and employers' organisations; (e) regional and global platforms for sharing data on labour market needs; (f) bilateral and multilateral frameworks for migrants' skills assessments and recognition; (g) abolishment of worker-paid recruitment fees; and (h) increased employer due diligence within the recruitment process.

Mr. Pinheiro concluded his presentation by identifying five recommendations: (a) promoting decent work for migrant workers was not only an economic necessity, but also a moral imperative; (b) addressing labour migration required changes in normative frameworks, institutions and policies that should be done in an integrated and coherent manner, guided by international law; (c) in order to enhance legitimacy and change perceptions, it was important to involve social partners and other stakeholders in the process; (d) there was a need to invest in better data and statistics; (e) although implementing these recommendations was not easy, not doing anything would be worse.

Mr. Blessing Mberu, Research Scientist at the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) made a presentation via WebEx focusing on migration and urbanization in sub-Saharan Africa. He noted that Africa, in spite of rapid change, was still less urbanised than the other continents. Persons who lived in cities, and particularly in slums, often faced increased challenges, including in relation to access to services and negative health outcomes. Contrary to public perception, most African international migration were moving to other countries in Africa. Comparatively few Africans migrated to Europe or other countries in the developed regions. There was also a misconception about the skill level of African migrants, many of whom were highly educated (doctors, engineers, etc.). Because of international migration, Africa was experiencing a brain drain. However, the families and communities of origin of migrants often benefitted from the inflow of remittances, return migration and the engagement with diaspora groups.

Mr. Mberu made reference to the challenges Africa faced in terms of forced migration. Civil wars, recurring droughts, political conflicts, unfavourable government policies and poor governance had triggered migration flows in Africa. He observed that data limitations made it difficult to adequately capture

and assess the true costs and benefits of migration for the region. There was a need to invest in data and statistics to improve the evidence base on international and internal migration. Diasporas and transnational communities played a very important role in promoting the development benefits of migration. He also noted the importance of establishing stronger capacity-building institutions in Africa to maximise the positive effects of migration and minimise their negative impacts.

Following the four presentations, Mr. Hovy opened the floor for questions and answers. One participant observed that there was a gap between the evidence on the positive effects of migration and the negative perceptions articulated in recent elections in a number of countries. Another asked if the presenters could identify which group of countries might lead the way in advancing the agenda. She observed that in order for the discourse on migration not to regress, it was important to more effectively explain its positive impacts. Several participants inquired about the relationship between labour opportunities and urbanisation, focusing on differences in the degree of informality of jobs in urban versus rural areas, the opportunities for decent work and the portability of benefits and pensions across regions and states. In connection with the question of free movement within countries, there was a question about measures to address informal barriers. Several participants echoed the call for improving the evidence base, which in turn would drive the research priorities.

Mr. Bhagat reiterated the positive aspects of migration and urbanisation. The fact that most of the data were collected on a ten-year basis (census or employment survey) meant that data that captured the rapid changes taking place was frequently unavailable. National statistical offices needed to recognise the need for new data. In relation to the portability of benefits across state governments in India, he emphasized that collaboration between state and federal government entities was needed so that migrants could access benefits across state boundaries.

Ms. Tacoli drew attention to the importance of size and scale when analysing data, with cities, regional and national administrations all playing a part in making such data available. Mr. Pinheiro noted that there would always be political backlashes against migrants and migration. There was a need to better inform the public about the positive development aspects of migration. Mexico and Switzerland were mentioned as being among the countries that had played a constructive role in bringing the discourse forward. On the question related to informality, there was evidence that it was much higher in rural areas. The European Union provided the most comprehensive model for the portability of rights and social security benefits. Insuring the recognition of the portability of such benefits in other contexts was something which could be achieved relatively quickly. Mr. Mberu reiterated that not all migration was crisis related. There was need to enhance return and circular migration to support development. The transfer of knowledge, enhancing the productive investment of remittances and increasing investments in research and knowledge creation were identified as win-wins by Mr. Mberu.

DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS OF MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION
- SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The discussions turned to the developmental implications of migration and urbanization, emphasizing the twin and related challenges of poverty and inequality. Examples were given from India, from the regional level of Africa, and at the global level. **Places of both origin and destination could benefit from migration, with cities playing an important rol**e. To help address some of the negative consequences of migration and urbanization, it was important that policies be city-centric and environmentally friendly. Evidence suggested a very **strong positive correlation between urbanization and development**. Urbanization could play a critical role in addressing some of the development challenges facing India, including access to services and credit. In India, populations in urban areas scored better than rural populations on a host of indicators, including access to basic services, amenities, regardless of income levels.

Given the continuing growth in the rural population of India, the emphasis in policy had to be how to make urban development work for rural people. It was noted that seasonal or other temporary movements were twice as frequent as more permanent migration, underlining the importance of off-farm sources of income and the close interaction between the two sectors. However, barriers to moving into the urban sector had been erected with implementation of the all-too-familiar anti-rural-urban policies. Small towns may be play a particularly important developmental role in this context: **small towns may serve as alternative migration destinations to large cities while also providing a viable alternative to rural activities**. **Critical to any success would be provision of residence rights in the towns that would protect migrants from expulsion and exploitation**.

The critical linkages between migration and urban poverty were tabled. Making agriculture more productive could reduce the number of rural labourers, and it was important to prevent those being displaced from moving into urban poverty. However, there was no evidence that migration to towns from rural areas was responsible for the creation of urban poverty, even though the migrants might be disproportionately poor. **Programmes to reduce migration to cities were therefore unlikely to significantly reduce urban poverty**.

Migration to cities had strong gender consequences, with women being particularly liable to exclusion in urban areas. Time was a critical dimension of successful integration into the urban sector. For example, in contrast to first generation slums, which lacked even basic facilities, by their fourth generation of occupation, slums had evolved into established settlements with acceptable standards of housing and services and gender-specific labour markets. **Not all inhabitants of slums are poor people, and not all of the poor are internal or international migrants**. Policy should be oriented towards space rather than simply towards migrants or non-migrants. **Slums can be settlements of hope that tap into the very real energy and capabilities of their inhabitants**, though they can also be desperate places overwhelmed by crime and drug trafficking. Again, globally, there was considerable diversity in this matter, in respect to both form and outcome.

Migration to cities also often involved movement of people into areas of greater environmental risk than in the places from whence they came. The establishment of slums on steep hillslopes or flood plains close to urban centres were cases in point, emphasizing the critical role of appropriate zoning of urban land for building and the need to more closely involve urban planners in the process. The assessment of urban environmental hazards was a priority.

It was argued that the "exceptionalism" of Africa at low levels of both development and urbanization was ending. Migration, both internal and international, was taking on patterns with clear parallels to those seen in other parts of the developing world. Contrary to public perception, **most African international migration were moving to other countries in Africa**. Comparatively few Africans migrated to Europe or other countries in the developed regions. There was also a misconception about the skill level of African migrants, many of whom were highly educated (doctors, engineers, etc.). Because of international migration, **Africa was experiencing a brain drain**. The international migration of the highly skilled with urban origins either through birth or training, had given rise to some of **the most highly educated diaspora groups in the world**, which could be used to help development back home. Such "pioneers" of migration were likely to give way to less-skilled followers, as seen in other parts of the world, and the establishment of stable emigrant communities overseas would further erode African "exceptionalism" in migration and development. However, **forced migration was still very dominant in many parts of Africa**, often related to political conflicts, environmental disasters, poor governance and corruption.

The discussions turned to interventions at the multilateral level, specifically to the contributions of the International Labour Organization (ILO). The ILO has played a long-established role in developing international instruments to protect the rights of migrant workers. Despite the clear benefits of migration for labour supply in countries of destination, for countries of origin in terms of remittances, and for the migrants themselves, it must be admitted that **in some places harsh exploitation and virtual modern-day slavery persisted.** The instruments of the ILO were designed in collaboration with countries and trade unions to protect the rights of migrant workers, particularly those in vulnerable situations. Much work was also being done to reduce abuses within the international recruitment system, particularly by reducing fees and monitoring sub-contractors. However, the ILO was not active only with regard to less-skilled migrant workers; considerable attention was also being given to the issue of skills recognition across countries, which would facilitate the development of more efficient urban labour markets.

The **call for decent work for all** was stressed repeatedly in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and it contained a **recognition of the positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development**. The commitment to leave no one behind was also overarching. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda had called for **reducing migration costs** by providing access to and portability of earned benefits; enhancing the recognition of foreign qualifications, education and skills; and lowering recruitment costs for migrants.

For the future, and with a view to the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, from the perspective of the ILO, it was necessary to (a) **promote decent work for migrant workers**, which was not only an economic necessity, but also a moral imperative; (b) **change normative frameworks, institutions and policies that govern labour migration**; this should be done in an integrated and coherent manner, guided by international law; (c) **involve social partners and other stakeholders** in order to enhance legitimacy and change perceptions related to migration; and (d) **invest in better data and statistics**.

F. MIGRANTS AND CITIES: POLICY IMPLICATIONS, GOVERNANCE AND PLANNING

The session focused on migrants and cities and addressed policy implications, governance and planning. It was moderated by Filiep Decorte, Director a.i. and Officer in Charge of the UN-Habitat New York Liaison Office. Mr. Howard Duncan, Executive Head of the Metropolis Project, made the first presentation and gave arguments for why cities should have a stronger role in the governance of migration. He emphasized the important role of cities in development, calling them one of humanity's most impressive achievements. Cities and migration were intimately entwined, since cities came into being through the migration of people acting cooperatively, pooling ideas and labour, and enhancing the quality of their lives. Cities were where human capital achieved its highest benefits. Migrants were drawn to cities because it was in cities that their skills brought the highest rewards. Thus, cities were not powerless; they influenced migration flows. People would not attempt to cross national borders if not for the cities that lie beyond them.

While national governments set international migration policies, city governments bore much of the responsibility for managing migration's impact. Mr. Duncan called attention to the constitutions of countries. In developed countries in particular, constitutions typically had been written before the countries were highly urbanized. Historically, it may have been justifiable to give more power to rural areas, but in current conditions it did not make sense for cities to have almost no authority. For example, in Canada cities had almost no governance role with regard to migration. Mr. Duncan suggested that countries should rewrite constitutions to give more powers to local governments. However, he acknowledged that constitutional change was difficult and rare. In the meantime, cities must accept the reality of their influence on migration flows and integration, and acknowledge the roles and responsibilities that they should accept and exploit. In turn, national governments should recognize the role of cities in international migration and include them in discussions of migration policy.

Mr. Duncan called attention to the speed with which the international community had embraced migration as an issue and had brought cities into the discussion at the international level. Much discussion centred on mainstreaming migration into local policy. Also, prominent in discussion were human rights of migrants and the "right to the city". "Sanctuary cities" that defy national legislation were also a topic of discussion in international fora, although not of the present meeting. The role of civil society was also discussed, and Mr. Duncan pointed out that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can be powerful partners with local governments in integrating and including migrants.

Mr. Duncan raised a note of caution on the meaning of integration, and whether integration was an "imperative" beyond the universality of human rights. He called attention to a newer type of immigrant settlement pattern, a transnational middle-class enclave where immigrants migrated directly to a suburban community and stayed there. These were institutionally complete communities that had become a competitor to traditional routes of integration. A question was how to integrate these so-called "ethnoburbs" into the local governance of the city.

While discussion of policy was important, policies needed to be translated to urban planning and administered. Mr. Duncan advocated for "multicultural planning," an approach described in the literature but not often implemented, in which planners looked at specifics of minority or ethnic communities with planning for e.g. land use, business regulations, housing, or even parking. Mr. Duncan felt that it was time to invite planners as well as mayors to the international discussions.

Mr. Duncan closed with a caveat that the value sets on international discussions of cities and migration were dominated by more developed countries. It was important not to impose expectations on less developed countries that they could not meet. For example, infrastructure in many urban slums was inadequate. Periurban settlements were often essentially ungoverned. The international community should consider material conditions before demanding that the values of new international agreements be met.

Ms. Peride Blind, Governance and Public Administration Officer of the Division for Public Administration and Development Management, DESA, offered a public administration perspective on local governance and service delivery. She stated that effective and inclusive public administration was needed to translate values into policies and plans. Her Division's forthcoming World Public Sector Report 2017 would include a chapter on international migration. The report would focus on 30 countries and how these countries addressed migration challenges from a public administration perspective.

Ms. Blind elaborated on the public administration linkages between migration and SDGs. Horizontal linkages included cross-sectoral linkages across institutions. She noted that it was difficult to obtain information on horizontal relationships among agencies at the city level within countries, while it was somewhat easier to study cross-sectoral relationships at the national level. Vertical elements referred to the relationship between national government institutions and local governments. Many countries had already undertaken decentralization reforms, although this was not a necessarily a determinant of strong response to migration. Engagement linkages referred to modalities between government and non-state actors such as civil society.

National responses to international migration tended to be concerned with security and border control, while local responses tended to emphasize cultural diversity and inclusive development. Three general types of response to international migration by cities had been identified in various countries. The first approach was proactive, targeted, and pragmatic, focused on attracting talent transnationally or on dealing in a practical manner with large numbers of migrants or refugees. The second approach was an inter-city cooperation model. This involved multi-city networks and idea-sharing pillars to exchange case studies and innovative practices. Another feature of this approach was inter-city connections within organizations, such as refugee associations. The third approach focused on institutional arrangements to accommodate migrant inflows. Many municipalities had created separate offices, units or commissions to handle migrant or refugee issues. Some even developed their own policies, for example so-called 'sanctuary' laws that differed from national laws. A second form of institutional arrangement was national-local-civil society contracts. Other innovative institutional implementations were not as advanced, but included outreach such as conferences. Ms. Blind suggested that area-based policies were more effective than policies targeted to specific groups.

Mr. Fernando Murillo, Research Programme Director at the University of Buenos Aires made a presentation entitled "A New Agenda for humanitarian and development urban-regional planning?". He described the relationships between migration patterns (both economic migrants and displaced populations), rapid urbanization trends, and emerging planning approaches. Both economic migrants and displaced populations contributed to population growth in cities, but their settlement patterns, needs and contributions were different, which must be taken account of in urban planning.

Mr. Murillo presented a "compass" model that was used to help cities measure multiple dimensions of planning. The four axes of the compass were human rights fulfilment, public works, social organization, and regulatory framework. The elements measured on these axes were land and housing, infrastructure, social services, mobility, and social and environmental sustainability. For example, Mr. Murillo noted that migrant communities often had high levels of self-organization and social cohesion.

Application of the compass model led to innovative planning approaches. Mr. Murillo outlined seven emerging principles of planning for urban development in the context of migration. The first principle was participation, self-organization and progressive upgrading of the communities housing migrants, refugees and IDPs. The second principle involved using humanitarian investments to guide infrastructure expansion. Once displaced populations were settled, further, self-organized migration and integration often followed. The third principle was to allow migrants to access to rental markets in existing urban areas. Transitional housing was often improved and developed into permanent housing, revitalizing the areas in question. The fourth principle was to support densification and mixed land use in urban areas for vulnerable groups. A fifth

principle focused on job creation, income and sustainable local markets. This included social and health services, as well as road infrastructure connecting informal settlements to cities. The sixth principle related to regional development planning, and allowing peri-urban settlements of displaced persons to become economically productive, for example providing labour to the urban markets, or growing fruits and vegetables to market, providing a win-win situation for the humanitarian settlements and nearby cities. The seventh principle emphasized coordinated, multi-scale public-community actions. This involved creating pull factors in strategic towns for settling displaced populations that would eventually resettle in their home regions.

In planning, it was important to distinguish natives and economic migrants from forced displacement. Cities could institute a "migraplan" to anticipate the effect of flows. The needs of sending regions, transitional cities, and final megacities of destination would require different approaches, but Mr. Murillo emphasized the unifying principle that migrants should not be separated from the general population.

Mr. Murillo's final recommendations included complementing the United Nations regulatory framework with planning instruments; integrating the international humanitarian and development agendas into the planning framework; studying the impact of migrant corridors; involving migrants in data production and use; and empowering communities through participation and self-organization.

Mr. Michael White, Professor of Sociology at Brown University gave a presentation on migrant integration in cities and considerations for policy. Migration was interwoven into urbanization as acknowledged in the New Urban Agenda. Twenty-first century demographic developments showed that city growth stabilizes or declines with time. It was important to be mindful of the underlying demography. On balance, migration conferred economic benefits on those who moved and the places to which they migrated. Immigrants typically saw economic gains with time, but analysing these gains was complex.

Mr. White summarized studies of immigrant integration in the United States. Generally, integration increased over time. International comparisons had come to parallel conclusions, that immigrants catch up with and sometimes surpass their native peers. There was a cleavage in the literature between internal and international migration, but there were parallels between the two. Also, studies of migrant integration should bring together observations from different parts of world.

Estimates of internal migration suggested that there were as many as 700 million internal migrants globally. There was no overarching theory that covered both internal and international migration, but there were commonalities between the two types of migration. A study in Johannesburg, South Africa had shown similar trajectories of adjustment and integration for both internal and international migrants. In studies of immigrant integration in the United States, immigrants and their children generally had good outcomes. But even after a long time, clustering of immigrants in certain communities did not disappear.

Mr. White concluded by discussing the implications of his findings for various policy realms. National immigration admission policies should take account of the scale of migration and skills of migrants. The close linkages between migration and urbanization must be considered when formulating urbanization policies. Overzealous pro-urban or anti-urban policies should be avoided.

Migrant integration policies should consider the role of cities as leading destinations providing economic opportunity and easy access to health and public services. Mr. White recommended that service provision should be adjusted for geographic mobility. Integration policies must take migrant children under special consideration, as well as the second generation. Other areas of concern were remittances, anti-discrimination policies, and those left behind in communities of origin.

In the ensuing discussion, participants suggested that the sentiment that cities were a grand achievement might not hold up as well in less developed countries, where cities could not integrate migrants as well. The

importance of social capital and innovation in slums was noted. Participants agreed that it was a good idea to bring decision-making to the city level, but acknowledged that national governments would resist devolving that authority. Participants also felt that mainstreaming migrants was important at every level, although they noted a contradiction in that engaging migrants as a group to some extent served to separate them. The roles of civil society and cities as centres of migrant activism, were noted. The initiative to engage migrants in data collection was welcomed, although calls for open data needed be balanced with privacy concerns. Finally, some participants observed that that acceptance and integration of migrants were currently worsening in some countries. Processes leading to negative sentiments needed to be understood and addressed.

MIGRANTS AND CITIES: POLICY IMPLICATIONS, GOVERNANCE AND PLANNING
- SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The final session of the meeting addressed issues of policy, governance and planning. Complementing earlier discussions of the role of local and national governance, it was argued that **although cities were not powerless, they generally had little or no role in the governance of either international or internal migration**. National governments were responsible for immigration (and emigration) law and decided on any policies that might lead to a redistribution of population. However, cities with no decision-making power were often expected to fund any additional costs imposed by migration in the provision of housing, education and of health and other services for migrants. It was argued that **radical shifts in the balance of responsibilities were required to redress this imbalance**, even to the point of re-writing constitutions. Migrants came to cities. The great cities were both the points of attraction for the majority of migrants and the source of demand for labour, both skilled and less skilled, and this was expected to continue. **Rising tensions between city and national governments were emerging**. In the case of one country, these tensions had led to the establishment of 'sanctuary' cities which virtually bypassed national laws in order to address the wishes and needs of residents.

The United Nations Division of Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM) re-emphasized the role of local government in developing initiatives for managing cities, particularly the delivery of migrant services. The 2017 report of the DPADM will specifically examine how governments, public institutions and public administration can foster integrated approaches to implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and the perspective of cities and migration was a central concern. **Three specific approaches to cities and migration were highlighted: policies to facilitate the integration of migrants into the economic, social and political life of the city; the design of mechanisms to foster inter-city collaboration and the exchange of ideas; and policies to attract the highly skilled**. More generally, area-based policies were shown to be more successful than those targeted at specific groups.

A presentation on local urban planning in Argentina stressed the **important roles of urban planners and local officials in addressing the urban future**. The examples cited emphasized the **significance of context and of participatory planning**, with low-income and migrant groups taking on the responsibility not just for community support, but also for the collection of data comprising the evidence base for policy making. **A 'migrant corridor' approach was advocated, in which origins, transitional cities, and megacities were combined in an integrated planning perspective within which migrants and natives were considered together for urban planning purposes**. Areas in the destinations were differentiated according to numbers of migrants, connectivity and infrastructure to provide a planning "compass" combining humanitarian and developmental objectives.

Generally, **integration increased over time**. International comparisons had come to parallel conclusions, that immigrants catch up with and sometimes surpass their native peers. Migrant integration policies should consider the role of **cities as leading destinations providing economic opportunity and easy access to health and public services**. Integration policies must take migrant children under special consideration, as well as the second generation.

Toward the end of the meeting, discussion returned to the macro level, to the **incidents of xenophobia and violence towards migrants seen across so many parts of the world**. **Such incidents often were most frequent and severe in areas where migration was not at its most intense**. Conversely, cities, which were the principal target of internal and international migration, tended to be the most pro-migrant. Migrant integration tended (however measured or defined) to increase over time, and despite setbacks and fluctuations, it was in cities that greater tolerance evolved, and mixing took place. Less progressive ideas and attitudes tended to persist in areas with lower rates of in-migration and less immigration, which were often areas outside a country's principal urban centres. **It was in cities that a sense of "belonging" emerged, bringing together local populations and internal and international migrants**.

G. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Skeldon, the rapporteur, provided some concluding remarks and recommendations for the entire meeting. Cities were central to well-managed migration programmes. Urbanization and development took place in parallel, or, if not a precisely linear association, they were closely hand in hand. Over half of world population currently lived in cities, and by 2050 the proportion would be two-thirds. Careful management was required to reap the benefits of cities and mitigate challenges.

The meeting had addressed the need for universal, harmonized definitions of cities and migrants. If these concepts weren't defined, informed discussion was not possible. While the meeting had covered different types of data sources, Mr. Skeldon expressed surprise that "big data" such as phone data had not featured more prominently. However, he noted the sensitive issues of data privacy.

Cities were where internal and international migration met. Mr. Skeldon noted that temporariness and "churning" were regular features of both highly skilled and contract migration regimes. The meeting had shown that the level of analysis must move below the nation state, to classes and types of city, small area data, and subnational areas in general.

Further discussing measurement issues, Mr. Skeldon pointed out that reclassification of areas from rural to urban was a complicated issue —it was difficult to arrive at a standard definition. He noted variety across levels of urban hierarchy. Lower levels of the urban hierarchy might in some ways resemble rural areas. There were changes in the form and composition of cities over time, with new cities emerging, and older cities atrophying.

The trust in other people embodied in cities was something to be celebrated. However, there was tension between national government and city governments with regard to setting policies. Some of the proposed solutions, such as changing national constitutions, were problematic.

Mr. Skeldon mentioned two areas that had not been covered sufficiently in the meeting. The first was poverty. Was urban poverty different from rural poverty? He felt that urban poverty was not as well studied as rural poverty, and there were insufficient strategies to address it. Secondly, the environment had received

scant attention. He would have liked to see more about environmental change in cities, for example risks of flooding. A recent issue of the Economist had called attention to flooding as a policy problem, with people being permitted to build in risky areas.

In conclusion, he urged countries not to block migration to cities. Most anti-urban programmes had failed over the long term, and he called for long-term thinking while acknowledging that it was difficult to engage policy-makers on long term considerations. An important takeaway from meetings such as this one was that countries and regions could learn from one another. For example, urbanization and migration issues now being encountered in Africa and Asia had already been experienced in Latin America, which could offer insights into approaches that did and did not work.

During the general discussion that followed, participants agreed on the need for common principles for migration and sustainable urbanization. The principles should be measurable and incorporate some form of accountability. It was said that "the city" needed to be considered as an actor in itself, as well as individuals, who were actors with human rights, and national governments, that were signatories to international human rights agreements. Participants re-emphasized the need for place-based rather than group-based policies.

Many of the comments concerned data. More data were required, and better use should be made of existing data. Technological advances could help with data for migration and urbanization. Responsible use of data was a concern. Migrants often did not want to be identified and were reluctant to contribute to data collection. Urban planners and civil society could be important intermediaries. It was difficult to communicate data and findings to policy-makers and the public. It was important to acknowledge that there was fear of outsiders and of change in the receiving societies and to increase efforts to communicate the benefits of migration. Participants suggested that the report of the Secretary-General on the special theme of this fifty-first session include evidence from well-designed studies debunking myths about migrants. Participants also pointed out that different levels of analysis were needed; cities were not equivalent to other types of subnational areas, and decision-makers at different levels needed data appropriate to those levels.

Participants agreed that the topics of poverty and environment required more coverage than they had received in the meeting. This also applied to inequality and the spatial distributions of inequality and poverty. Additionally, the topic of gender had not been sufficiently covered. More emphasis should also be given to patterns of labour, mobility, and divided households. In the context of the Commission on Population and Development, it was important to consider what had changed with regard to xenophobia and violence since the previous discussion of five years ago. Participants also noted the relevance of natural hazards to urban poverty, and the poor environmental conditions in slums which were detrimental to both poor and non-poor inhabitants.

A rights-based approach to the topic of migration and sustainable cities must recognize the right to "mobility": the right of people to move to the city. The city was a triumph of human ingenuity, a centre of learning, economic dynamism, and of civilization itself. It was incumbent upon international organizations to assemble the "facts" as to the patterns, causes and consequences of urbanization and city growth, in order to better inform peoples and policy makers of their contribution to the economic, social and political life of nations. While data were the crucial evidence base for policy formulation, it was equally important to communicate the story told by the data. Too many myths exist about both the city and about migration. The presumed evils of the city and untruths about migrants and their role in the societies into which they move are all too prevalent in certain quarters, particularly in the popular press. One of the great challenges for migration, urbanization, and development is to dispel such common myths by communicating the facts in a coherent, convincing way.

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- There is need for internationally-agreed definitions of key concepts, including "migrant" and "urban area".
- There is need for timely, comparable and relevant data on migration and urbanization at national and sub-national levels; although the ready availability of such data is fundamental to transparency, such data must be used in ethical and socially responsible ways.
- There is also need for (a) more investments in methodological work; (b) capacity-building at the national and sub-national level; and (c) the creation of a forum for sharing innovative practices of data-collection, dissemination and analysis.
- Population numbers are important to the analysis of cities, but so is the extent of cities over space and any information pertaining to rural-urban and urban-urban linkages.
- Urbanization is an inevitable consequence of development; almost all highly developed countries are highly urban; urbanization is both inevitable and desirable.
- Just as the human population is becoming more urban, so, too, is the refugee population becoming more urban.
- New forces contributing to an urban transition, such as *in situ* urbanization, urban-urban and intra-urban mobility need to be recognized in the analysis of urbanization; at the same time, circular or return migration and other forms of temporary migration should be recognized when discussing internal and international migration flows; both should also be addressed in development planning that must be informed by realities on the ground.
- Place matters, not just in space, but in the settlement hierarchy.
- Gateway cities are marked by the constant passing through of people, both internal and international; temporariness has become a permanent characteristic of at least part of the population.
- Cities appear to be living organisms that emerge, flower and then atrophy; cities are always the most visible symbols of civilization itself, of power and privilege, as well as of the less salubrious aspects of human development; nevertheless, cities are constantly changing and will not survive in their current form.
- Migrant settlement dynamics should be studied in cities of varying size and power, including in "disempowered" cities that have less access to national power, capital investments and global talent.
- Greater polarization between immigrant and non-immigrant groups appears to evolve over time, with inequalities and segregation of groups towards the bottom of a social hierarchy, and, at the same time, the emergence of "global" neighbourhoods further up the hierarchy.
- Based on findings for cities in Northern America and Europe, areas with high immigrant concentration tend to be more receptive to ethnic diversity; areas with low immigrant diversity tend to be less so; generally, integration increases over time.
- Migration poses challenges and opportunities to development with development benefits often outweighing challenges.
- Migration to cities has strong gender consequences, with women being particularly liable to exclusion in urban areas.
- Migration to cities also often involves movement of people into areas of greater environmental risk than in the places from which they have come.
- Not all slum inhabitants are poor people, and not all of the poor are migrants; slums can be settlements of hope that tap into the very real energy and capabilities of their inhabitants.
- The implementation of policies limiting migration to cities should be discouraged for the simple reason that they don't work.
- Nation-states are controlling the number and composition of people crossing national borders; cities, however, are at the forefront of the influx of people from near and far.

- Nation-states are controlling the number and composition of people crossing national borders; cities, however, are at the forefront of the influx of people from near and far.
- Although cities are not powerless, they generally have little or no role in the governance of either international or internal migration; national governments should give cities the resources they need to deal with the consequences of migration.
- Migration should be integrated into development programmes, emphasizing small and medium cities and towns, and promoting linkages with rural areas; urban planners and local officials played an important role in addressing the urban future and planning has to be participatory involving all stakeholders.
- The experiences of migration and city growth in one part of the world should be communicated to those elsewhere in order to disseminate understanding of what works and what does not work.
- Geographical space should be incorporated more explicitly into the analysis of urban development as well as into policies dealing with individual cities and urban settlements; place matters.
- Xenophobia and acts of violence towards migrants is seen across many parts of the world; these incidents are typically most frequent and severe in areas where migration is not at its most intense; conversely, cities, which are the principal destination of internal and international migrants, tend to be the most pro-migrant.
- The city is a triumph of human ingenuity and a centre of learning, economic dynamism, and of civilization itself; one of the great challenges for migration, urbanization, and development is to communicate the challenges and opportunities these phenomena present to humanity.
- While data are the crucial evidence base for policy formulation, it is equally important to communicate the story told by the data.

H. CLOSING

In closing the meeting, Mr. Wilmoth thanked the participants for two days of in-depth discussions. He also thanked colleagues in the Population Division for a well-organized meeting that had convened many experts in the field of migration and urbanization. Migration and urbanization were two key demographic phenomena. The meeting had been timely and relevant, not only for the report of the Secretary-General on the special theme of the fifty-first session, but also for broad international discussion of the new urban agenda and international migration.

**UNITED NATIONS EXPERT GROUP MEETING
ON SUSTAINABLE CITIES, HUMAN MOBILITY
AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**
Population Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations Secretariat
New York
7-8 September 2017

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Thursday, 7 September 2017

9:30 – 10:00   Registration

10:00 – 10:30 **Session I: Opening of the meeting**

- o   Welcome: ***John Wilmoth*** *(Director, Population Division, DESA)*
- o   Welcome: ***Cristina Popescu*** *(Diplomatic Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations)*
- o   Global overview of trends in international migration and urbanization - ***Sabine Henning*** *(Senior Population Affairs Officer, Population Division, DESA)*

10:30 – 11:15   Keynote presentation: Who Owns the City? - *Saskia Sassen (Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology, Columbia University) [CANCELLED]*

11:15 – 11:30 Break

11:30 – 13:00 **Session II: Concepts, definitions, and data sources**

Moderator: ***Ashraf El Nour*** *(Director, IOM Office, New York)*

- o   Revisiting the Concepts, Definitions and Data Sources of International Migration in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - ***Keiko Osaki*** *(Chief, Demographic and Social Statistics Branch, Statistics Division, DESA)*
- o   International migration, internal migration, mobility and urbanization: towards more integrated approaches - ***Ronald Skeldon*** *(Emeritus Professor, University of Sussex and Professor of Human Geography, Graduate School of Governance, Maastricht University)*
- o   Concepts, definitions and data sources for the study of urbanization: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - ***Eduardo Moreno*** *(Director of Research and Capacity Development, UN-Habitat)*
- o   Notes on the urbanization of our planet - ***Shlomo (Solly) Angel*** (Senior Research Scholar and Adjunct Professor of Urban Planning, Stern School of Business, New York University)

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break

15:00 – 16:15 **Session III: Patterns and drivers of trends in migration and urbanization: regional perspectives**

Moderator: ***Deborah Balk*** *(Associate Director, City University of New York, Institute for Demographic Research)*

- o ***Emilia Sáiz*** (Deputy Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG))
- o The urban transition and beyond: facing new challenges of the mobility and settlement transitions in Asia - ***Yu Zhu*** *(Distinguished Professor, Asian Demographic Research Institute (ADRI), Shanghai University)*
- o Drivers of migration and urbanization in Africa: key trends and issues - ***Mariama Awunbila*** *(Senior Lecturer, Department of Geography and Resource Development, University of Ghana) – to be presented by Victor Gaigbe-Togbe, Chief, Population and Development Section, Population Division, DESA*
- o Drivers of global trends in migration and urbanization: migration and Cities in Latin America and the Caribbean - ***Jorge Rodriguez*** *(Sociologist, CELADE, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean)*

16:15-16:30 Break

16:30 – 18:00 **Session IV: Linking migration and urbanization: from global cities to small towns**

Moderator: ***Rachel Snow*** *(Chief, Population and Development Branch, UNFPA)*

- o Immigrant residential contexts in North America and Western Europe: How segregated? How unequal? - ***Richard Alba*** *(Distinguished Professor of Sociology, The Graduate Center, City University of New York)*
- o Revisiting global immigrant gateways: established and emerging turnstiles of human settlement - ***Marie Price*** *(Professor of Geography and International Affairs, George Washington University)*
- o Migrants in disempowered cities: opportunities and challenges - ***Ayse Çaglar*** *(Professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna)*
- o Urban refugees - ***Grainne O'Hara*** *(Deputy Director, UNHCR – New York)*

Friday, 8 September 2017

10:00 – 11:30 **Session V: Development impacts of migration and urbanization**

Moderator: ***Bela Hovy*** *(Chief, Migration Section, Population Division, DESA)*

- o Migration and urban transition in India: Implications for development - ***Ram Bhagat*** (Professor and Head, Department of Migration & Urban Studies, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai)
- o **Blessing Mberu** (Research Scientist, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC)) [via *WebEx*]
- o Migration and inclusive urbanisation - ***Cecilia Tacoli*** *(Principal Researcher, International Institute for Environment and Development)*

- Labour migration, decent work and development - *Vinicius Carvalho Pinheiro (Special Representative to the United Nations and Director, International Labour Organization (ILO) - Liaison Office in New York)*

11:30 – 11:45 Break

11:45 – 13:00 **Session VI: Migrants and cities: Implications for policy, governance and planning**

Moderator: ***Filiep Decorte** (Director a.i./Officer in Charge, UN-Habitat New York Liaison Office)*

- Why cities should have a stronger role in the governance of migration - ***Howard Duncan** (Executive Head, Metropolis Project)*
- Migrants and cities: a public administration perspective on local governance and service delivery - ***Peride Blind** (Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM))*
- Migrants and rapid urbanization: a new agenda for humanitarian and developmental urban and regional planning? - ***Fernando Murillo** (Research Programme Director, University of Buenos Aires)*
- Migrant Integration in Cities: considerations for Policy - ***Michael White**, Brown University*

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break

15:00 – 15:55 **Session VII: Conclusions and recommendations**

Moderator: ***Jorge Bravo** (Chief, Demographic Analysis Branch, Population Division, DESA)*

- ***Ronald Skeldon** (Emeritus Professor, University of Sussex and Professor of Human Geography, Graduate School of Governance, Maastricht University)*

15:55 – 16:00 **Session VIII: Closing**

- Closing remarks: ***John Wilmoth** (Director, Population Division, DESA)*

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