

Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Statistics Division

Statistical Papers Series M, No. 58, Rev. 1

**Recommendations
on Statistics
of International Migration
Revision 1**

**United Nations
New York, 1998**

NOTE

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in the present publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The designations “developed” and “developing” economies are intended for statistical convenience and do not necessarily express a judgement about the stage reached by a particular country or area in the development process.

The term “country” as used in the text and tables of this publication also refers, as appropriate, to territories or areas.

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/58/Rev.1

UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATION

Sales No. E.98.XVII.14

ISBN 92-1-161408-2

Litho in United Nations, New York
16330--September 1998--2,845
ISBN 92-1-161408-2

Copyright © United Nations 1998
All rights reserved
Manufactured in the United States of America

PREFACE

Since 1976, when the United Nations adopted the current set of recommendations on statistics of international migration (United Nations, 1980a), the worldwide importance of international migration flows has increased markedly, with the result that international migration issues have gained prominence in both the international agenda and the national agendas of many countries. All countries of the world have experienced some degree of international migration and the evidence available suggests that the number of the countries that are the source or the destination of sizeable migrant outflows or inflows has been rising. Yet, despite the growing importance of international migration and the concerns it raises, the necessary statistics to characterize migration flows, monitor changes over time and provide Governments with a solid basis for the formulation and implementation of policy are very often lacking. Recognizing the need to improve international migration statistics, the Statistical Commission requested at its twenty-seventh session, in 1993, that the current recommendations on statistics of international migration be reviewed. For that purpose, the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat) carried out a series of activities that culminated in a proposed set of revised draft recommendations on statistics of international migration. The United Nations Population Division, the regional commissions, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Labour Organization, the Organisation for International Cooperation and Development, other interested organizations, and representatives of the statistical offices of selected countries collaborated in both reviewing existing recommendations and making suggestions for their modification.

The present publication sets forth revised recommendations on statistics of international migrant flows and on the measurement of stocks relevant to the study of international migration. This publication also reviews the major types of data sources yielding statistics on international migration flows and suggests various ways in which they can be used to produce statistics that better comply with the revised definitions recommended. Recognizing that implementation of the revised definitions by existing statistical systems will occur gradually, the publication provides a means of integrating the varied types of information available through the use of a framework for the reporting of statistical information relevant for the measurement of international migration flows. That framework aims at eliciting the most comprehensive and transparent picture of human international mobility that may be obtained today.

This publication also provides special guidelines for the compilation of statistical information regarding asylum-seekers, a special category of internationally mobile persons whose numerical importance has been significant in the recent past. Lastly, the publication highlights the need for statistics on the foreign-born and foreign populations, since both populations are relevant to the study of international migration. The role of censuses in gathering such information is underscored.

A draft version of this publication was considered by the Statistical Commission at its twenty-ninth session, in 1997. The Commission adopted the draft after agreeing that a number of revisions would be incorporated in the text. The publication contains the final revised text of the revised recommendations on statistics of international migration.

CONTENTS

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Preface		iii
Explanatory notes		vii
 <i>Chapter</i>		
I. NEED FOR REVISION OF THE 1976 RECOMMENDATIONS	1-30	1
A. Need for better statistics of international migration	1-11	1
B. Process of review of the 1976 recommendations	12-17	3
C. Current state of statistics of international migration	18-29	4
D. Organization of the present publication	30	7
II. DEFINITION OF "INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT" FOR THE PURPOSE OF MEASURING FLOWS	31-83	9
A. A taxonomy of international inflows and outflows of people	38-44	11
B. Measurement of international migration according to different data- collection systems	45-77	16
C. Conclusion	78-83	25
III. A FRAMEWORK FOR THE COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS	84-128	27
A. Compilation of data on non-migrant flows	88	28
B. Compilation of information on the inflows of international migrant foreigners	89-102	28
C. Compilation of statistics on changes of status of international migrant foreigners	103-110	49
D. Compilation of statistics on the outflows of international migrant foreigners	111-116	50
E. Compilation of statistics on the outflows of international migrant citizens	117-120	52
F. Compilation of statistics on the inflows of international migrant citizens	121-125	54
G. Measurement of short-term migration	126-128	59
IV. INFORMATION NEEDED TO CHARACTERIZE INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS AND RECOMMENDED TABULATIONS	129-166	61
A. Recommended information on international migrants	132-159	61
B. Recommended tabulations on inflows and outflows of international migrants	160-162	71
C. Data and tabulations required on persons regularizing their status ...	163-166	75

CONTENTS *(continued)*

		<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
V.	RECOMMENDATIONS ON ASYLUM STATISTICS	167-184	77
VI.	STOCK DATA RELEVANT FOR THE STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION	185-209	83
	A. Definitions and data-collection issues	188-204	83
	B. Recommended tabulations on the foreign and foreign-born populations	205-209	88
	REFERENCES		91
	GLOSSARY		92

BOXES

No.

1.	Definition of country of usual residence, of long-term international migrant and of short-term international migrant	10
2.	Definitions of the categories included in the taxonomy	13
3.	Definitions of the categories of inflows and outflows of non-migrants in table 2	29
4.	Definitions of the categories of inflows, status changes and outflows of international migrant foreigners included in tables 3, 4 and 5	33
5.	Definitions of the categories used to classify the outflows and inflows of international migrant citizens	53
6.	Population sub-groups accorded special treatment in population censuses	85

TABLES

1.	Revised taxonomy of international inflows and outflows according to entry status established by receiving State	11
2.	Framework for the compilation of data on non-migrant flows of foreigners and citizens	31
3.	Framework for the compilation of statistics on inflows of international migrant foreigners	35
4.	Framework for the compilation of statistics on changes of status of international migrant foreigners	38
5.	Framework for the compilation of statistics on outflows of international migrant foreigners . . .	44
6.	Framework for the compilation of statistics on outflows of international migrant citizens	55
7.	Framework for the compilation of statistics on the inflows of international migrant citizens . . .	57
8.	Core and optional information on different groups of incoming international migrants	63
9.	Core and optional information required on different groups of departing international migrants . . .	65
10.	Framework for the presentation of statistics on the process of adjudication of applications for asylum	78
11.	Framework for the tabulation of statistics on the mode of reaching positive decisions on asylum applications	79
12.	Framework for the tabulation of the number of asylum applications by status of person filing and decision taken by status of applicant	80
13.	Framework for the tabulation of statistics on the reasons for rejecting applications for asylum or for denying asylum	81

Explanatory notes

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

The following abbreviations have been used in this publication:

ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EU	European Union
Eurostat	Statistical Office of the European Communities
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division

CHAPTER I

NEED FOR REVISION OF THE 1976 RECOMMENDATIONS

A. NEED FOR BETTER STATISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

1. Since 1976, when the United Nations adopted the previous set of recommendations on statistics of international migration (United Nations, 1980a), the worldwide importance of international migration flows has increased markedly, with the result that international migration issues have gained prominence in the international agenda. Thus, both the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (United Nations, 1995a, chap. I, resolution 1, annex) and the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development (United Nations, 1996a, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II) devote considerable attention to issues related to international migration, and both the Commission on Population and Development and the General Assembly discussed international migration as a special issue during their respective sessions in 1997.

2. All countries in the world have experienced some degree of international migration and the evidence available suggests that the number of countries that are the source or the destination of sizeable migrant outflows or inflows has been rising. Furthermore, the recent disintegration of a number of nation States has not only led to significant flows of international migrants but also increased the potential for international migration if only because movements that used to occur within a single State have become internationalized.

3. Despite the growing importance of international migration and the concerns it often raises, the statistics needed to characterize migration flows, monitor changes over time and provide Governments with a solid basis for the formulation and implementation of policy are very often lacking. For the developing world in particular, there is evidence suggesting that the availability of statistics of inter-

national migration flows has declined since 1976 (Bilsborrow and others, 1997). In addition, information on the exact coverage and meaning of the statistics available is hard to come by and lack of comparability between the statistics produced by different countries or even between those produced by different sources within a single country abounds.

4. Recognizing the need to improve international migration statistics, the United Nations Statistical Commission requested at its twenty-seventh session that the 1976 recommendations on statistics of international migration be reviewed. The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat) carried out such a review jointly, in cooperation with the United Nations regional commissions and other interested organizations.

5. In addressing the issue of improving statistics of international migration, it is important to bear in mind that among all types of spatial mobility, international migration has the distinction of being subject to State regulation, whether in the country of departure, in that of arrival or in both. An intrinsic attribute of State sovereignty is the right of the State to determine who can enter and stay in its territory and under what conditions, a right that is tempered in the case of citizens by the right of individuals to leave any country, including their own, and to return to their own country (article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹). Thus, whereas under international law citizens cannot be prevented from entering their own country and settling in it, foreigners are normally subject to control upon entry or shortly thereafter and are granted permission to stay in a country other than their own only on an exceptional basis. Even in the cases of groups of countries that grant to each other's citizens the right to settle in each other's territories without previous authorization, the receiving State continues to exercise control when settlement actually takes place, if only to ensure that the conditions under which "free

establishment' can take place are met. Because most data-collection systems yielding information on international migration flows are directly or indirectly related to the control of international migration, understanding that different groups of people may be subject to different degrees of control depending on their citizenship is crucial in assessing the meaning and coverage of the data that each system produces and in devising ways of improving the performance of those systems.

6. In addition, from the point of view of the State, data needs regarding international migration are asymmetric in relation to citizenship; that is to say, States are generally more interested in having information on newly admitted foreigners and foreigners present in their territory at a given point in time than on foreigners who leave the country for good, unless the latter do so under government auspices. In contrast, with respect to citizens, Governments tend to be more interested in having information on those emigrating (particularly those departing to work abroad for a pre-specified period) than on those returning. These asymmetric needs stem from policy considerations: in relation to foreigners, the State attaches priority to the regulation of their entry and the management of their stay, particularly if the stays involve lengthy periods and issues of social and economic integration arise. In relation to citizens, protection of their rights while abroad requires that pre-departure arrangements be monitored.

7. From a more general perspective, the needs of potential users of international migration statistics span a wide spectrum. Local authorities, for instance, require information that allows an assessment of international migration's impact on the utilization of local services (such as schools, health facilities, welfare services and so forth) or of its effects on local employment. National authorities are in need of information on the number, characteristics and geographical distribution of international migrants in the country to assess the effects of these factors on the labour market, on social services administered nationally, on social security and so forth. Longitudinal information on the socio-economic characteristics of both international migrants and non-migrants is necessary to assess the process of migrant integration. In countries of emigration, information on migrants' remittances is important to evaluate their impact on savings, investment and local develop-

ment. From an international perspective, comparable and reliable statistics on international migration flows are necessary to elucidate the interrelations between migration and development, and to understand the dynamics of transnational populations. Because the types of data needed to address these issues vary considerably, it is recognized that any recommendations made for the improvement of the quality and comparability of international migration statistics cannot satisfy all needs.

8. Furthermore, a complicating factor in trying to establish general recommendations on international migration statistics is the changing nature of the phenomenon. In response to the increasing levels of international population mobility that became manifest during the 1980s, many countries have been adopting restrictive measures regarding the admission of foreigners. In an effort to reach a sustainable compromise among the humanitarian needs of certain migrants, the demand for foreign workers in a number of contexts, and the perception that a growing subpopulation of international migrants might not always be beneficial for the host society, many States have developed strategies for the admission of foreigners that aim at ensuring that their presence in the receiving country remains truly temporary. Thus, residence permits of only a short duration are granted to "project-tied workers" or "foreign trainees", and "temporary protected status" is granted to foreigners in need of protection. Such developments imply that an increasing number of internationally mobile individuals fall within a grey area in which their status cannot be equated with that of "long-term immigrant" as internationally defined, but where their presence in the receiving country is nevertheless relevant from the economic, social or political perspective; that is to say, given the increasing heterogeneity of international population movements, the statistical characterization of international migration in terms of one or two major categories of international migrants is unlikely to reflect adequately the complexity of international population mobility and will probably be unable to satisfy most of the basic needs for data.

9. In view of the above, the aim in carrying out the present revision of the recommendations on statistics of international migration has been to outline a process by which both the quality and the comparability of international migration statistics

may be improved while at the same time ensuring that users have access to meaningful and sound information on several aspects of international migration. Recognizing that perfect adherence to a general concept of international migration is unlikely to be reached universally in the near future, these recommendations suggest a number of intermediate goals that allow a better approximation of that general concept and permit a clearer understanding of the meaning and limitations of the statistics available. In terms of international migration flows, these recommendations therefore include both a general concept of international migration whose formulation is to serve as a goal to be attained in the long run and a framework for the compilation and reporting of international migration statistics that reflects the complexity of current flows and makes explicit the linkage between the general concept of international migration and the concepts that often underlie the operation of specific data-collection systems.

10. An important objective of the framework proposed is to provide a means of answering certain questions identified as crucial for the understanding of the dynamics of international migration, its causes and consequences. With respect to a particular country, such questions include the following:

- (a) What is the overall annual net gain or loss of population through international migration?;
- (b) How many international migrants are admitted annually? Which are their countries of origin?;
- (c) In countries having free establishment provisions for the citizens of selected States, how many migrants exercise such a right over the course of a year? What are their countries of origin?;
- (d) How many citizens emigrate every year? Which are their countries of destination?;
- (e) How many emigrant citizens return every year? From which countries are citizens returning?;
- (f) How many migrant workers are admitted annually? How many leave the country for good every year?;
- (g) How many persons in search of asylum arrive annually? How many international migrants

are admitted on humanitarian grounds (including refugees)?;

- (h) How many persons are admitted for family reunification over a year?;
- (i) How many persons who do not qualify as tourists are admitted for periods shorter than a year? Among them, how many are allowed to work in the receiving country?;
- (j) What is the total number of international migrants in the country? How many of those international migrants are economically active?

11. Clearly these different questions do not have equal relevance for all countries and, as noted above, they do not exhaust the list of significant issues related to international migration and its measurement. Nevertheless, they provide a useful basis for understanding the value of the framework presented in chapter III. Thus, the questions posed refer to types of international migrants that have been occupying a prominent position in the current policy discourse. Because those types are normally subject to State regulation, they are also prone to be the object of statistical accounting. Even persons who migrate in order to exercise the right to free establishment in a country other than their own must abide by the laws or regulations setting the conditions under which that right can be enjoyed, one of which usually requires that the persons concerned inform the pertinent authorities of their arrival and establishment in the country of destination. Only undocumented or irregular migration is likely, by its very nature, to occur at the margin of State regulation and thus fail to be properly reflected in the statistics available. It is beyond the scope of these recommendations to provide guidance about the estimation methods or special data-collection procedures that may be used to obtain acceptable measures of irregular migration.

B. PROCESS OF REVIEW OF THE 1976 RECOMMENDATIONS

12. In order to review the 1976 recommendations on international migration statistics, Eurostat carried out a series of important activities and considered their outcomes at the Working Parties on Migration

held in Luxembourg in December 1993, November 1994 and January 1996.

and the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) was carried out by using a special questionnaire exploring in detail the extent to which the definitions used by different data sources matched those included in the 1976 recommendations on statistics of international migration (United Nations, 1980a). The questionnaire was sent by Eurostat to member States of EU and EFTA and by ECE to its member States early in 1994. Responses were received and analysed by Eurostat. In addition, the staff of Eurostat and of the United Nations Statistics Division carried out consultations with ECE, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and other relevant organizations to obtain their views. The possibility of expanding the review process to include the countries covered by the other United Nations regional commissions was explored.

13. A study on the concepts and definitions used to characterize international migration flows and stocks by member States of the European Union (EU), the European Free Trade Association (EFTA)

14. Eurostat also carried out, with the assistance of consultants, a study on national practices and definitions relating to the characterization of the stock and flow of international migrants and another on the definitions used by data sources relating to refugees and asylum-seekers, both relative to EU and EFTA member States (Poulain, Debuissou and Eggerickx, n.d.; Gisser and Poulain, 1992; Eurostat, 1994). Further work was undertaken by the United Nations Statistics Division on the compilation of stock data on international migrants in other regions.

15. To obtain the views of government experts and international organizations on the compilation of refugee and asylum statistics an Informal Meeting on Refugee and Asylum Statistics in Europe and North America was held in Geneva from 15 to 17 May 1995. The Meeting, organized jointly by Eurostat and UNHCR, discussed proposals for the collection and consolidation of statistics on refugees and asylum-seekers as well as their interrelations with international migration statistics.

16. In addition, the United Nations Statistics Division and Eurostat organized jointly an Expert Group Meeting on International Migration Statistics which was held in New York from 10 to 14 July 1995. The Expert Group considered, *inter alia*, the findings of various studies undertaken as part of the

review process. The conclusions of the Expert Group (United Nations Statistical Division and Statistical Office of the European Communities, 1995) were a key input for the preparation of draft proposals for the revision of the recommendations on statistics of international migration.

17. To discuss the framework for the compilation and reporting of statistics on international migration flows, an Inter-agency Consultative Meeting on International Migration Statistics was convened in Luxembourg from 28 to 30 May 1996. The Meeting was attended by representatives of Eurostat, ILO, OECD, UNHCR, the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations Statistics Division. On the basis of the discussions held at that meeting, the Population Division in collaboration with the United Nations Statistics Division prepared a consolidated draft of the recommendations on international migration statistics which was circulated among selected Governments and discussed at the joint ECE/Eurostat work session on migration statistics held in Geneva from 30 September to 2 October 1996. That session was attended by representatives of 29 ECE member States, Eurostat, OECD, UNHCR and the United Nations Statistics Division. Taking account of the comments received from Governments and of the discussions held at the ECE/Eurostat work session on migration statistics, the draft recommendations were revised for presentation to the Statistical Commission at its twenty-ninth session. At that session, the Commission adopted the draft revised recommendations after agreeing that a number of revisions would be incorporated in the text (United Nations, 1997, para. 61). The present publication contains the final revised text of the recommendations.

C. CURRENT STATE OF STATISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

18. The lack of uniformity among countries in respect of determining who is an international migrant has long been recognized as a key source of inconsistency in international migration statistics. Efforts to identify international migrants in uniform ways date at least from the first quarter of the twentieth century when the International Labour

Conference, at its fourth session in 1922, recommended, *inter alia*, that each member of ILO should make agreements with other members providing for the adoption of a uniform definition of the term “emigrant” and the use of a uniform method of recording information regarding emigration and immigration (United Nations, 1949, chap. V, sect. A (2)). In the late 1940s, soon after their creation, the Population Commission and the Statistical Commission of the United Nations addressed the issue of producing recommendations on international migration statistics. The first set of United Nations recommendations was adopted in 1953 and it centred on the definition of “permanent immigrants” as *non-residents (both nationals and aliens) arriving with the intention to remain for a period exceeding a year* and of “permanent emigrants” as *residents (nationals and aliens) intending to remain abroad for a period exceeding one year* (United Nations, 1953).

19. In 1976, when the 1953 recommendations were revised for the first time, the first issue discussed was the use of “residence” to define international migrants. Thus, the 1976 recommendations state that “an important complicating factor in developing a satisfactory definition of a migrant for statistical purposes is the close relationship between this term and the concept of residence in a country. For example, an immigrant must not currently be a resident of the country he or she has entered and an emigrant must have been a resident of the country from which he or she is departing. The concept of residence, however, is a legal concept on which there is as yet no consensus among countries even in regard to the minimum period of presence in a country needed to determine residence” (United Nations, 1980a, para. 21).

20. As part of the process leading to the revision of the 1953 recommendations, the United Nations had undertaken an analysis of the definitions of international migrant used by countries around 1975. The conclusion reached was that “most of the national definitions of immigrants and of emigrants supplied in response to the study of national practices regarding international migration statistics... did not, in fact, specify any minimum period of presence in the country, or absence from it. Moreover, less than 10 countries included a direct

indication of what constituted a resident in their definition of an emigrant or of what constituted a non-resident in their definition of an immigrant. The possibility of securing internationally comparable migration statistics based on any definition of a migrant expressed in terms of residents or non-residents appears, therefore, to be remote at best” (United Nations, 1980a, para. 21).

21. In order to counteract the lack of comparability arising from the use of undefined terms or of varying criteria of residence by different countries, the 1976 recommendations defined migrants in terms of actual and intended periods of presence in, or absence from, a country. Thus, a “long-term immigrant” was characterized as *a person who has entered a country with the intention of remaining for more than one year and who either must never have been in that country continuously for more than one year or, having been in the country at least once continuously for more than one year, must have been away continuously for more than one year since the last stay of more than one year* (United Nations, 1980a, para. 32 (a) (I) and table 2).

22. Although this definition is logically impeccable, it has several drawbacks. First, it is difficult to grasp and, in terms of data collection, it demands that information be obtained not only about the likely future presence of a person in the receiving country but also about previous periods of presence or absence from the country. Second, by demanding that presence or absence be **continuous**, it has the potential, if implemented strictly, to result in biased data. Indeed, in this era of quick and affordable travel, it is very likely that mobile individuals, especially those identifiable as “international migrants”, might not remain **continuously** in any given country for more than one year. Thus, if short trips abroad for holiday or business are considered to break a **continuous** stay in a country, many persons who have actually moved from one country to another might not be regarded as “long-term immigrants” according to the definition cited above. Lastly, by setting the key time limit as “more than one year” instead of “one year or more”, the large number of persons who move from one country to another with permissions to stay for only one year and who stay exactly one

year would not be considered “long-term immigrants” according to a strict implementation of the above definition.

23. A thorough review of national practices to assess the extent to which the 1976 recommended definitions of long-term immigrants and emigrants have been implemented has not been carried out. However, Eurostat in collaboration with ECE undertook a review of the practices of the 31 member States of EU, EFTA and ECE. The study revealed that no country implements strictly the definition of “long-term immigrant” or “long-term emigrant” as proposed by the United Nations.² In addition, only 9 out of the 31 countries whose practices were reviewed used a year as the period of stay determining migrant status and most of those 9 used “one year or more” as the identifying period instead of the recommended “more than one year”. The exact way of determining likely period of stay also appears to have varied among countries and may have depended on the citizenship of the migrant involved. In most countries, foreigners were required to have residence permits whose duration of validity was used to infer likely length of stay.

24. Bilsborrow and others (1997) have made use of the data published in issues of the United Nations Demographic Yearbook to assess the extent to which statistics of international migration flows have changed since the adoption of the 1976 recommendations. The tabulations published present, to the extent possible, arrival and departure statistics according to the main categories suggested by the United Nations recommendations, including those of long-term immigrant and long-term emigrant. Since 1975, two issues of the *Demographic Yearbook* (1977 and 1989) have presented detailed statistics on international migration flows. Because the 1977 *Demographic Yearbook* (United Nations, 1978) reflects the situation just before the 1976 recommendations were published and disseminated, and the 1989 *Demographic Yearbook* (United Nations, 1991) reflects that after the recommendations had had time to be adopted and implemented, a comparison of their contents provides indications of the progress made.

25. A review of the evidence by region reveals that there has been a noticeable deterioration in the

availability of data for African countries. Those providing overall numbers of arrivals and departures without identifying long-term migrants declined from 11 to 5 between the 1977 and 1989 issues of the *Demographic Yearbook*, and the number producing some data on long-term migration dropped from 18 to 6 between the two issues. In Latin America and the Caribbean, most island countries or areas have gathered some information on international arrivals and departures, but only about half of those having data distinguish long-term migrants from the generality of travellers. For the region as a whole, the number of countries or areas reporting only overall numbers of arrivals and departures increased from 9 to 10 between the 1977 and 1989 issues of the *Demographic Yearbook*, whereas the number reporting data on long-term migrants declined from 19 to 11. Furthermore, only Panama and Trinidad and Tobago had virtually uninterrupted series on long-term immigrants in 1977 and 1989, and only Trinidad and Tobago also had such a series for long-term emigrants. On the whole, therefore, the availability of flow statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean does not seem to have improved between the late 1970s and the late 1980s.

26. In Asia, although the number of countries or areas reporting statistics on either long-term immigrants or long-term emigrants remained virtually unchanged between the 1977 and 1989 issues of the *Demographic Yearbook*, there was a tendency for countries that had had such data in 1977 to present only overall totals in 1989. Fairly complete time-series of statistics on long-term immigrants were available for Hong Kong, China; Israel; and Japan, but data on long-term emigrants were more sparse. In Oceania, Australia and New Zealand have consistent and complete series of statistics on international migration flows that conform well to the definitions of long-term migration suggested by the United Nations. For other countries or areas in the region, the availability of flow statistics is less consistent and has shown some tendency to decline over time, especially with regard to long-term migration. Thus, whereas nine countries or areas in Oceania reported some data on long-term immigrants in 1977, only four did so in 1989.

27. The present review suggests that even in terms of mere data availability, the situation in developing countries has not improved between the late 1970s and the late 1980s, and in certain regions there are clear signs of deterioration. In addition, it is not certain that the data published by the United Nations actually conform to the definitions suggested in the 1976 recommendations. Bilborrow and others (1997) provide some evidence suggesting that, for a number of countries, there is little consistency between the categories reported and the definitions proposed in the 1976 recommendations.

Apparently, countries continued to gather data on international migration flows according to their own definitions and then made minimal adjustments to fit the data into the categories suggested by the United Nations. In many instances, however, the differences between national definitions and the 1976 recommendations are such that no amount of adjustment a posteriori would make them match.

28. The 1976 recommendations had themselves acknowledged that the definitions of long-term immigrant and emigrant proposed were “not intended to replace national definitions of these or similar terms provided in the laws and administrative regulations of individual countries. Indeed, countries are encouraged to compile needed statistics using the recommended statistical definitions classified by status of legal residence, citizenship or other relevant categories in accordance with national legal or administrative requirements” (United Nations, 1980a, para. 22). Notwithstanding its realism, such a statement may be interpreted as implying that no drastic changes were necessary to comply with the United Nations recommendations. In any event, very few changes have in fact been made. Because it is unlikely that countries will change the definitions provided by the laws and administrative regulations governing international migration in order to comply with international statistical recommendations, the present revision of the United Nations recommendations on statistics of international migration proposes a two-stage process for their improvement. During the first stage, existing statistics would be compiled by using a framework that made patent the differences and similarities among the statistics produced by the various sources available within countries. The framework has been designed to capture both the complexity of existing data and the elements that are

necessary to enhance comparability. Because the latter are consistent with a general definition of international migrant, use of the framework would contribute to raise awareness about the causes of the lack of comparability between the statistics derived from various sources, whether they operate within a single country or in different countries. Understanding the reasons for the lack of comparability is a necessary first step on the path towards enhanced comparability. The second stage of the process would consist in devising country-specific strategies to improve the quality and comparability of the data available.

29. One of the distinctive features of international migration is that it encompasses events that have the potential of being recorded in two countries almost simultaneously and that should consequently be

comparable. Thus, the number of persons leaving country A with the intention of migrating to country B should be equal to the number of persons originating in country A and recorded as incoming migrants by country B. However, as the experience of member States of ECE demonstrates, there are significant discrepancies in the statistics gathered by countries of origin and countries of destination about the same migrant flow (Kelly, 1987; Poulain, 1993). Yet, that experience also shows that when there is a mechanism fostering the exchange of detailed information among several countries, changes that enhance comparability can occur. Similar results are expected from the use of the framework proposed in chapter III.

D. ORGANIZATION OF THE PRESENT PUBLICATION

30. This publication is divided into six chapters, the contents of which are described below:

Chapter I contains the present introduction which includes a review of the activities carried out to revise the 1976 recommendations on statistics of international migration and an assessment of the current state of international migration statistics focusing on the extent to which the 1976 recommendations have been implemented;

Chapter II is devoted to a presentation and discussion of a revised definition of the term “international migrant” for use in the collection of statistics on international migration flows and of a comprehensive taxonomy of all inflows and outflows of international travellers. It also contains a review of existing data-collection systems and a discussion of possible ways of implementing the general definition of “inter-national migrant” using each of them;

Chapter III addresses the problem of obtaining data that conform as closely as possible to the general definition of “international migrant” by proposing a framework for the compilation of statistics on international migration flows. The proposed framework provides maximum transparency

regarding the types of movements that are being captured and the type of data that is being reported; it builds upon the taxonomy of inflows and outflows of international travellers presented in chapter II and gives priority to the identification of internationally mobile individuals who satisfy the general definition of “international migrant”;

Chapter IV provides guidelines regarding a set of core variables that ought to be recorded for each international migrant and presents a list of recommended tabulations on statistics of international migration flows classified by level of priority;

Chapter V is devoted to a discussion of statistics relative to the processing of applications for asylum. It presents the definition of relevant concepts related to the processing of asylum requests and proposes a set of tabulations providing statistical information on the results of the process;

Chapter VI is devoted to recommendations regarding the collection of statistics for the

derivation of stock measures relevant for the study of international migration. It includes a discussion of the recommended concepts, the data-collection systems best suited to their implementation and the types of tabulations that are recommended.

NOTES

¹General Assembly resolution 217A (III).

²The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland uses the International Passenger Survey to gather international migration statistics from a sample of persons entering or leaving the United Kingdom's territory at specific ports of entry. Until 1994, the United Kingdom identified “long-term immigrants” and “long-term emigrants” in accordance with the definitions included in the 1980 United Nations recommendations. In particular, information on the intended stay in the United Kingdom of the persons interviewed was used to distinguish long-term immigrants from other incoming persons. However, since 1995 the published data on net migration have been adjusted to also include citizens of countries other than member States of EU and EFTA, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and the United States of America who are admitted as visitors but are subsequently granted permission to stay for longer periods because they change their status by, for instance, marrying a United Kingdom resident or filing an application for asylum.

CHAPTER II

DEFINITION OF “INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT” FOR THE PURPOSE OF MEASURING FLOWS

31. As noted in chapter I, the 1976 recommendations tried to avoid the confusion caused by use of the term “residence” by defining “long-term immigrant” and “long-term emigrant” on the basis of durations of actual presence in or absence from the country of origin or that of destination as appropriate (see United Nations, 1980a, para. 32, and tables 2 and 3). However, the resulting definitions are difficult to grasp and their poor implementation appears to be related to such difficulty. Consequently, it has been judged that a simplified set of definitions is needed. In addition, in order to make the revised definitions compatible with related definitions adopted in other contexts, avoidance of the term “residence” has not been considered necessary.

32. Thus, an *international migrant* is defined as *any person who changes his or her country of usual residence*. A person's country of usual residence is that in which the person lives, that is to say, the country in which the person has a place to live where he or she normally spends the daily period of rest. Temporary travel abroad for purposes of recreation, holiday, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage does not entail a change in the country of usual residence.

33. The concept of *place of usual residence* is used in censuses to mean the geographical place where the enumerated person usually resides. The most recent version of the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses (United Nations, 1998) as well as its predecessors (United Nations, 1969a and 1980b) goes on to note that the place of usual residence may be the same as, or different from, the place where the person was found at the time of the census or his/her legal residence; that is to say, the place of usual residence need not be the place of legal residence of the person concerned. It is also pointed out that although most persons will have no difficulty

in stating their place of usual residence, some confusion is bound to arise in a number of special cases where persons may appear to have more than one usual residence. Examples of such persons include those who maintain two or more residences, students living at a school away from their parental home, members of the armed forces living at military installations but still maintaining private living quarters away from the installation, and persons who sleep away from their home during the working week but return home for several days at the end of each week. Problems may also arise with persons who have been at the place where they are enumerated for some time but do not consider themselves residents of that place because they intend to return to their previous residence at some future time, and with persons who have left the country temporarily but are expected to return after some time. In such cases, it is recommended that stated time-limits of presence in, or absence from, the particular place be set to determine whether or not a person can be considered a usual resident of that place (United Nations, 1969a, 1980b and 1998).

34. The concept of country of usual residence is also used to determine who is a “visitor” for purposes of international tourism statistics. According to the *Recommendations on Tourism Statistics* (United Nations and World Tourism Organization, 1994), “a person is considered to be a resident in a country if the person: (a) has lived for most of the past year (12 months) in that country or (b) has lived in that country for a shorter period and intends to return within 12 months to live in that country” (para. 24). An *international visitor* is defined as “any person who travels to a country other than that in which he/she has his/her usual residence but outside his/her usual environment for a period not exceeding 12 months and whose main purpose of visit is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the country visited” (para. 29). The category of international
v i s i t o r s i n c l u d e s

tourists (overnight visitors) and same-day visitors (also known as “excursionists”) (para. 30).

35. The characterization of country of usual residence in relation to statistics on international tourism and censuses suggests that its use to define international migrants needs to take into account both a time element (in order to distinguish international migrants from international visitors) and the special treatment of persons whose country of usual residence may not be uniquely defined because of the special circumstances in which they find themselves. The latter issue will be considered in relation to the general taxonomy of international inflows and outflows of people presented in the next section.

36. With regard to the time element, when the definition of international migrant presented in paragraph 32 is compared with the definition of international visitor presented in paragraph 34, it is clear that if a distinction is to be made between the two, the change of country of usual residence necessary to become an international migrant must involve a period of stay in the country of destination of

(12 months). Therefore, *a long-term migrant* should be defined as *a person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least a year (12 months)*, so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence (see box 1).

37. In addition, because one of the new features of international population mobility is the increase of short-term international movements of people for purposes other than tourism, it is important to gather information on some of the persons who spend less than a year in a country other than that of their usual residence. *Short-term migrants* are therefore defined as *persons who move to a country other than that of their usual residence for a period of at least 3 months but less than a year (12 months) except in cases where the movement to that country is for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage*. For purposes of international migration statistics, the country of usual residence of short-term migrants is considered to be the country of destination during the period they spend in it (see box 1).

a t l e a s t a y e a r

Box 1. Definition of country of usual residence, of long-term international migrant and of short-term international migrant

<i>Country of usual residence</i>	The country in which a person lives, that is to say, the country in which he or she has a place to live where he or she normally spends the daily period of rest. Temporary travel abroad for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage does not change a person's country of usual residence.
<i>Long-term migrant</i>	A person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least a year (12 months), so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence. From the perspective of the country of departure the person will be a long-term emigrant and from that of the country of arrival the person will be a long-term immigrant.
<i>Short-term migrant</i>	A person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least 3 months but less than a year (12 months) except in cases where the movement to that country is for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage. For purposes of international migration statistics, the country of usual residence of short-term migrants is considered to be the country of destination during the period they spend in it.

A. A TAXONOMY OF INTERNATIONAL INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS OF PEOPLE

38. The 1976 recommendations on statistics of international migration include a taxonomy of arrivals and departures for use in organizing the statistics derived from data-collection systems that have nearly complete coverage of international inflows and outflows of people (United Nations, 1980a). Given the changes in international migration that have taken place since 1980 and their impact on data-collection systems, it is necessary to revise that taxonomy. In doing so, an attempt has been made to identify the types of flows that are most likely to be reflected in the statistics produced by existing data-collection systems and that are relevant from the policy perspective. To facilitate presentation and fix ideas, the taxonomy

presented in table 1 is discussed in terms of a particular model of international flows of people. It is assumed that all flows start with the departure of citizens from their own country and end with their return to that country. Travellers are classified within different categories based on four different points in time: (a) when they depart from their own country (column 1 of table 1); (b) when they arrive in the country of destination (column 2 of table 1); (c) when they depart from the country of destination (column 3 of table 1); and (d) when they arrive back in the country of origin (column 4 of table 1). For the sake of simplicity, it is assumed that all persons travel directly from their country of citizenship to the country of destination and that they are classified within one among the different categories of travellers exactly at the time they enter the country of destination. It is further assumed that

TABLE 1. REVISED TAXONOMY OF INTERNATIONAL INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS ACCORDING TO ENTRY STATUS ESTABLISHED BY RECEIVING STATE

CITIZENS	FOREIGNERS		CITIZENS
OUTFLOWS	INFLOWS	OUTFLOWS	INFLOWS
1. Border workers departing daily or weekly to work in a neighbouring country	Foreign border workers entering daily or weekly to work	Foreign border workers departing daily or weekly to go home	Border workers returning daily or weekly to their home
2. Departing citizens in transit	Arriving foreigners in transit	Departing foreigners in transit	Arriving citizens in transit
3. Departing excursionists	Arriving foreign excursionists	Departing foreign excursionists	Returning excursionists
4. Departing tourists	Arriving foreign tourists	Departing foreign tourists	Returning tourists
5. Departing business travellers	Arriving foreign business travellers	Departing foreign business travellers	Returning business travellers
6. Departing diplomatic and consular personnel (plus their dependants and household employees)	Arriving foreign diplomatic and consular personnel (plus their dependants and household employees)	Departing foreign diplomatic and consular personnel (plus their dependants and household employees)	Returning diplomatic and consular personnel (plus their dependants and household employees)
7. Departing military personnel (plus their dependants)	Arriving foreign military personnel (plus their dependants)	Departing foreign military personnel (plus their dependants)	Returning military personnel (plus their dependants)
8. Nomads	Nomads	Nomads	Nomads

TABLE 1 (continued)

CITIZENS	FOREIGNERS		CITIZENS
OUTFLOWS	INFLOWS	OUTFLOWS	INFLOWS
9. Citizens departing to study abroad (plus their dependants)	Arriving foreigners admitted as students (plus their dependants, if allowed)	Departing foreign students (plus their dependants)	Citizens returning from studying abroad (plus their dependants)
10. Citizens departing to be trained abroad (plus their dependants)	Arriving foreigners admitted as trainees (plus their dependants, if allowed)	Departing foreign trainees (plus their dependants)	Citizens returning from being trained abroad (plus their dependants)
11. Citizens departing to work abroad (plus their dependants)	Arriving foreigners admitted as migrant workers (plus their dependants, if allowed)	Departing foreign migrant workers (plus their dependants)	Citizens returning from working abroad (plus their dependants)
12. Citizens departing to work in an international organization abroad (plus their dependants and employees)	Arriving foreigners admitted as international civil servants (plus their dependants and employees)	Departing foreign international civil servants (plus their dependants and employees)	Citizens returning after having worked in an international organization abroad (plus their dependants and employees)
13. Citizens departing to establish themselves in a country where they have the right to free establishment	Arriving foreigners having the right to free establishment	Foreigners departing after having exercised their right to free establishment	Citizens returning from a country where they exercised their right to free establishment
14. Citizens departing to settle abroad	Arriving foreigners admitted for settlement without limits on duration of stay	Foreign settlers departing	Citizens returning after having settled abroad
15. Citizens departing to form a family or join their immediate relatives abroad	Arriving foreigners admitted for family formation or reunification	Departing foreigners originally admitted for family formation or reunification	Citizens returning after having migrated for family formation or reunification
16. Citizens departing to seek asylum	Foreigners admitted as refugees	Departing refugees	Repatriating refugees
17. Citizens departing to seek asylum	Foreigners seeking asylum	Departing former asylum-seekers (not granted refugee status)	Returning former asylum-seekers
18. Citizens departing without the necessary admission permits	Foreigners whose entry is not sanctioned	Deported foreigners	Citizens being deported from abroad

NOTE: The categories presented in the present table should in no way be construed as providing a definition of international migrants. The taxonomy presented in this table is to serve as an analytical tool for the discussion of different data-collection systems yielding information on international migration flows. The relevant definitions of long-term and short-term international migrants are presented in box 1.

Box 2. Definitions of the categories included in the taxonomy

A. Categories of transients not relevant for international migration

1. *Citizens departing as border workers* Ÿ *Foreign border workers*: Foreign persons granted the permission to be employed on a continuous basis in the receiving country provided they depart at regular and short intervals (daily or weekly) from that country.
2. (a) *Citizens in transit*: Persons who arrive in their own country but do not enter it formally because they are on their way to another destination.

(b) *Foreigners in transit*: Foreign persons who arrive in the receiving country but do not enter it formally because they are on their way to another destination.

B. Categories relevant for international tourism

3. *Citizens departing as excursionists* Ÿ *Foreign excursionists* (also called “same-day visitors”): Foreign persons who visit the receiving country for a day without spending the night in a collective or private accommodation within the country visited. This category includes cruise passengers who arrive in a country on a cruise ship and return to the ship each night to sleep on board as well as crew members who do not spend the night in the country. It also includes residents of border areas who visit the neighbouring country during the day to shop, visit friends or relatives, seek medical treatment or participate in leisure activities.
4. *Citizens departing as tourists* Ÿ *Foreign tourists*: Foreign persons admitted under tourist visas (if required) for purposes of leisure, recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, health or medical treatment, or religious pilgrimage. They must spend at least a night in a collective or private accommodation in the receiving country and their duration of stay must not surpass 12 months.
5. *Citizens departing as business travellers* Ÿ *Foreign business travellers*: Foreign persons granted the permission to engage in business or professional activities that are not remunerated from within the country of arrival. Their length of stay is restricted and cannot surpass 12 months.

C. Categories traditionally excluded from international migration statistics

6. *Citizens departing with the status of diplomatic or consular personnel or as dependants and employees of that personnel* Ÿ *Foreign diplomatic and consular personnel plus their dependants and employees*: Foreigners admitted under diplomatic visas or permits. Their dependants and domestic employees, if admitted, are also included in this category.
7. *Citizens departing with the status of military personnel or as dependants or employees of that personnel* Ÿ *Foreign military personnel plus their dependants and employees*: A category encompassing all foreign military servicemen, officials and advisers together with their dependants and domestic employees stationed in the country of arrival for a limited period.

Box 2 (continued)

8. *Nomads*: Persons without a fixed place of residence who move from one site to another, generally according to well-established patterns of territorial mobility. When their trajectory involves crossing current international boundaries they become part of the international flows of people. Some nomads may be stateless persons because, lacking a fixed place of residence, they may not be recognized as citizens by any of the countries through which they pass.

D. Categories relevant for the compilation of international migration statistics

9. *Citizens departing to study abroad* **Ÿ** *Foreign students*: Foreigners admitted under special permits or visas allowing them to undertake a specific course of study in an accredited institution of the receiving country. If their dependants are admitted, they are also included in this category.
10. *Citizens departing to be trained abroad* **Ÿ** *Foreign trainees*: Foreigners admitted under special permits or visas allowing them to undertake training that is remunerated from within the receiving country. If their dependants are admitted, they are also included in this category.
11. *Citizens departing to work abroad* **Ÿ** *Foreign migrant workers*: Foreigners admitted by the receiving State for the specific purpose of exercising an economic activity remunerated from within the receiving country. Their length of stay is usually restricted as is the type of employment they can hold. Their dependants, if admitted, are also included in this category.
12. *Citizens departing to work for an international organization abroad* **Ÿ** *Foreigners admitted as international civil servants*: Foreigners admitted under special visas or residence permits as employees of international organizations located in the territory of the receiving country. If their dependants and employees are admitted, they are also included in this category.
13. *Citizens departing to exercise their right to free establishment* **Ÿ** *Foreigners having the right of free establishment*: Foreign persons who have the right to establish residence in the receiving country because of special treaties or agreements between their country of citizenship and the receiving country. Their dependants, if admitted, are included in this category.
14. *Citizens departing to settle abroad* **Ÿ** *Foreigners admitted for settlement*: Foreign persons granted the permission to reside in the receiving country without limitations regarding duration of stay or exercise of an economic activity. Their dependants, if admitted, are also included in this category.
15. *Citizens departing to form a family or join immediate relatives abroad* **Ÿ** *Foreigners admitted for family formation or reunification*: This category includes the foreign fiancé(e)s and foreign adopted children of citizens, the foreign fiancé(e)s of other foreigners already residing in the receiving country, and all foreign persons allowed to join their immediate relatives already established in the receiving country.
16. *Citizens departing to seek asylum* **Ÿ** *Refugees*: Foreign persons granted refugee status either at the time of admission or before admission. This category therefore includes foreign persons granted refugee status while abroad and entering to be resettled in the receiving country as well as persons granted refugee status on a group basis upon arrival in the country. In some cases, refugee status may be granted when the persons involved are still in their country of origin through “in-country processing” of requests for asylum. Refugee status may be granted on the basis of

Box 2 (continued)

the 1951 Convention^a relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol,^b other pertinent regional instruments, or humanitarian considerations.

E. Other categories relevant for the measurement of international migration but encompassing persons whose duration of stay in the receiving country is uncertain

17. *Citizens departing to seek asylum* $\dot{\vee}$ *Foreigners seeking asylum*: A category that encompasses both persons who are eventually allowed to file an application for asylum (asylum-seekers proper) and those who do not enter the asylum adjudication system formally but are nevertheless granted the permission to stay until they can return safely to their countries of origin (in other words, foreigners granted temporary protected status).
18. *Citizens departing without the admission documents required by the country of destination* $\dot{\vee}$ *Foreigners whose entry or stay is not sanctioned*: This category includes foreigners who violate the rules of admission of the receiving country and are deportable, as well as foreign persons attempting to seek asylum but who are not allowed to file an application and are not permitted to stay in the receiving country on any other grounds.

^aUnited Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, No. 2545.

^b*Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

no person changes category during his or her stay in the country of destination so that, upon departure, all persons belong to the category assigned to them when they entered. Lastly, all persons leaving the country of destination return immediately to their country of citizenship.

39. Such a model makes explicit the linkages between departures from a country and arrivals in another, as well as those between arrivals in a country at one point in time and departures from it at a later date. In reality, every country has the dual function of being the source of migrating citizens and the receiver of migrating foreigners, but the assumptions made above for presentation purposes ensure that the correspondence between different categories of travellers at the sending and receiving ends of the process remains evident.

40. Definitions of each of the categories appearing in the taxonomy (table 1) are presented in box 2. Those definitions are made from the perspective of the receiving State and thus refer to categories of foreign travellers. However, as box 2

makes explicit (by recalling that every foreigner arriving in a country is a citizen departing from another country), the definitions presented refer also to the possible categories of migrating citizens. For each category of traveller, table 1 depicts the natural progression of travellers who depart from their country of citizenship, arrive as foreigners in the country of destination, depart from that country as foreigners still and arrive back in their country of citizenship. Only in the case of persons in transit is that sort of progression unrealistic because citizens in transit in their own country do not necessarily become foreigners in transit in another country.

41. The different categories presented under each column of table 1 are meant to be mutually exclusive, implying that the receiving State assigns to foreigners a single status at the time of entry. That status is based on the main reason for granting admission to the foreigner concerned. Thus, if a person admitted as a student is also granted permission to work to support his or her studies, the person should be classified under category 9 as a foreign student and not as a migrant worker

(category 11) since the main reason for admission is pursuit of a course of study and not employment. Similarly, if a person seeking asylum is permitted to work while his or her case is considered, the person should be classified as an asylum-seeker and not as a migrant worker since the main reason for admission is the person's request for protection. In the case of asylum-seekers, categories 16 and 17 are also mutually exclusive since the former concerns individuals who are granted refugee status as soon as, if not before, they arrive in the country of destination, whereas the latter includes persons who are permitted to file an application for asylum in the country of destination and have to wait for the application to be adjudicated to obtain another status.

42. Several of the categories of international travellers presented in the taxonomy are derived from the *Provisional Guidelines on Statistics of International Tourism* (United Nations, 1978b) and the *Consolidated Statistics of All International Arrivals and Departures: A Technical Report* (United Nations, 1985). For some categories, the country of usual residence cannot be established unambiguously. Thus, border workers may maintain a place to live in both their country of citizenship and their country of employment. Similarly, persons belonging to the diplomatic and consular corps are likely to maintain dwellings in two countries and may consider that their country of usual residence remains their country of citizenship since their presence in the country where they are posted is strictly temporary and they continue to work for their own Government. Members of the armed forces stationed outside their country of citizenship are also unlikely to be viewed as changing country of usual residence since they are usually posted abroad for limited periods and may not establish dwellings in the country of destination. Lastly, nomads, by the very nature of their mode of life, cannot have a fixed place of usual residence. Thus, even if they cross international boundaries, they cannot be regarded as changing their country of usual residence. These considerations validate the practice of excluding such groups from international migration statistics. Also excluded are the groups whose expected absence from the country of origin is short, such as persons in transit, excursionists (that is to say, same-day visitors), tourists and business travellers. It is worth noting that the category of tourists includes

persons travelling abroad for leisure, recreation, holiday, visits to friends or relatives, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage and that excursionists (same-day visitors) include persons living in border areas that make day trips to the neighbouring country for leisure, recreation, shopping, visits to friends or relatives, medical treatment or religious pilgrimages as well as cruise passengers who arrive in a country on a cruise ship and return to the ship each night to sleep on board and crew members who do not spend the night in the country.

43. The other categories in the taxonomy (9 to 18), with the possible exception of those referring to asylum-seekers and foreigners whose entry is not sanctioned by the receiving State, include mostly persons who change their country of usual residence; that is to say, most foreigners admitted as students, trainees, migrant workers, international civil servants, settlers or refugees, or foreigners admitted to marry a resident, join their immediate relatives or benefit from free establishment provisions, establish a dwelling or a place to live in the country of destination and thus transfer to it their usual residence. The cases of asylum-seekers and foreigners whose entry is not sanctioned by the receiving State are not as clear-cut because their presence in the receiving State is by necessity tentative and may be terminated at any moment if asylum is denied or if the foreigner in an irregular situation is caught and deported. However, because in practice many asylum-seekers and migrants in an irregular situation end up staying lengthy periods in the receiving State, they should be regarded as constituting distinct categories relevant for the measurement of international migration.

44. The taxonomy presented here provides the basis for the elaboration of the framework for the compilation of international migration statistics that will be discussed in chapter III. However, before addressing the issue of data compilation, it is worth reviewing the operation of different data-collection systems that have the potential of yielding statistics on international migration flows in accordance with the definitions of long- and short-term migrants set forth in box 1.

B. MEASUREMENT OF INTERNATIONAL

MIGRATION ACCORDING TO DIFFERENT DATA-COLLECTION SYSTEMS

45. The 1976 recommendations identify three major types of data sources producing information on international migration, namely, border collection, registration and field inquiries. Such characterization is too broad for present purposes. Bilsborrow and others (1997) discuss the operation of the following data sources: (a) population registers; (b) registers of foreigners; (c) issuance of residence permits; (d) issuance of exit permits; (e) issuance of work permits; (f) official clearance of departing migrant workers; (g) processing of requests for asylum; (h) records from regularization drives; (i) border statistics; (j) censuses; and (k) household surveys. Hoffmann and Lawrence (1996) also include (a) reports to tax or social security authorities; (b) surveys of establishments (namely, enterprises, firms and so forth); (c) registration of individuals in special insurance schemes; (d) reports from labour recruitment agencies; and (e) apprehension and deportation statistics. The publications cited can be consulted to obtain more information on the operation of each of those sources of data. In the discussion that follows they will be grouped according to four major categories, namely, (a) administrative registers; (b) other administrative sources; (c) border collection; and (d) household-based field inquiries. The strengths and limitations of each type of source in relation to the implementation of the definition of international migrant presented in box 2 will be discussed below.

1. Administrative registers

46. Administrative registers include population registers, registers of foreigners and other special types of registers covering particular groups of persons, such as registers of asylum-seekers. A register is a data system providing for the continuous recording of selected information pertaining to each member of the target population. Both the organization and the operation of a register must have a legal basis. While the main purpose of registration is administrative, a register can be used for the compilation of up-to-date statistical information on the size and characteristics of the target population. Different types of changes in the status of members of the target population will be

the subject of registration, depending on the purpose of the register. The registers of interest for the generation of statistics of international migration are those in which changes of country of residence of the target population are recorded. Typically, the target population of an administrative register is a subset of the population present in a country. Population registers generally cover only the *de jure* population of the country concerned (in other words, the population having the right to legal residence in that country and normally living in it). Consequently, the rules establishing who is a legal and usual resident determine who becomes inscribed in and who should be deregistered from the register. Those rules are set by law or administrative regulation and are unlikely to be altered simply to ensure better international comparability. The quality of the statistics derived from any register depends on the degree of compliance with the rules determining its operation and such compliance is in turn dependent on the incentives and disincentives that individuals have to abide by the rules of registration.

47. Relatively few countries maintain national population registers that allow the derivation of statistics on international migration. Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland are among those that do. In all these countries, the population registers cover both nationals and foreigners, and operate under rules of registration and deregistration that are similar for both groups (for more detail, see Bilsborrow and others, 1997, chap. 3). National population registers also exist in several Central and Eastern European countries as well as in the successor States of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). However, the registers in most of those countries used to cover only the citizens of those countries and made no allowance for the registration of foreigners. In addition, because population registers were an instrument of control of the spatial mobility of the population, individuals had few incentives to comply strictly with the rules of registration and deregistration. With the transition to market economies, Eastern and Central European countries plus those belonging to the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) are reviewing the operation of their population registers and changes are being considered that would make

possible the collection of adequate statistics on international migration through that data source.

48. As already noted, among the countries deriving statistics on international migration flows from national population registers, the identification of international migrants depends on the rules in place to determine inscription in or deregistration from the register, and those rules vary considerably not only between countries but also within countries depending on the citizenship of the person being registered or deregistered. Thus, as documented in special studies carried out by the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat) (Poulain, Debuisson and Eggerickx, n.d.; Gisser and Poulain, 1992), the rules of registration and deregistration differ according to whether the person concerned is a citizen of the country maintaining the register, a foreigner having the right to free establishment, or a foreigner lacking such right. Foreigners lacking the right to free establishment (or movement as it is sometimes called) must generally obtain a residence permit from the receiving State before they can be inscribed in the register. Therefore, although the definition of “immigrant” for registration purposes is often given as, for example, “a person entering the country with the intention of residing in it for more than t months”, in reality, for foreigners it should be amended to read as follows: “a foreign person entering the country with the intention of residing in it and having a permit allowing a duration of stay of at least t months”. However, the length of validity of the permit is not necessarily recorded in the register. For citizens returning after emigration and for foreigners subject to a regime of free establishment, intended duration of stay is the criterion that must be used to determine if they should be registered or not, since they are not required to hold a residence permit before they register. Furthermore, in the case of citizens, a period of residence abroad and the deregistration it involves are also prerequisites, since otherwise there would be no need for them to register again.

49. Provided general compliance with the rules of registration and deregistration can be assured, national population registers provide one of the best sources of comprehensive statistics on international migration. They generate statistics on both inflows and outflows and, provided foreigners are subject to similar registration rules as citizens, they can

produce statistics covering the movements of both foreigners and citizens in similar ways. Yet variations in the rules for inscription and deregistration between countries yield data that are not strictly comparable at the international level. Given that a key reason for such variation is that countries require different prospective durations of stay (or absence) to qualify for registration (or deregistration), one way of obtaining more comparable statistics on international migration flows from population registers is to focus on the group of persons who register over a given year and are still inscribed in the register a year later or, with respect to emigration, on persons who deregister over a year and who have still not registered again a year later. As would be expected, the difference between the number of persons registering over a year and the subset of those who remain registered one year after registration is large in countries such as Denmark where registration is required from persons arriving from abroad who are expecting to stay in the country more than three months. The equivalent difference is smaller if six months is the cut-off point for registration and it is even less when one year is the cut-off point (Grundström, 1993).

50. Although the strategy outlined above helps to improve international comparability, it is important to understand its potential limitations. The first is that population registers do not reflect actual stay since deregistration is required only when the prospective absence from a country is longer than a certain minimum threshold or when the departing person's intention is to establish residence abroad. Therefore, short-term absences from the country, which can in principle extend for a few months, are not reflected in the register. The second limitation is that persons may remain registered even when they have left the country for lengthy periods either because they leave with the intention of returning over the short run and then delay their return or because, being foreigners, they are interested in remaining registered to ensure that they may be readmitted to the country even after a moderate period of absence. Consequently, the number of persons who register over the course of a year and are still registered a year later is likely to overestimate the number that have actually stayed in the country, particularly in the case of foreigners. In fact, emigration statistics derived from population registers are often downwardly biased because of the

failure to deregister of persons leaving the country for lengthy periods.

51. Registers of foreigners operate in a manner similar to population registers but cover only foreigners who are legal residents of the country concerned. Just as in the case of national population registers, the conditions under which foreigners are inscribed in or deregistered from the register of foreigners provide a characterization of persons who can be considered international migrants. Registers of foreigners usually accord priority to the recording of the migration status of each person registered, including the type of residence permit, its duration of validity and so on and consequently have the potential to provide information on specific categories of international migrants. The main drawback of registers of foreigners is that they provide no information on the international movements of citizens. In addition, although registers of foreigners are likely to achieve a fairly complete coverage of the inflow of foreigners granted the permission to reside in the country, the coverage of those leaving the country for lengthy periods or for good is less complete, mainly because those deregistering generally lose the right to return and are therefore reluctant to report their departure.

52. In principle, registers of foreigners can be used to obtain statistics on both the inflows and outflows of foreigners from a country and on the number of foreigners residing legally in a country at a given point in time (a measure of stock). Registers of foreigners also have the potential to yield information on the inflows of foreigners by type and length of validity of residence permit, and to produce statistics on the number of foreigners admitted during a given year who are still registered a year later. However, the latter set of statistics may be upwardly biased by virtue of the failure of departing foreigners to deregister. According to Bilsborrow and others (1997), registers of foreigners exist in Germany, Japan, Spain and Switzerland.

53. Registers of asylum-seekers or, to be more precise, registers of the cases of asylum-seekers have been or are being set up in some countries to permit the follow-up of the status of each case over time. To the extent that such registers are successful in recording also the presence of asylum-seekers in the country and their departure, they have the potential

of producing statistics on the number of asylum-seekers present in the country by length of stay or of the number filing applications for asylum during a given year who are still present in the country a year later.

54. In sum, population registers, registers of foreigners and registers of asylum-seekers all have the potential of producing information on certain groups of persons who change country of usual residence and thus qualify as international migrants. Some population registers provide the most comprehensive coverage of those persons, since they reflect the changes of residence of both citizens and foreigners. However, allowance must be made for variations in the rules for registration and deregistration associated with the

citizenship of the person registering. Because those rules also vary considerably between countries, comparability of the statistics obtained can most easily be achieved by identifying international migrants on the basis of a one-year follow-up after registration or dere-gistration. Persons who remain registered one year after registration qualify as long-term immigrants according to the definition presented in box 1. Similarly, long-term emigrants are identified as persons who deregister and do not register again over the course of a year. Such a strategy implies that statistics on international migration over a year can be produced, at the earliest, a year later. A similar strategy can be used to derive comparable flow statistics on long-term migrant foreigners from registers of foreigners.

55. With respect to short-term migration, only those population registers that record persons who expect to stay in the country for at least three months are likely to achieve complete coverage of short-term migrants. However, population registers that do not record reason for admission cannot ensure that the exceptions made in the definition of short-term migrants are respected. Nevertheless, because population registers allow the follow-up over a year of persons registered, they can therefore produce information on the subset of persons who actually leave before the year elapses.

56. Registers of foreigners are more likely to produce adequate information on short-term migration, since they will probably record the status of all foreigners admitted for purposes other than those listed as exceptions in box 1 and will probably record the authorized duration of stay as well. In particular, foreigners allowed to engage in remunerated employment are very likely to be included in the register, even if their approved duration of stay is shorter than a year. Thus, information on foreign short-term migrants admitted as workers or trainees can probably be derived from a register of foreigners. However, information on persons seeking temporary protection who stay less than a year in the country may not be as readily available from that source, since information on persons seeking asylum is often maintained separately. Such information may have to be derived from registers of asylum-seekers on the basis of follow-up because it is generally not possible, a

priori, to establish the likely duration of stay of a person seeking protection.

57. These observations suggest that administrative registers can produce valuable pieces of information regarding international migration. However, no source provides complete coverage of all the relevant aspects of international migration. Hence, there arises a need to combine the information derived from various sources and organize it so that its coverage is easily understood.

2. Other administrative sources

58. Statistics on international migration are commonly derived from the operation of administrative procedures designed to control international migration. Consequently, administrative sources usually produce information only about specific subsets of all international migrants. Thus, statistics derived from the issuance of residence permits refer only to foreigners; those obtained from the issuance of work permits refer only to economically active foreigners; statistics produced from the issuance of exit permits refer only to citizens; and those obtained from the official clearance of departing migrant workers cover only those economically active citizens whose contracts to work abroad must be scrutinized before departure. Certain administrative sources refer to even more specific groups of persons. That is the case of data on the number of applications for asylum filed over a period, which is an indicator of the inflow of asylum-seekers. Similarly, the number of deportations during a year provides information only about a segment of irregular migration and so do registration forms filled at the time of regularization drives. Records kept by tax or social security authorities are a potential source of information on the numbers of foreigners paying taxes or covered by social security. Data derived from those sources are indicative of the size of the employed foreign population as is information obtained from reports by establishments (namely, enterprises, firms, manufacturing facilities and so forth) on the number of foreign workers they employ. In countries of origin where special insurance schemes have been set for citizens migrating to work abroad, the records of those schemes can be used to derive information on those departing annually. In addition, reports from agencies engaged in the recruitment and placement

of citizens in employment abroad can yield statistics indicative of the number of citizens leaving to work abroad over a period.

issued not only to newly arriving foreigners but also to those who have already been present in the country for some time and no distinction is made between the two

59. Clearly, there is a wide variety of possible administrative sources which differ considerably in terms of modes of operation and types of statistics produced. However, all of them share a common trait: statistics derived therefrom usually reflect administrative procedures rather than people. Thus the number of residence permits issued over a year may not be equivalent to the number of persons admitted over that year if a person can receive several residence permits in a year or if the permit granted to the head of a family also covers his or her dependants. Similarly, the number of deportations carried out over a period may be higher than the number of persons involved if those deported keep on returning and are sent back several times; or the number of asylum applications filed can understate the number of asylum-seekers involved when a single application can be filed on behalf of a family. In order to ensure that statistics derived from administrative sources are adequately used and interpreted, it is necessary to describe in some detail the procedures that they reflect.

60. Many countries use residence permits as a means of controlling the admission and stay of foreigners in their territory. Countries making use of residence permits include Argentina, Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Portugal and the United States of America. The statistics derived from this source take several forms depending on the procedures in place to control the admission and stay of foreigners. In some cases, the statistics reflect the number of residence visas granted, in others the number of residence permits of different types issued, and in yet other instances the number of foreigners undergoing certain procedures (such as a medical examination) required for admission. Even in countries that grant the right of free establishment to citizens of certain other countries, foreigners exercising such a right must generally obtain a residence permit.¹ When the administrative procedures for issuing residence permits or visas ensure that the permits granted to newly arrived foreigners are identifiable, their number can be used as an indicator of inflows of migrating foreigners. Problems in the use and interpretation of data on residence permits arise when those permits are

groups. Data derived from the issuance of residence permits have the potential of reflecting the number of newly admitted foreigners during a given year classified by type and duration of validity of permit. However, aside from containing information on expiration dates, residence permits provide no information on the emigration of foreigners. Consequently, it is generally not possible to derive information from them on the number of foreigners legally present in the country at a given time. Furthermore, foreigners granted residence permits are usually not asked how long they intend to stay, although a lower bound for their likely length of stay can be inferred from the length of validity of the residence permit granted.

61. In most countries, foreigners wishing to exercise an economic activity must obtain official permission to do so before they enter the territory of the country in question. Usually the prospective employer of a foreigner is required to apply to the authorities for a work permit before the migrant is given permission to enter the country. Hence the number of new work permits granted during a given period is closely correlated with the number of new migrant workers admitted. For that reason, statistics on the number of new work permits issued are useful indicators of the size of the inflow of migrant workers. However, in some countries, first-time work permits are also granted to foreigners who already reside in the country under a status that does not give them automatic access to the labour market. In addition, countries using work permits as a means of controlling the length of stay of migrant workers usually limit the duration of their validity while at the same time allowing their renewal when certain conditions are met. Since the administrative procedures for renewing a permit are often similar to those involved in the issuance of a first-time work permit, it is common for the agency in charge of issuing work permits to make no distinction between renewals and first-time permits in its statistics on the number of permits processed over a given period. In such cases, the number of permits reported is a poor indicator of the actual inflow of migrant workers. If statistics derived from the issuance of work permits are to be useful indicators of migrant worker inflows, it is crucial that data on the number of work permits issued be classified by type (first-time permit versus renewal), by duration of permit and by

whether or not the permit is granted to a foreigner already living in the country.

62. Among the drawbacks of work permit statistics, perhaps the most salient is that they reflect only the inflow of foreign workers subject to control. In countries where common labour-market arrangements exist, citizens of States that are members of the common labour market may be exempt from the need to secure a work permit prior to working in a State other than their own and would therefore be excluded from the statistics derived from work permits. Because almost all countries of the world have some provisions for the admission of foreigners intending to exercise an economic activity and work permits are often used to control such activity, the potential availability of statistics derived from work permit information is large.

63. As noted above, a third possible source of information on inflows of foreigners into a country is provided by the applications for asylum filed by foreigners whose status in the receiving State remains ill-defined as long as their applications are pending. In particular, neither the authorities in charge of processing asylum requests nor the asylum-seekers themselves can establish a priori their likely duration of stay and, strictly speaking, such duration cannot depend only on the intentions of the asylum-seeker. Thus, asylum-seekers constitute a special type of internationally mobile persons whose duration of stay cannot be established with any degree of certainty at the time of admission. Given that an asylum request can take anywhere between a few months and several years to be decided and that asylum-seekers are generally allowed to stay in the receiving country while the asylum request is being processed, they can have a de facto long-term duration of stay even while remaining in a transitional or indefinite migration status. It may therefore be argued that from a purely accounting perspective asylum-seekers who stay in the country for over a year should be counted as part of the group of all international migrants as defined in box 1. The inclusion of asylum-seekers in the population registers of certain countries once they have undergone the pre-screening phase of the asylum adjudication process and a certain time has elapsed validates this view. However, in most countries data on asylum-seekers are gathered only by the agency in charge of processing and adjudicating asylum applications; and asylum-seekers are regarded as

constituting a separate category, and to be quite distinct from other international

migrants. Once asylum-seekers are granted refugee status or the permission to stay on humanitarian grounds, their inclusion in the overall international migration statistics is warranted and would normally take place.

64. Exit permits are a source of information on the emigration of citizens in States that restrict the international travel of their citizens. Some countries issue passports in connection only with travel that is officially authorized and citizens must return the passport to the issuing authority upon completion of travel. In such cases, information on the number of passports issued and the number returned within a given period allows the estimation of the number of citizens remaining abroad for at least that period. In countries where citizens wishing to emigrate must secure special exit visas that allow them to leave the country for good, the number of visas granted over a period provides an indication of the outflow of citizens. These types of statistics were gathered in Eastern and Central European countries as well as in the former USSR when they were under communist rule. Although they are generally no longer relevant in those countries, their existence and mode of operation need to be understood in order to use and interpret the statistical series that have recently been released in those countries.

65. Countries that are the source of sizeable numbers of migrant workers have established clearance procedures that citizens wishing to work abroad must undergo in order to obtain a passport or an exit permit. The purpose of those procedures is to ensure that migrant workers have legitimate job offers and that they are treated equitably while abroad. A major limitation of data derived from the control of contract labour migration by countries of origin is their incompleteness, since often they do not cover all citizens who leave the country under a contract to work abroad, either because some citizens avoid the clearance process or because they are formally exempt from it (highly skilled workers sometimes are). Furthermore, because issuing a clearance to work abroad pre-dates the actual departure of workers, in some countries significant discrepancies exist between the number of clearances issued and the number of workers actually deployed to work abroad. Despite such shortcomings, statistics derived from the official clearance of migrant workers are often the only infor-

mation that a country has on the outflow of citizens and hence they cannot be ignored, particularly given the sizeable numbers of migrant workers involved. Typically, statistics derived from this source take the form of total numbers of migrant workers processed over a period and classified by country of future employment. Information on occupation also tends to be available, but no tabulations are produced according to expected duration of stay abroad or duration of contract. Such information, which may not be processed but is usually available to the agencies providing emigration clearance, would be needed in order to distinguish migrant workers departing for short periods from those departing for longer ones.

66. Most of the administrative sources discussed in detail so far produce data that are indicative of either inflows or outflows of particular groups of international migrants. The records filled during regularization drives constitute one of the few administrative sources that produces data on stocks rather than flows. The stock concerned is that of international migrant foreigners in an irregular situation who apply for regularization and who, for the most part, meet the requirements set to legalize their status. Because those requirements usually involve the foreigner's proving that he or she has been present in the country for a certain minimum period (or since a certain date), the number regularized is normally not expected to equal that of all foreigners in an irregular situation. However, the number of foreigners applying for regularization is indicative of the total number of foreigners in an irregular situation unless there are reasons to believe that the terms for regularization may have dissuaded many migrants from applying or, conversely, that they may have attracted new migrants from abroad for the sole purpose of applying.

67. Most of the administrative sources discussed above produce data that are indicative of either inflows or outflows of particular groups of international migrants. Although none of the administrative sources reviewed is capable of producing information on all international migrants, the information they yield is nevertheless valuable and should not be discarded because it is partial. It is therefore important to provide a means of compiling and disseminating the various types of

data available in ways that make clear their meaning and coverage.

3. Border collection

68. Border collection involves the collection of information at ports of entry into and departure from a country, regardless of whether they are actually located at the border (they usually include airports and other sites at which persons formally enter or leave a national territory). Border collection has traditionally been considered a major source of information on international migration flows and has provided the data-collection model underlying the formulation of previous recommendations on international migration statistics. The collection of statistics at the border can be based on administrative or statistical criteria. According to the former, the status of persons arriving and departing is established on the basis of documentary evidence (passports, visas, residence permits and so forth). The use of statistical criteria requires instead the recording of information that cannot necessarily be inferred from documentary evidence and that is gathered through the use of standardized forms filled in by arriving and departing passengers. Statistics derived from border collection have the advantage of reflecting actual moves with a high degree of accuracy in terms of timing, mode of transport and place. However, the task of gathering information from all persons arriving and departing from a national territory is usually well beyond the means at the disposal of many countries, and errors in coverage of the overall number of arrivals or that of departures can result in very sizeable errors in the difference between the two which is a measure of net migration and usually several orders of magnitude smaller; this explains the importance of devising criteria that permit the identification of international migrants among the generality of travellers so that data-collection efforts can be better targeted. The 1976 recommendations on international migration statistics suggest that such identification should be made on the basis of a few questions posed to travellers regarding their intended stay in (or absence from) the country of arrival (or departure) and their previous presence in it. Implementation of the present recommendations requires that similar questions be posed.²

69. In practice, statistics derived from border collection rarely provide the best measures of international migration flows because of the difficulties involved in gathering reliable information from a large volume of people subject to different degrees of control depending on their citizenship, mode of transport and port of entry. If the statistical approach to the collection of information is implemented in such a way that there is minimal verification of the forms filled in by passengers, the reliability of the information gathered may be low. If, on the other hand, the information provided by passengers is corroborated by the authorities in charge of border control by comparison with other documentary evidence, the independence of the statistical information from administrative considerations may be compromised. In any case, it is unlikely that foreigners requested to report their intended length of stay would state that it is considerably longer than that allowed by the visa or residence permit that they hold.

70. To ensure that the data on international migrants gathered at the border is an adequate reflection of flows and conforms to the definitions set forth in box 1, the information gathered on persons arriving in a given country must permit verification of the fact that those considered to be immigrating persons must be usual residents of a country other than the one they enter. Similarly, in the case of persons leaving a country, those considered to be emigrating must satisfy the condition of being usual residents of the country of departure (in other words, of having lived in that country during the year preceding their departure).

71. A number of strategies have been used to reduce the data-collection load at the border. Some countries gather detailed information from only a representative sample of all arriving and departing passengers. The International Passenger Survey of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland provides an example of such an approach. Other countries gather information only regarding foreigners or only about foreigners admitted under certain types of visas. Still others focus only on citizens. Countries having long land borders usually have poor coverage or no coverage of movements across those borders and limit themselves to gathering information on arrivals and departures at airports and seaports. A common problem of

statistics derived from border collection is that they tend to be more complete regarding arrivals than departures, since greater control is exercised upon entry than upon exit.

72. According to the latest compilation of arrival and departure statistics reported by developing countries, 27 countries reported only global information on all arrivals and departures, whereas another 29 reported overall arrivals and departures as well as some information on long-term immigrants or emigrants (United Nations, 1991). These numbers indicate that statistics collected at the border are available for a substantial number of countries. However, the identification of international migrants is carried out only by about half of all the countries with such statistics. Furthermore, such identification is often based on criteria that differ markedly from those suggested by the 1976 recommendations. Purpose of stay, as inferred from the citizenship and type of visa or permit that foreigners seeking entry hold, is commonly used to classify the arrivals (and occasionally the departures) of foreigners into different categories, including that of international migrants.

73. A useful strategy for gathering statistics at the border involves using duplicate forms. Foreigners hand in one copy of the form to immigration authorities upon arrival and return the duplicate at the time of departure. Citizens fill out duplicate forms at the time of departure, submitting the first to immigration authorities as they leave the country and handing in the second when they return. Provided the second form is stamped with the date on which the first part was removed as well as the date on which the second form is handed in, an accurate assessment of actual length of stay or absence of the persons returning the forms can be obtained. Such information can be useful in distinguishing short-term from long-term migrants but it is crucial that it be complemented with information on the country of usual residence of the persons concerned. Otherwise, foreigners who have established their usual residence in the country but who travel abroad frequently may end up being counted several times as tourists or short-term migrants but might never be considered long-term immigrants.

74. In countries using duplicate forms, matching of the forms collected over a certain period (two years, for instance) permits the identification of persons that either stayed in the country or abroad for more than a year or failed to return the duplicate forms as required. An analysis of the characteristics of those persons can provide useful information on the functioning of the data-collection system, the likelihood that foreigners stay beyond the time limits allowed by their visas, and the extent of actual long-term immigration and emigra-

tion. However, interpretation of the results obtained will depend on the degree of success in matching the forms and on the extent to which duplicate forms are retrieved. Large numbers of mismatches combined with the failure of travellers to hand in the duplicate forms as required can result in overestimates of the levels of long-term immigration or emigration.

75. In sum, statistics gathered at the time of arrival or departure have the potential of yielding valuable information on international migration. However, their usefulness depends on the consistent implementation of procedures to determine if travellers qualify as international migrants according to the definitions presented in box 1. Because there is reason to believe that countries using border collection do not necessarily identify international migrants in a manner compatible with those definitions, there is a need to obtain information on the criteria underlying existing border statistics when they are compiled. One cannot simply assume that the numbers reported under the label "long-term immigrants" really reflect the number of persons changing country of usual residence for a period of at least 12 months. The type of time criterion, if any, used to identify international migrants must be clearly specified. In addition, if border statistics are classified by type of international migrant, the basis for such a classification must also be indicated.

4. Household-based field inquiries

76. Household-based field inquiries include censuses and household surveys of different types. In general, household-based field inquiries do not yield reliable statistics on international migration flows since, by their very nature, they cannot cover the movements of persons who have left the country by the time the inquiry is carried out. Nevertheless, some censuses have gathered information from all persons canvassed on place of residence one or five years before enumeration, thus obtaining the number of international migrants arriving over the period considered who remain in the country until the time of enumeration. Given the low levels of international migration registered by most countries, it is not recommended that sample surveys gather similar information because, unless the survey's sample is large, the results obtained are likely to be greatly affected by sampling variability.

77. Some censuses and surveys have also attempted to measure emigration by collecting information on household members who have left the country over a particular period. Even if perfect, such information will likely underestimate emigration levels because there will be no one to report on households that have migrated in their entirety. In addition, it is not certain that respondents interpret in a consistent manner the meaning of “household member”. Persons who have been gone for some time may no longer be considered household members. For those reasons, it is not recommended that such questions be used to estimate emigration via censuses or household surveys. Countries wishing to obtain a measure of emigration from those sources should instead use indirect estimation techniques to estimate the stock of lifetime emigrants. For a description of such techniques and their data requirements see Bilsborrow and others (1997).

C. CONCLUSION

78. The present review of the major sources of statistical information on international migration indicates that they are quite diverse and that, in many cases, their intrinsic logic is driven by administrative considerations closely related to the issue of control of international migration. Because such control is asymmetric, in the sense that citizens and foreigners are subject to different degrees of control, the data sources available very often treat those two groups differently. In certain cases, the differences are marked, as when some sources refer only to one group and not to the other. In other cases, the differences are more subtle and, although they may not be obvious at first sight, are likely nevertheless to affect the degree of coverage of the data gathered if only because the incentives and disincentives prompting compliance with recording rules are different for citizens and foreigners.

79. Another important conclusion is that data-collection systems, though slow in evolving, are nonetheless changing to reflect the growing complexity of the international movements of population. Certain key sources of an administrative nature hardly existed at the time the 1976 recommendations were being drafted. Thus, the development of statistics derived from the clearance

procedures to which contract workers are subject or those relative to asylum-seekers dates mostly from the late 1970s and the 1980s. Although the importance of short-term mobility for economic reasons was recognized by the 1976 recommendations, its importance has been increasing and is likely to expand further as the movement of natural persons covered by the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) is further liberalized among the State parties to the agreement.

80. This review also suggests that various data sources present different opportunities for the implementation of the definitions of long-term and short-term migrants presented in box 1. Such implementation hinges in understanding how a data source renders operational the concept of changing country of usual residence. In administrative registers, the act of registration or deregistration implies that a change of country of usual residence is taking place. In statistics derived from the issuance of residence permits, the act of obtaining a residence permit for the first time signals that the person involved is changing his or her country of usual residence. In labour-exporting countries, issuing a migration clearance for someone indicates that the person involved will work abroad and thus become an international migrant. To make sense of such varied information it is necessary to devise concrete mechanisms to improve its dissemination within a comparative framework that can make explicit the points of similarity and the discrepancies between the data produced by different sources.

81. Another key issue in the measurement of international migration is how to ascertain whether a migrant is changing country of residence over the long term or only over the short term. This distinction can be made only on the basis of information on duration of stay, which is usually obtained prospectively. The 1976 recommendations relied largely on intended duration of stay in the country of arrival or of absence from the country of departure to determine whether the change in the country of usual residence was over the long or the short term. When information is being gathered at the time of arrival or departure, only prospective information can be used. However, particularly in the case of arrivals of foreigners, declared intentions are not the only source of information. The period of validity of residence permits, work permits, visas

or any other document setting limits on duration of stay may also be used to indicate the likely duration of stay of individuals whose admission is controlled or regulated. In some cases, renting or buying a dwelling in the country of arrival may also be considered indicative of a long-term change of country of usual residence. There is also the possibility of avoiding the use of prospective information and trying to establish actual duration of stay once a year after arrival has elapsed. The use of duplicate arrival and departure forms in gathering statistics at the border or the follow-up of newly inscribed persons in a population register to ascertain how many remain registered during a full year has the potential of yielding information on actual duration of stay, provided that errors due to coverage problems are low.

82. Although strict comparability of the data will not be achieved if different indicators of duration of stay are used by different countries or by different data sources within a country, discrepancies are likely to be small if the same cut-off point is used by all sources. Thus, the number of foreigners intending to stay in a country for a year or more is likely to be fairly similar to the number granted residence permits allowing a stay of at least a year, but larger differences are almost sure to arise between either of those figures and the number of foreigners having the permission to stay for at least three months. Consequently, in cases where the cut-off point used by a data-collection system is other than one year and cannot be changed because of administrative reasons, the generation of adjusted data better conforming to the definitions presented in box 1 is recommended.

83. Chapter III will introduce a framework for the compilation of statistics on international population

movements that permits the information available to be so organized as to provide as comprehensive a picture as possible of the types and magnitudes of the different flows of international migrants that countries experience. Depending on the sources that produce a particular set of statistics, more detailed tabulations on specific groups of migrants may be possible. A description of recommended tabulations is presented in chapter IV.

NOTES

¹Residence permits are required from foreigners having the right to free establishment when the country concerned has no population register. In countries with population registers, foreigners with the right to free establishment are required to register when they have the intention of exercising such a right.

²A person arriving in country A would be asked:

1. In which countries have you been living during the past 12 months?
 - Country A [Go to 5]
 - Country B [Go to 5]
 - Two or more countries [Continue]
2. Where are you living now (up until this trip)? _____
3. Will you complete 12 months in [country mentioned in question 2]?
 - YES [Go to 5] NO

[Continue]

4. Which is the last country you have lived in for 12 months or longer? _____
5. How long do you plan to stay in country A?
 - Less than 3 months
 - 3 months or more but less than one year
 - One year or more

A similar set of questions would have to be posed to persons departing, except that the last one would inquire about the intended length of absence from the country of departure.

CHAPTER III

A FRAMEWORK FOR THE COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS

84. Given the general definition of long-term migrant and short-term migrant presented in chapter II and the review of data sources producing information on international migration, the next step is to consider how the general definition and the data yielded by those data sources can be integrated in practice. The key to the definition of international migrant is the process of changing country of usual residence. As in many other areas of statistics, the phenomenon of interest, in this case, the change of usual residence, is not directly observable, if for no other reason than that it is a dynamic process. Yet most countries have the means to recognize and record the movements of persons originating in other countries and intending to establish residence, exercise an economic activity or study in the country of destination. The means by which those movements are identified and recorded constitute the operationalization of the general definition of international migrant and as such can be considered equivalent to measurements of the actual change of usual residence. Thus, the act of being inscribed in the population register of a country other than one's own, of being granted a permit to reside in that country, of declaring to the immigration officer at the port of entry that one intends to stay in the country of arrival for at least a year, are all ways of making the concept of change of usual residence measurable. As discussed in chapter II, each data system uses a distinct way of determining that a change of usual residence has taken place but, unfortunately, most data sources fail to cover all the possible events of interest. Thus, some population registers require the registration only of persons who plan to stay in the country for at least a year and consequently miss all the movement of short-term migrants. Similarly, systems based on the issuance of residence permits cover the movements only of foreigners and cannot reflect the return of citizens after a lengthy stay abroad. In practice, therefore, it is often necessary to piece together the data produced by different data sources to obtain a

comprehensive picture of the full spectrum of international movements that qualify as international migration. The present chapter addresses the problem of how best to integrate the varied information available to create as comprehensive and transparent a picture as possible of human international mobility.

85. To do so, a framework for the reporting of statistical information relevant for the study of international migration is proposed. The framework builds upon the taxonomy of inflows and outflows of international travellers presented in chapter II and gives priority to the identification of internationally mobile individuals who satisfy the general definition of long-term and short-term international migrants presented in box 1. Given that no single source of data can produce all the information required to address the needs of users and that it is often necessary to use different data sources to obtain a comprehensive view of the international migration process, it is one of the goals of the framework to elicit the utilization of as many data sources as possible to provide information about various types of international migrants. By providing a standardized way of organizing the statistical information produced by different sources, the framework should allow the analyst to assess the meaning, comparability and likely quality of the data being presented.

86. The framework is maximal, in the sense that it includes all major categories of persons crossing international borders and, for all categories that may be relevant for the measurement of international migration, elicits the presentation of data classified by duration of stay (or absence), thus allowing the analyst to identify those persons who satisfy the definition of long-term migrant presented in box 1. To add maximum flexibility to the framework, and recognizing that different data sources determine duration of stay according to different approaches,

allowance is made for such variability by recording whichever data are available and noting the approach used in each case by employing a series of codes. Such a strategy increases the transparency of the data presented, facilitates their appropriate interpretation and use, and raises awareness about the causes of the lack of comparability of the data derived from different sources or referring to different countries. This is a necessary first step towards devising ways of improving comparability.

87. The framework consists of six tables for the reporting of data on various types of international population movements occurring over a year. The use of calendar or fiscal years is possible and depends on the practices followed by each country. The first table in the framework is used to compile information on non-migrant flows. The rest of the tables in the framework are used to compile data relevant for the measurement of international migration flows. The use of each of the tables of the framework will be discussed separately below. It is important for the user of these recommendations to read in full the description of **all** tables in the framework as well as the boxes accompanying those tables before the compilation of data is undertaken. In particular, many points made in the description of the use of table 3 are relevant for the use of the following tables in the framework and are not repeated for each case. In using the framework, it is important to bear in mind that it is conceived as an instrument for the compilation of statistics from different sources and that, consequently, its tables are not expected to be the result of standard tabulations. Furthermore, to fulfil its purpose, the framework must be used to present not only the statistics available but also their characterization through appropriate coding. Therefore, in considering the description below, special attention should be paid to the use and meaning of the codes proposed.

A. COMPILATION OF DATA ON NON-MIGRANT FLOWS

88. The first table (table 2) is devoted to all categories of internationally mobile persons who do not satisfy the general definition of international migrant, whether long-term or short-term, or who are

traditionally excluded from international migration statistics (see chap. II). As in the case of the taxonomy of inflows and outflows, the data are organized according to citizenship (foreigners distinguished from citizens), type of traveller and type of flow (inflows and outflows). Definitions of the different categories of travellers are presented in box 3. The meaning of most categories is straightforward except perhaps for the categories referring to “visitors”. In general, visitors are persons travelling from one country to another over short periods for purposes of leisure, recreation, holidays; visits to friends or relatives; business or professional activities; health treatment; or religious pilgrimages. Visitors can be recorded upon their departure from their country of residence or upon their arrival in the country of destination. In most cases, visitors are citizens of their country of residence who travel abroad for a short time. Category 3 refers to those visitors, that is to say, persons who are foreigners in the country being visited (the country of destination) and who are citizens of the country of departure. It may be, however, that travellers qualifying as “visitors” are foreigners in the country of departure and citizens of the country of destination. That happens when the persons concerned have established residence in a country other than their own and then travel to their country for a short visit. Category 4 refers to such persons. According to the recommendations on tourism statistics (United Nations and World Tourism Organization, 1994), all arriving visitors (in other words, members of category 3 for foreigners and members of category 4 for citizens) should be reported together and, similarly, all departing visitors (members of category 3 for citizens and members of category 4 for foreigners). The framework presents them separately to ensure that they are appropriately covered but, if the data available do not make the necessary differentiation, the inflows of all visitors from abroad to the country may be reported in category 3 for foreigners and the outflows of all visitors from the country to the rest of the world (abroad) can be reported in category 3 for citizens, and the code *IC3* should be inserted in category 4 to indicate that the appropriate elements of category 4 have been included in category 3.

B. COMPILATION OF INFORMATION ON THE INFLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT FOREIGNERS

89. Table 3 (the second in the framework) permits the organization of data referring to the inflows of international migrant foreigners. In comparison to other tables of the framework, it incorporates the greatest degree of detail regarding the classification of migrant categories. Such detail is both a reflection of

Box 3. Definitions of the categories of inflows and outflows of non-migrants in table 2

A. Foreigners

1. *Foreign border workers*: Foreigners granted the permission to be employed on a continuous basis in the receiving country provided they depart at regular and short intervals (daily or weekly) from that country.
2. *Foreigners in transit*: Persons who arrive in the receiving country but do not enter it formally because they are on their way to another destination.
3. *Visitors (from abroad to the country)*: Foreigners admitted for short stays for purposes of leisure, recreation, holidays; visits to friends or relatives; business or professional activities not remunerated from within the receiving country; health treatment; or religious pilgrimages. It is recommended that a distinction be made between:
 - (a) *Foreign tourists*: Foreigners admitted under tourist visas (if required) for purposes of leisure, holiday, recreation, visits to friends or relatives, medical treatment or religious pilgrimages. Their length of stay is restricted and must be shorter than 12 months;
 - (b) *Foreign excursionists (same-day visitors)*: Foreigners visiting for a day without spending the night in a collective or private accommodation within the country visited. This category includes cruise passengers who arrive in a country on a cruise ship and return to the ship each night to sleep on board. Also included are crew members who do not spend the night in the country;
 - (c) *Foreign business travellers*: Foreign persons on short visits related to business or professional activities not remunerated from within the country of arrival, whose length of stay is restricted and cannot surpass 12 months.
4. *Visitors (from country to abroad)*: Foreigners whose place of usual residence is the country from which they depart and who intend to remain abroad less than 12 months for leisure, recreation, holidays; visits to friends or relatives; business or professional activities; medical treatment; or religious pilgrimages.
5. *Foreign diplomatic and consular personnel*: Foreigners admitted under diplomatic visas or permits allowing them to work for foreign embassies or consulates. It is recommended that a distinction be made between:
 - (a) *Diplomats and consular personnel*: Foreigners working under diplomatic permits for foreign embassies or consulates in the country;
 - (b) *Dependants and domestic employees*: The immediate relatives and domestic employees of diplomatic and consular personnel.

6. *Foreign military personnel*: Foreign military servicemen, officials and advisers stationed in the country, including the dependants and domestic employees allowed to accompany them. It is recommended that a distinction be made between:
 - (a) *Military personnel proper*;
 - (b) *Dependants and domestic employees*.
7. *Nomads*: Persons with no fixed place of usual residence who move from one site to another, usually according to well-established patterns of geographical mobility. They are to be counted only when they cross current international boundaries.

Box 3 (continued)

B. Citizens

1. *Border workers*: Citizens commuting between their own country and their place of employment abroad.
2. *Citizens in transit*: Persons who arrive in their own country but do not enter it formally because they are on their way to another destination.
3. *Visitors (from country to abroad)*: Citizens travelling for short periods of stay abroad for purposes of leisure, recreation, holidays; visits to friends or relatives; business or professional activities not remunerated from within the country of destination; medical treatment; or religious pilgrimages. If possible, it is recommended that a distinction be made between:
 - (a) *Tourists*: Citizens spending at least one night abroad for purposes of leisure, holiday, recreation, visits to friends or relatives, medical treatment or religious pilgrimages. Their length of stay abroad must be shorter than 12 months;
 - (b) *Excursionists (same-day visitors)*: Citizens visiting another country for only a day without spending the night in a collective or private accommodation within the country visited;
 - (c) *Business travellers*: Citizens on short visits abroad for business or professional activities not remunerated from within the country of destination, whose length of stay abroad does not surpass 12 months.
4. *Visitors (from abroad to country)*: Citizens whose place of usual residence is outside their country of citizenship who visit the latter for leisure, recreation, holidays; visits to friends or relatives; business or professional activities; medical treatment; or religious pilgrimages, but stay less than 12 months.
5. *Diplomatic and consular personnel*: Citizens in the diplomatic service returning to their country after a posting abroad or departing for a posting abroad. It is recommended that a distinction be made between:
 - (a) *Diplomats and consular personnel*;
 - (b) *Dependants and domestic employees*: The immediate relatives and domestic employees of diplomatic and consular personnel who accompany or will accompany those persons during their posting abroad.

6. *Military personnel*: National military servicemen, officials and advisers returning from being stationed abroad or on their way to a new posting. Their accompanying dependants and domestic employees are included in this category; however, it is recommended that a distinction be made between:
 - (a) *Military personnel proper*;
 - (b) *Dependants and domestic employees*.
7. *Nomads*: Persons with no fixed place of usual residence who move from one site to another, usually according to well-established patterns of geographical mobility. They are to be counted only when they cross current international boundaries.

TABLE 2. FRAMEWORK FOR THE COMPILATION OF DATA ON NON-MIGRANT FLOWS OF FOREIGNERS AND CITIZENS

Country: _____

Year: _____

Inflows and outflows of non-migrants

<i>Foreigners</i>	<i>Inflows</i>	<i>Outflows</i>	<i>Citizens</i>	<i>Outflows</i>	<i>Inflows</i>
1. Border workers			1. Border workers		
2. Foreigners in transit			2. Persons in transit		
3. Visitors (from abroad to country)			3. Visitors (from country to abroad)		
(a) Tourists (overnight visitors)			(a) Tourists (overnight visitors)		
(b) Excursionists (same-day visitors)			(b) Excursionists (same-day visitors)		
(c) Business travellers			(c) Business travellers		
4. Visitors (from country to abroad)			4. Visitors (from abroad to country)		
5. Diplomatic personnel			5. Diplomatic personnel		
(a) Diplomats and consular personnel			(a) Diplomats and consular personnel		
(b) Dependants and domestic employees			(b) Dependants and domestic employees		
6. Military personnel			6. Military personnel		
(a) Military personnel proper			(a) Military personnel proper		
(b) Dependants and domestic employees			(b) Dependants and domestic employees		
7. Nomads			7. Nomads		

NOTE: Use the following codes as appropriate:

- NA Not available
- NP Not applicable
- DNS Data on dependants and domestic employees not available separately
- DNA No dependants or domestic employees admitted
- IC3 Category 4 included in category 3

State practices in regulating and measuring the international mobility of foreigners, and a response to the need for statistics on specific types of international migrants. Note that in all cases, international migrant foreigners are to be classified according to the reason for their admission as established by the receiving State. The intentions, desires or expectations of the migrant foreigner involved should **not** be the basis for classification. Thus, if a person seeking asylum is not allowed to file an application for asylum because his or her country of origin is considered "safe", that person should not be regarded officially as an asylum-seeker and should not be included in the number of asylum-seekers reported.¹ Similarly, if an economically active person is admitted because of his or her close family ties to a resident, that person should be counted as a migrant for family reunification irrespective of whether he or she intends to work in the receiving State.

90. Box 4 presents definitions for each of the categories and subcategories identified separately in table 3. Note that categories are identified by numbers and subcategories by letters. In most instances in which a major category is divided into subcategories, it is expected that the data available will refer to the subcategories

rather than to the major category. Thus, it is not expected that the totality of foreigners admitted for employment will be reported, but rather that foreign migrant workers will be reported separately from international civil servants. The same is expected in regard to foreigners admitted for education and training: students are likely to be reported separately from trainees. In the case of foreigners admitted for settlement, however, both a total number of "settlers" and some of the subcategories identified under that major category may be reported. It is also possible that the total number of settlers reported will differ from the sum of the numbers reported under each subcategory. For instance, if a country admits certain foreigners as settlers and also allows the "return" of the descendants of former emigrants as "ancestry-based immigrants", the figures corresponding to each of those groups may be reported separately (perhaps because data on settlers are recorded by one agency and those on ancestry-based immigrants by another, or perhaps because the ancestry-based immigrants are considered to be more akin to returning citizens than to foreign settlers). Be that as it may, if the data on settlers are reported in category 5 and those on ancestry-based immigrants in 5 (c), the data on settlers will not be

equivalent to the sum of the data for categories 5 (a) to 5 (e). In fact, the data on settlers will be completely independent from those on ancestry-based immigrants, in the sense that they cover disjoint sets of persons. That trait should be made explicit in the table by recording the code *I* (meaning "independent from other categories or subcategories") in the last column of table 3 for category 5 (c) (ancestry-based) and code *E(5 (c))* for category 5, thus indicating that the number of migrants for settlements excludes those that are ancestry-based.

91. Ideally, except for the global category of "international migrant foreigners without distinction by reason for admission" and category 5 which may equal the sum of subcategories 5 (a) to 5 (e), the other categories and subcategories for which data can be reported in table 3 are supposed to be mutually exclusive. Indeed, since the different categories are based on the State's main reason for admitting a foreigner, in most cases that reason will be unique. Thus, if the classification depends on the type of residence permit granted to a foreign person, the fact that a person has one and only one residence permit at a time would ensure the lack of overlap between categories. Problems of overlap may arise, however, when different data sources are used to obtain

information on the various categories and subcategories. If, for instance, persons admitted as students are allowed to work and are therefore granted both a student visa and a work permit, data on the number of visas issued by type would allocate those persons to the category of "students" (1 (a)) whereas data on the number of work permits would likely allocate them to the category of "migrant workers" (2 (a)). In such a case, the data derived from each source should be presented in table 3 accompanied by the following codes: 0(2 (a)) in the case of data on "students" and 0(1 (a)) in the case of "migrant workers", where the codes indicate that the category of students overlaps with that of migrant workers and vice versa.

92. Because of problems of overlap or double counting, it is not suggested that a total number of international migrant foreigners necessarily be reported. However, if overlap can be avoided among the different categories and subcategories for which data are available, the sum of the appropriate entries in each column can be presented on the first line of table 3 under the category labelled "international migrant foreigners without distinction by reason for admission"

**Box 4. Definitions of the categories of inflows, status changes and outflows
of international migrant foreigners included in tables 3, 4 and 5**

1. *Foreigners admitted for education or training:*
 - (a) *Foreign students:* Persons admitted by a country other than their own for the specific purpose of following a particular programme of study in an accredited institution of the receiving country. Foreign students may be allowed to work under certain conditions;
 - (b) *Foreign trainees:* Persons admitted by a country other than their own to acquire particular skills through on-the-job training. Foreign trainees are therefore allowed to work only in the specific institution or establishment providing the training and their length of stay is usually restricted.
2. *Foreigners admitted for employment:*
 - (a) *Migrant workers:* Persons admitted by a country other than their own for the explicit purpose of exercising an economic activity remunerated from within the receiving country. Some countries distinguish several categories of migrants workers, including: (i) seasonal migrant workers; (ii) contract workers; (iii) project-tied workers; and (iv) temporary migrant workers. All these subcategories or any others that may exist should be added up and reported under “migrant workers”, making the appropriate distinctions with regard to duration of stay;
 - (b) *International civil servants:* Foreigners working for international organizations located in the country of arrival. Their dependants and domestic employees are generally admitted in conjunction with the principal migrants and should be reported in different subcategories as indicated in tables 3 to 5.
3. *Migrants for family reunification or family formation:* Foreigners admitted because they are immediate relatives or the fiancé(e)s of citizens or other foreigners already residing in the receiving country. Foreign children adopted by citizens or foreign residents and allowed to enter the country are also included in this category. The definition of immediate relatives varies from one case to another, but it usually includes the spouse and minor children of a person.
4. *Migrants having the right to free establishment or movement:* Foreigners who have the right to enter, stay and work within the territory of a State other than their own by virtue of an agreement or treaty concluded between their State of citizenship and the State they enter.
5. *Migrants for settlement:* Foreigners granted the permission to stay for a lengthy or unlimited period, who are subject to virtually no limitations regarding the exercise of an economic activity. Some countries grant settlement rights to foreigners on the basis of certain criteria identified below. If at all possible, the number of foreigners admitted for settlement in the following categories should be reported separately:
 - (a) *Employment-based:* Foreigners selected for long-term settlement because of their qualifications and prospects in the receiving country's labour market. However, they are not admitted expressly to exercise a particular economic activity;
 - (b) *Family-based:* Foreigners selected for long-term settlement because of the family ties they have with citizens or foreigners already residing in the receiving country;
 - (c) *Ancestry-based:* Foreigners admitted by a country other than their own because of their historical, ethnic or other ties with that country, who, by virtue of those ties, are immediately granted the right

Box 4 (continued)

of long-term residence in that country or who, having the right to citizenship in that country, become citizens within a short period after admission;

- (d) *Entrepreneurs and investors*: Foreigners granted the right to long-term settlement in a country on condition that they invest a minimum sum of money or create new productive activities in the receiving country;
- (e) *Foreign retirees*: Persons beyond retirement age who are granted the right to stay over a long period or indefinitely in the territory of a State other than their own provided that they have sufficient independent income and do not become a charge to that State.

6. *Foreigners admitted for humanitarian reasons*:

- (a) *Refugees*: This category should include only those foreign persons who are granted refugee status either before arrival or upon arrival in the receiving country. Refugee status can be granted on the basis of the 1951 Convention^a and the 1967 Protocol^b relating to the Status of Refugees or pertinent regional instruments;
- (b) *Asylum-seekers*: Persons who file an application for asylum in a country other than their own. They remain in the status of asylum-seeker until their application is considered and adjudicated. The date on which the application for asylum is filed marks their entry into the status of asylum-seeker;
- (c) *Foreigners granted temporary protected status*: Foreigners who are allowed to stay for a temporary though possibly indefinite period because their life would be in danger if they were to return to their country (or countries) of citizenship;
- (d) *Persons admitted for other humanitarian reasons*: Foreigners who are not granted full refugee status but are nevertheless admitted for humanitarian reasons because they find themselves in refugee-like situations. This category covers any humanitarian admissions that cannot be accommodated in previous categories.

7. *Foreigners whose status is regularized*: Foreigners whose entry or stay has not been sanctioned by the receiving State or who have violated the terms of their admission but who are nevertheless allowed to regularize their status. Although most persons regularizing their status have already been present in the receiving country for some time, their regularization may be taken to represent the time of their official admission as migrants.

Dependants: When the subcategory of dependants is listed separately in tables 3 to 5, it is expected that the entries for the main category of migrants will include only principal applicants, that is to say, the foreign persons who actually satisfy the conditions imposed by the receiving State for admission in a given category. If their dependants are allowed to accompany them at the time of migration, the number of dependants should be reported separately. In cases where the subcategory of dependants is not listed separately, those admitted, if any, should be reported together with principal applicants in the appropriate migrant category. Dependants joining migrants after the latter have moved to the country of destination should be reported in category (3) under “Family reunification and formation”.

^aUnited Nations Treaty Series, vol. 189, No. 2545.

^bIbid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

Table 3 (continued)

International migrant foreigners, by reason for admission	Inflows by duration of stay in country					Type of data		
	At least three months but less than one year	One year or more but limited	Unlimited	Uncertain or unknown	Total inflows	Source ^a	Duration indicator ^b	Code ^c
(b) Asylum-seekers								
(c) Persons granted temporary protection								
(d) Others admitted for humanitarian reasons								
7. Regularization of status								

^aCodes to indicate source of data:

1. Administrative register
 - (a) Population register
 - (b) Register of foreigners
 - (c) Register of asylum-seekers
 - (d) Other, specify: _____
2. Other administrative sources
 - (a) Residence permits
 - (b) Work permits
 - (c) Applications for asylum
 - (d) Exit permits
 - (e) Clearance of migrant workers
 - (f) Other, specify: _____
3. Border collection
4. Household-based field inquiries:
 - (a) Census
 - (b) Household surveys
 - (c) Other, specify: _____
5. Other source, specify: _____

^bCodes for duration indicator:

1. Intended duration of stay declared by migrant
2. Length of validity of visa or permit
3. Actual duration of stay
4. Renting or buying a dwelling
5. Establishing residence
6. For short-term migrants, duration between ___ months and ___ months
7. Other, specify: _____
8. Other, specify: _____

^cCode for data availability:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| NA | Not available |
| NP | Not applicable |
| DI | Dependants included with principal migrants |
| DNS | Data on dependants not available |
| DNA | No dependants admitted |
| EI | Domestic employees included with: __ principal migrants __ dependants |
| ENS | Data on domestic employees not available at all |
| ENA | Domestic employees not allowed to accompany principal migrants |
| S(...) | Sum of categories or subcategories indicated in parentheses |
| I | Independent from other categories or subcategories |
| O(...) | Overlap with the categories or subcategories indicated in parentheses |
| E(...) | Excluding the categories or subcategories indicated in parentheses |

TABLE 4 (continued)

		Changes of status by future duration of stay					Type of data		
		At least three months but less than one year	One year or more but limited	Unlimited	Uncertain or unknown	Total changes of status	Source ^a	Duration indicator ^b	Code ^c
<i>International migrant foreigners changing status, according to new status</i>		<i>Previous status</i>							
4. Free establishment		<i>Long-</i>							
		<i>Other</i>							
	Dependants	<i>Long-</i>							
		<i>Other</i>							
5. Settlement		<i>Long-</i>							
		<i>Other</i>							
	Dependants	<i>Long-</i>							
		<i>Other</i>							
(a) Employment-based		<i>Long-</i>							
		<i>Other</i>							
	Dependants	<i>Long-</i>							
		<i>Other</i>							

TABLE 4 (continued)

^aCodes to indicate source of data:

1. Administrative register
 - (a) Population register
 - (b) Register of foreigners
 - (c) Register of asylum-seekers
 - (d) Other, specify: _____
2. Other administrative sources
 - (a) Residence permits
 - (b) Work permits
 - (c) Applications for asylum
 - (d) Exit permits
 - (e) Clearance of migrant workers
 - (f) Other, specify: _____
3. Border collection
4. Household-based field inquiries:
 - (a) Census
 - (b) Household surveys
 - (c) Other, specify: _____
5. Other source, specify: _____

^bCodes for duration indicator:

1. Intended duration of stay declared by migrant
2. Length of validity of visa or permit
3. Actual duration of stay
4. Renting or buying a dwelling
5. Establishing residence
6. For short-term migrants the duration is between ___ months and ___ months
7. Other, specify: _____
8. Other, specify: _____

^cCode for data availability:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| NA | Not available |
| NP | Not applicable |
| DI | Dependants included with principal migrants |
| DNS | Data on dependants not available |
| DNA | No dependants admitted |
| EI | Domestic employees included with: ___ principal migrants ___ dependants |
| ENS | Data on domestic employees not available at all |
| ENA | Domestic employees not allowed to accompany principal migrants |
| S(...) | Sum of categories or subcategories indicated in parentheses |
| I | Independent from other categories or subcategories |
| O(...) | Overlap with the categories or subcategories indicated in parentheses |
| E(...) | Excluding the categories or subcategories indicated in parentheses |

TABLE 5. FRAMEWORK FOR THE COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON OUTFLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT FOREIGNERS

Country: _____

Ye **Outflows of international migrant foreigners**

<i>International migrant foreigners departing, by current status</i>	<i>Number of persons leaving</i>	<i>Source of data^a</i>	<i>Duration indicator^b</i>	<i>Data code^c</i>
International migrant foreigners departing, without distinction by current status				
1. Education and training				
(a) Students				
Dependants				
(b) Trainees				
Dependants				
2. Employment				
(a) Migrant workers				
Dependants				
(b) International civil servants				
Dependants				
Domestic employees				
3. Free establishment				
Dependants				
4. Settlement				
Dependants				
5. Humanitarian				
(a) Refugees				
Dependants				
(b) Asylum-seekers				

TABLE 5 (continued)

<i>International migrant foreigners departing, by current status</i>	<i>Number of persons leaving</i>	<i>Source of data^a</i>	<i>Duration indicator^b</i>	<i>Data code^c</i>
(c) Persons granted temporary protection				
(d) Others admitted for humanitarian reasons				
6. Deported foreigners				

TABLE 5 (continued)

^aCodes to indicate source of data:

1. Administrative register
 - (a) Population register
 - (b) Register of foreigners
 - (c) Register of asylum-seekers
 - (d) Other, specify: _____
2. Other administrative sources
 - (a) Residence permits
 - (b) Work permits
 - (c) Applications for asylum
 - (d) Exit permits
 - (e) Clearance of migrant workers
 - (f) Other, specify: _____
3. Border collection
4. Household-based field inquiries:
 - (a) Census
 - (b) Household surveys
 - (c) Other, specify: _____
5. Other source, specify: _____

^bCodes for duration indicator:

1. Migrant declaring intended duration of stay abroad of a year or more
2. Expiration of visa or permit
3. Actual duration of absence of a year or more
4. Termination of contract
5. Giving up residence in the country
6. Other, specify: _____
7. Other, specify: _____

^cCode for data availability:

NA	Not available	
NP	Not applicable	
DI	Dependants included with principal migrants	
DNS	Data on dependants not available	
DNA	No dependants admitted	
EI	Domestic employees included with: __ principal migrants __ dependants	
ENS	Data on domestic employees not available at all	
ENA	Domestic employees not allowed to accompany principal migrants	
S(...)		Sum of categories or
subcategories indicated in parentheses		
I	Independent from other categories or subcategories	
O(...)		Overlap with the categories or
subcategories indicated in parentheses		
E(...)		Excluding the categories or
subcategories indicated in parentheses		

and the code *S(...)* for sum should be recorded in the last column of that line, indicating in parentheses the numbers of all those categories or subcategories that have been added to obtain the overall number of international migrants.

93. In some countries, a data source producing information on the overall number of international migrant foreigners exists and therefore the data it yields could also be reported under the category “international migrant foreigners without distinction by reason for admission”. The reporting of such data should be given priority over the possibility of presenting the sum of other entries in cases in which the different categories or subcategories listed are indeed disjoint. Furthermore, the data relative to “all migrant foreigners without distinction by reason for admission” available directly from a single source should definitely be reported in cases where there is overlap between certain subcategories since, otherwise, there would be no other means of obtaining an overall number of migrant foreigners. In both cases, the data on the overall number of migrant foreigners recorded in the first line of table 3 should be accompanied by a code *E(...)*, indicating within the parentheses which categories of migrant foreigners are excluded from the data on overall migration that are being reported. For instance, the overall number of migrant foreigners may be obtained from a population register, but that number may exclude the number of asylum-seekers or the number of persons granted temporary protection, numbers that are normally recorded by the agency in charge of asylum matters. In that case, the code to be inscribed on the first line, last column, of table 3 should be *E(6 (b), 6 (c))*, indicating that the total number of migrant foreigners reported excludes asylum-seekers and persons granted temporary protection.

94. Ideally, the agencies generating the basic data or those in charge of compiling them should make the necessary adjustments to the information available in order to ensure that the data reported in the different categories and subcategories of table 3 have no or minimal overlap, except in the cases discussed above. Given the variety and complexity of the potential sources of data on international migration, it is not possible to provide here general guidelines on procedures to avoid overlaps or on those procedures needed to adjust the data so as to minimize if not eliminate such overlaps. Local expertise must be

brought to bear to improve the quality of existing data in this respect. However, even if adjustments are not feasible, the data should be reported in table 3 with appropriate codes entered in the column labelled “codes”, indicating the problems that may affect them. In addition, if for any reason the codes already provided for use in table 3 or in any other table of the framework do not cover all the possibilities that may arise in practice, explicit annotations regarding problems affecting the data reported should be made in the “codes” column and expanded at the bottom of that table. Lastly, it should be noted that several codes may be necessary to characterize a single data entry. They should all be recorded in the “codes” column of the framework table being used or, in some cases, in the cell where the data entry would have been made (as in the case of codes indicating that a certain type of data is not available or does not apply).

95. In order to identify long-term and short-term migrants, table 3 is designed to capture also in some detail information on the duration of stay of the foreigners involved. Four distinct categories of duration of stay are distinguished: (a) at least three months but less than a year; (b) a year or more, but a limited duration; (c) an unlimited duration; and (d) an uncertain or unknown duration. Those four categories are the minimum necessary to reflect the richness and variability of the data gathered by different sources. Note that no single approach to the determination of duration of stay is proposed. Instead, table 3 makes allowance for the use of different methods to establish duration of stay but requires that the approach used be recorded for each data entry made. Such a strategy adds flexibility and transparency to the framework and facilitates the further analysis of the data. It also makes patent the differences in approach existing between the various data sources as well as between the data relative to different countries.

96. Given the importance of duration of stay in identifying short-term and long-term international migrants, it is worth discussing the various approaches distinguished in footnote (b) to table 3. The first coincides with that suggested by the 1976 recommendations, namely, obtaining from the prospective migrant him- or herself information about his or her intended duration of stay in the receiving country. Since the crucial cut-off point is one year, the question posed to the migrant should be of the type “Are you intending to stay in this country a year or more?” Such

a question would produce only two or at most three categories of respondents: those intending to stay less than a year; those whose intentions are to stay a year or longer; and those who may not answer or may not know. The numbers in the last two categories should be reported, respectively, under the column headings: “a year or more but limited” and “uncertain or unknown”. In the case of persons intending to stay less than a year, it will be necessary to ascertain whether the intended length of stay is longer than three months and, if so, whether the person meets the other criteria set up in the definition of short-term migrant (see box 1). The total number of persons satisfying the necessary criteria should be reported in the column labelled “at least three months but less than one year” in table 3.

97. When migrant foreigners are not explicitly asked how long they intend to stay but their duration of stay is inferred instead from the type of visa or permit that they hold upon arrival, it is possible to distinguish those who are allowed only a limited duration of stay from those granted the permission to stay for an unlimited period. It is also possible to identify those migrant foreigners who are granted the permission to stay for a limited period with unknown or uncertain duration (for example, asylum-seekers). Thus, when expected duration of stay is established on a *de jure* basis, the data can be classified according to the four categories presented explicitly in the headings of table 3.

98. In reviewing the different potential sources of information on inflows of international migrants (see chap. II), it was noted that certain sources have the potential of producing data classified according to actual duration of stay (for example, population registers or data gathered using duplicate forms at the time of border collection). Estimation of the actual duration of stay of migrant foreigners allows a better identification of those that should be considered long-term migrants and may be necessary to improve the comparability of the data gathered by certain data-collection systems. Because the key cut-off point is one year, data on actual duration of stay allowing the identification of persons staying at least one year would have to be produced with a lag of about a year

and a half. Data on actual duration of stay would be reported under the categories of “at least three months but less than one year” and “one year or more but limited”, since the other two categories would not be necessary.²

99. The other possibilities for establishing duration of stay listed in footnote (b) of table 3, namely, “renting or buying a dwelling” or “establishing residence”, are included for the sake of completeness and refer to criteria used in certain data-collection systems (for example, population registers and border collection) to establish that the intention of the migrant foreigner is to stay for a lengthy period. They are generally **not** the recommended approaches to establish duration of stay, but when they are used, they should be appropriately recorded in the column labelled “duration indicator” of table 3 and the data they yield, which will not normally permit a distinction to be made between short-term and long-term migrants, should be reported under the column labelled “total inflows”. If other approaches or criteria to establish duration of stay that are not listed explicitly in table 3 are used, they should be recorded in the user-specified codes at the bottom of the table and inserted as appropriate under the column labelled “duration indicator”. Note that if a source gathers information on all foreigners intending to stay in the country six months or more, for instance, and does not differentiate between those likely to stay a year or more and the rest, the total figure should be reported under the column labelled “total inflows” and the criterion used should be specified under code 7 by writing “duration of stay of six months or more” at the bottom of the table and then entering 7 in the column labelled “duration indicator”. The user-specified codes at the bottom of the table should also be used when data exist on persons who qualify as short-term migrants but the data refer to a duration of stay that does not exactly match the criterion used in the definition presented in box 1. Thus, in the example just cited, even if foreigners staying a year or more could be differentiated from those staying between six months and a year, the latter would not include all short-term migrants because the cut-off point for duration of stay is six rather than three months. In such a case, the number of foreigners staying between 6 and 12 months should be recorded under the column labelled “at least three months but less than a year”

and code 6 should be used, the blanks therein being filled in as follows: “for short-term migrants the duration is between 6 months and 12 months”.

100. In filling out table 3 by using data derived from different sources, it is important to ensure that the source of each number reported is recorded under the appropriate column (labelled “source”) using the codes presented in footnote (a) of the table. The codes provided refer to the major sources of international migration statistics. If the source employed is different from those listed, it should be specified by the user in the appropriate entry among the “codes to indicate source of data” at the bottom of the table and the corresponding code should be inserted in the column labelled “source”.

101. Application of the definitions presented in box 4 should be straightforward in most cases. As indicated in that box, whenever possible the number of dependants admitted in conjunction with migrant foreigners belonging to specific categories should be presented separately. Code *DNA* (“no dependants admitted”) should be used to indicate that no dependants at all are admitted by the receiving State (in other words, the receiving State has no provision allowing the admission of the dependants of migrants in a particular category). Code *DI* should be used when the data on dependants are reported together with those on principal migrants; and code *DNS* should be used when the data on dependants are not available so that they are neither included in the data on principal migrants nor reported separately (see footnote (c) to table 3). Note that the difference between codes *DNA* and *DNS* is that *DNA* implies that the category of dependants does not apply in a given case because no migrants qualifying as dependants are admitted, whereas *DNS* implies that although migrants considered to be dependants are admitted, the data relative to them are not available. Similar codes are used to indicate the various possibilities regarding the availability of data on the domestic employees of international civil servants who, if at all possible, should be reported separately from the dependants of the latter. Thus, code *ENA* implies that domestic employees are not admitted by the receiving State and the category does not apply, whereas code *ENS* indicates that even though domestic employees of international civil

servants are admitted, data on them are not available. Another contingency may be that the data on domestic employees are reported together with either the data on dependants of international civil servants or those on the international civil servants themselves or that only one figure is produced covering all three categories. The code *EI* should be used to indicate which contingency applies, the category or categories that include the data on domestic employees being marked with an “X” in footnote (c). In the case of foreigners admitted for settlement, as already noted, the total number (whether or not it incorporates all possible subcategories) should be recorded in category 5. If data are reported separately only for a subset of the subcategories listed, those data should be included even if they do not add up to the total number of foreigners admitted for settlement. In some countries, data may be available and applicable for only one or two subcategories of migrant foreigners admitted for settlement (ancestry-based admissions and retirees, for instance) and no overall number of persons admitted for settlement may be reported or applicable. Use of the appropriate codes to indicate the availability of data for each subcategory or its particular characteristics in each situation will facilitate the interpretation of the data reported.

102. In using table 3 of the framework for the compilation of international migration statistics produced by any given country, it is likely that certain cells will remain empty, either because the data are not available (there is no data source producing information on migrants admitted for family reunification, for instance, although some such migrants may nevertheless be admitted every year) or because a country does not admit certain categories of foreigners and the category is therefore not applicable (there cannot be any migrant foreigners with the right to free establishment, for instance, because the country has no such agreement with other countries). Using the codes for data availability presented in footnote (c) to table 3, a distinction should be made between these two contingencies. If no data are available for a given category, the code *NA* should be inserted in the column labelled “code”. If the category is not applicable, the code *NP* should be used instead. Such codes can also be recorded in the cell where the data would have been recorded if it had been available.

C. COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON CHANGES OF STATUS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT FOREIGNERS

103. In most countries, foreigners admitted under certain categories of either migrants or travellers can change their status, provided certain conditions are met. In addition, in some countries migrants in an irregular situation have on occasion been granted the opportunity to regularize their status. For the purpose of measuring the flows of long-term migrant foreigners, both changes of status and regularizations must be taken into account. The relevant changes of status are those that transform a short-term migrant foreigner, a foreigner admitted in one of the non-migrant categories (see box 3 and table 2) or a foreigner who entered the country clandestinely into a long-term migrant foreigner.

104. Ideally all foreigners changing status or having their status regularized should be classified by year of arrival so that the number of persons making the transition from a short-term, non-migrant or clandestine status to a long-term one may be added to the number of long-term migrants recorded in previous years. In practice, however, adjustment is likely to focus mostly on the year or two preceding the time in which a particular group of foreigners undergo a change of status. Given that, with the exception of regularizations, the changes of interest are those that permit a foreigner to extend his or her allowed duration of stay from the few months granted initially to at least a year, the appropriate adjustment can be made by following for a full year the cohort of foreigners who arrive in the country as either non-migrants or short-term migrants during a given year. Hence, in order to take account of changes of status so as to adjust the number of arrivals of long-term migrant foreigners recorded during year t , it is necessary to consider all those foreigners arriving during year t whose initial expectation was to stay less than a year and to determine which of them change their status during year t or year $t+1$ so as to remain in the country for at least a year.

105. Table 4 is designed to capture in summary form the changes of status occurring to the relevant cohort of non-migrant and short-term migrant foreigners. Note that the period to which the table refers should span the year of entry of the cohort considered plus the following year. Such a period should be reported in the appropriate entry at the top of the table. The

migrant categories included in table 4 are the same as those included in table 3 and they represent the categories into which foreigners changing their status move. Thus, a foreigner admitted as a tourist (in other words, in a non-migrant status) may marry a citizen and be admitted as a migrant for family reunification or formation (category 3). Because tourists are normally granted permission to stay for short periods (three to six months at most), persons changing from tourist to family reunification status should be reported under category 3 in the line labelled "other" since their previous status was not "long-term". In contrast, if a person admitted as a student under a yearly residence permit marries a citizen and is granted a residence permit of unlimited duration on family reunification or family formation grounds, that person should be included among those recorded in the line labelled "long-term" of category 3. Although both persons have, strictly speaking, experienced a change of status, only those whose previous duration of stay was less than a year and are reported in the "other" subcategory of table 4 are needed to adjust the number of long-term migrants enumerated within the same category in year t (that is to say, the first year of the period considered). Note that the purpose of reporting changes of status in table 4 is to enable the analyst to make the necessary adjustments to the data reported for the previous year. It is not expected, therefore, that such adjustments will necessarily be made at the time the data are compiled for presentation in table 3 of the framework. However, in cases where adjustment for changes of status is carried out before the data are released, such a practice should be recorded in table 3 to ensure that no further correction is carried out.

106. Note that in the examples cited in the previous paragraph, the "previous duration of stay" used as an indicator of whether or not a case should be reported in the "long-term" category was the duration of stay granted by the receiving State. Such an approach assumes that in reporting data on international migrant foreigners in table 3, the duration of stay used was also that established by the receiving State. Under such an assumption, the student with a yearly permit would be considered a long-term migrant irrespective of whether he stayed or not for a full year in the receiving country and, since he was already counted among long-term migrants, he would not need to be counted again once his status changed.

107. Now let us assume that the data on table 3 were reported according to actual duration of stay and that both the tourist and the student described above married citizens three months after they arrived in the country. Assuming also an instantaneous change of status, both would be granted the permission to stay indefinitely after three months in the country. Provided that the approach used to measure actual duration of stay disregards short trips abroad for purposes of tourism (a honeymoon, for instance), both tourist and student would be counted as long-term migrants once a year had elapsed after their arrival; that is to say, if the data reported in table 3 are based on actual duration of stay, changes of status will be factored in and will not need to be reported separately in table 4.

108. Asylum-seekers provide an example of a group of migrants who will necessarily experience a change of status. Consider the case of a person who lodges a formal application for asylum in year t and who is granted refugee status at some point during year $t+1$, after having spent more than a year awaiting adjudication of his case. For year t , the person is reported among asylum-seekers with an uncertain or unknown duration of stay in table 3, but for the period ($t, t+1$), the person will be reported as a refugee in table 4 with a previous status "other" because, although the person has already spent more than a year in the receiving country, his "uncertain or unknown" duration of stay in year t did not qualify him as a long-term migrant that year. Once more, this example assumes that duration of stay is being determined from the State's perspective. If duration of stay was measured on the basis of actual outcomes, the asylum-seeker just described would be assigned to the category "one year or more but limited" in table 3 for year t and no allowance for changes of status would be necessary.

109. These examples illustrate the use of table 4 in indicating those changes of status that are relevant for the revision of data on long-term migrants for the previous year. As the examples show, the treatment of persons who change status depends on the approach used to measure duration of stay in table 3. General rules cannot be provided. The officials in charge of generating the basic data are better equipped to determine which adjustments are necessary. In fact, ideally, the data reported in table 3 should already be adjusted for the effect of changes of status. Yet,

because one must wait at least one more year to adjust the data relative to a given year and because some types of adjustment, such as those necessary when a regularization programme takes place, may affect the data for several years, providing a table that permits the compilation and dissemination of information on changes of status was judged to be necessary.

110. Lastly, note that regularizations of status may require special treatment because the persons whose status is regularized might have arrived in the country several years before the change of status. In such a case, more information is needed about persons regularizing their status and more complex tabulations of their numbers have to be made to provide the basis for the retrospective adjustment of data on long-term migrants. Both the type of information needed and the tabulations required are described in chapter IV.

D. COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON THE OUTFLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT FOREIGNERS

111. Table 5 is designed to compile statistics on the outflows of international migrant foreigners. It includes essentially the same categories of migrants listed in table 3 and defined in box 4, but this time their migrant status is to be used to categorize them at the point of departure. The only category added is that of "deported foreigners" which should include only those foreigners who are actually deported and not those under deportation orders who have not yet left the country.

112. Table 5 differs from table 3 in one critical respect: no attempt is made to record the number of foreigners who leave for short periods of stay abroad (that is to say, periods of less than a year). The number of foreigners recorded should, ideally, be those intending to remain abroad for at least a year. Given the nature of the data sources available, however, it is likely that not all sources will gather data according to that criterion or that a cut-off point of one year will be used by all. As in table 3, different criteria likely to be used in measuring duration of stay abroad are listed in footnote (b) to table 5. The codes presented therein should be used to indicate, in the column labelled "duration indicator", which criterion was used to establish that the foreign migrants depart-

ing would remain outside of the country for at least a year. The employment of the first criterion included in footnote (b) to table 5, which involves reports by the migrant foreigners themselves about their intended duration of stay abroad, is one of the recommended approaches in establishing whether a departing foreigner is to be regarded as emigrating or not. However, depending on when and how the information on intentions is recorded, it may not be independent of the legal constraints that the foreigner faces in returning to the country of departure.

113. Another criterion that may be used to indicate that a departing foreigner is not likely to return in the short run is that the visa or permit he or she holds has expired or is about to do so. However, the validity of that indicator will depend not only on the intentions of the foreigner but also on the possibility of renewing the visa or permit while abroad or of obtaining a new one. Similarly, the termination of the employment contract of a foreign migrant worker may be used as an indicator that his or her departure is likely to be for a lengthy period, though the actual duration of absence will depend on the ease with which foreign migrant workers can obtain new contracts after they have left the country of employment. A criterion of a similar nature is that described as “giving up residence in the country” (of departure), which is often used in gathering statistics on emigration but whose meaning is less concrete and may be operationalized in very different ways, ranging from presenting proof that one's dwelling in the country of departure has been vacated to returning one's residence permit to the immigration authorities upon departure.

114. Lastly, some data-collection systems, such as population registers, may allow the estimation of actual duration of absence to establish that a foreigner has remained outside the country for a year or more. Use of such a criterion implies that data on the number of migrant foreigners leaving over a year would have to be produced with a lag of at least a year. However, it may be useful to produce data classified according to actual duration of stay abroad in cases where the criteria normally used to record the outflows of migrant foreigners cannot be changed to more internationally comparable ones because of legal or administrative considerations.

115. Note that, if a data-collection system does not allow the identification of different categories of

migrant foreigners leaving the country because the reason for their admission is not recorded, the overall number (as in the corresponding case for table 3) can be recorded on the first line of table 5 labelled “international migrant foreigners departing, without distinction by current status”. Supposing data for specific categories, such as repatriating refugees or deported foreigners, were available from other sources, they should be recorded in the appropriate line and their source should be indicated explicitly under the column labelled “source of data” according to the codes presented in footnote (a) to table 5. As in table 3, the entries for specific categories of migrant foreigners departing are not expected to add up to the number reported on the first line of table 5, but when they do, the code *S(...)* should be inserted in the “data code” column of line 1, it being indicated within the parentheses which categories or subcategories have been added to obtain the number of “international migrant foreigners departing, without distinction by current status”.

116. For those categories of migrant foreigners whose dependants may have also been admitted, information about departures for lengthy periods should be, to the extent possible, reported separately for principal migrants and dependants. This may not be possible either because the data on the departure of dependants may be reported together with the data on the departure of principal migrants or because the data collected refer only to the departure of principal migrants (in other words, because no data on the departure of dependants have been collected or processed). The code *DI* should be used to indicate the first contingency, whereas the code *DNS* (“data on dependants not available”) should be used for the second. Only if dependants are not admitted at all should the code *DNA* (“no dependants admitted”) be used. The appropriate code should be inserted in the column labelled “data code”. That column should also be used for indicating which categories of departing migrant foreigners do not apply to the country in question (code *NP*) and those for which there are no data available (code *NA*). As stated in the description of table 3, several codes may be needed to characterize a single data entry.

E. COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON THE OUTFLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT CITIZENS

117. Table 6 is to be used to compile data on the outflows of international migrant citizens. Given that, in accordance with international law, most States exercise minimum control on the outflows of citizens and impose very few restrictions on their long-term stay abroad, it is advisable to identify different categories of departing citizens on the basis of the travellers' own purpose of stay abroad rather than on the actions of the State of origin. There are some exceptions, however, especially with regard to migration for employment or migration for free establishment abroad. In cases where States of origin require that prospective migrant workers obtain official clearance of their contracts before they are allowed to depart, it is possible to classify those migrant citizens according to criteria other than self-reported intentions. In the case of the right of free establishment, the State of origin may identify those migrant citizens planning to exercise that right on the basis of their expected country of destination, though self-reported intentions regarding duration of stay abroad will still be needed. For reference, box 5 provides the definition of each of the categories of international migrant citizen listed in table 6.

118. As in the case of previous tables, it is expected that information generated by sources of data that do not permit the differentiation of the various categories of international migrant citizen according to purpose of stay abroad will be recorded in the first line of table 6 (labelled "international migrant citizens departing, without distinction by purpose of stay abroad"). The source of data for each category of migrant citizen reported should be recorded under the column labelled "source" according to the codes in footnote (a) to table 6 and, whenever possible, dependants accompanying migrants in the categories of "education and training" or "employment" should be reported separately from principal migrants. When that is not possible, the codes *DI*, *DNS* or *DNA* should be inserted in the column labelled "data code" to indicate, respectively, that data on dependants are included with those on principal migrants; that the data on dependants are not available separately and are not included with those on principal migrants; or that no dependants ever accompanied departing migrant citizens. Similar

c o d e s a r e

available to indicate the different contingencies that may arise regarding data on the domestic employees of international civil servants. Codes should also be used to indicate for which categories of migrant citizens there is no information available (*NA*) and which categories do not apply to the country concerned (*NP*). These codes can be inserted either under the column labelled "data codes" or in the cell where the data would have been recorded had it been available.

119. With regard to expected duration of stay abroad, it is important to distinguish citizens planning to spend less than a year abroad and not qualifying as visitors or tourists, from those expecting to stay abroad a year or longer. Most data sources are likely to use the intentions declared by the migrant citizen him or herself to effect the necessary distinction. However, in the case of migrant workers subject to control, the duration of an employment contract to work abroad may be used as the indicator of likely duration of stay. Similarly, for students and trainees, the length of their intended programme of study or training abroad may be indicative of the duration of their absence from the country. The criteria actually used by a given data source should be indicated by the use of appropriate codes (listed in footnote (b) to table 6) under the column labelled "duration indicator".

120. As in the case of flows of migrant foreigners, the use of data on international migrant citizens classified by actual duration of stay abroad is recommended in cases where existing data-collection systems can produce such data and where the normal mode of operation of those systems yields statistics that do not satisfy the general definition of long-term international migrant. In particular, when population registers consider that any citizen planning to stay abroad for *t* months or more, with *t* less than 12, should be counted as an emigrant, the data thus obtained will not match the definition of long-term international migrant presented in box 1. Adjusting the information gathered so as to reflect a posteriori only those persons who remain abroad for a year or more would allow compliance with the general definition without having to change the way in which the register normally operates, although it would imply that the data relative to a given year would be available only a year or two later.

**Box 5. Definitions of the categories used to classify the outflows
and inflows of international migrant citizens**

**A. Outflows of international migrant citizens
(Table 6)**

1. *Citizens departing to study or to be trained abroad:* Persons leaving their country for the purpose of following a particular programme of study abroad or to acquire specific skills through on-the-job training abroad. It is recommended that principal migrants be reported separately from their dependants if the latter accompany them during their stay abroad.
2. *Citizens departing for employment abroad:* Persons leaving their own country for the explicit purpose of exercising an economic activity abroad that will be remunerated from within the country of destination. Seasonal migrant workers, contract workers, project-tied workers, temporary migrant workers, self-employed workers and highly skilled workers should all be included in this category. It is recommended that principal migrants (the migrant workers themselves) be reported separately from their dependants if the latter accompany them during their stay abroad.
3. *Citizens departing to work as international civil servants:* Persons departing to work abroad in an international organization. If any of their dependants or domestic employees accompany them during their stay abroad, those dependants and domestic employees should be reported in different subcategories as indicated in table 6.
4. *Citizens departing to exercise their right of free establishment abroad:* Citizens departing to live in a country where they have the right of free establishment by virtue of an agreement or treaty concluded between their State of citizenship and the State of destination.
5. *Citizens departing to settle abroad:* Citizens departing to settle in another country, that is to say, citizens who have been admitted to stay over a long period or for an unlimited time in another country.
6. *Other migrating citizens:* This category is meant to include all migrating citizens who cannot be classified in previous categories. Citizens departing to seek asylum abroad, for instance, may be included here if information on them is available.

**B. Inflows of international migrant citizens
(Table 7)**

1. *Citizens returning from study or training abroad:* Persons returning to their country after having completed a programme of study or on-the-job training abroad. It is recommended that principal migrants be reported separately from their returning dependants.
2. *Citizens returning from employment abroad:* Persons returning to stay in their own country after having been employed abroad. It is important that only those citizens planning to stay for a year or more in their country of citizenship be included in the migration statistics. It is recommended that principal migrants (the migrant workers themselves) be reported separately from their returning dependants.

Box 5 (continued)

3. *Citizens returning after working abroad as international civil servants:* Persons returning to stay in their own country after having worked abroad for an international organization. The dependants and domestic employees who accompanied the migrant abroad and return with the migrant should be reported in separate categories as indicated in table 7.
4. *Humanitarian migration:* This category includes citizens returning after having sought and, in some cases obtained, asylum or protection abroad, namely:
 - (a) *Repatriating refugees:* Citizens returning after having enjoyed asylum abroad. Both refugees returning under internationally assisted repatriation programmes and those returning spontaneously should be included in this category.
 - (b) *Repatriating asylum-seekers:* Citizens returning after having attempted to seek asylum abroad. To the extent possible, this category should include persons who return after their asylum cases have been decided negatively as well as persons who may not have been able to apply for asylum but who stayed abroad under temporary protection for some time.
5. *Citizens deported from abroad:* This category includes all citizens returning to their country as a result of deportation procedures against them in another country.
6. *Other returning citizens:* This category should include all international migrant citizens returning to their own country for a lengthy stay (of at least 12 months) who cannot be classified into previous categories. In particular, citizens who settled abroad and return to establish their place of usual residence in their own country should be included in this category.

F. COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON THE INFLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT CITIZENS

121. Table 7 is to be used to compile data on the various categories of international migrant citizens returning from abroad. As in table 6, the categories distinguished are defined in terms of the purpose of stay abroad as declared by the returning migrant citizen him- or herself although in some cases, such as those of migrant workers, the type of exit permit or foreign visa a citizen had at the time of departure may be used to assign him or her to the pertinent category. Similarly, repatriating refugees may be distinguished from other returning citizens by the special documents that they are given by international or other humanitarian agencies, documents that are used in lieu of passports to ensure that the repatriating persons are admitted by their own country and that they have access to humanitarian assistance. The categories distinguished in table 7 are defined in box 5.

122. Note that there are some important differences in the categories distinguished in tables 6 and 7. The category labelled "humanitarian" is included for the classification only of inflows of returning citizens (table 7) and not for the outflows (table 6) because persons fleeing persecution or war in their own country are unlikely to be identified or appropriately counted at the point of departure. In addition, the category of "citizens deported from abroad" (table 7) has no clear counterpart among the outflows of citizens (table 6).

123. Although the appropriate identification of returning migrant citizens would require that information about their likely length of stay in their own country be available, information on that topic is usually not collected. When available, it is usually obtained from declarations by the migrants themselves regarding their intended length of stay in their own country. If no explicit differentiation is made between

TABLE 6. FRAMEWORK FOR THE COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON OUTFLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT CITIZENS

Country: _____

Year: _____

Outflows of international migrant citizens

<i>International migrant citizens, by purpose of stay abroad</i>	<i>Outflows by duration of stay abroad</i>			<i>Type of data</i>		
	<i>At least three months but less than one year</i>	<i>One year or more</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Source^a</i>	<i>Duration indicator^b</i>	<i>Data code^c</i>
International migrant citizens departing, without distinction by purpose of stay abroad						
1. Education and training						
(a) Departing students and trainees						
Dependants						
2. Employment						
(a) Departing for employment abroad (migrant workers)						
Dependants						
(b) Departing international civil servants						
Dependants						
Domestic employees						
3. Departing for free establishment abroad						
4. Departing to settle abroad						
5. Other international migrant citizens						

TABLE 6 (continued)

^aCodes to indicate source of data:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Administrative register | |
| (a) | Population register |
| (b) | Register of foreigners |
| (c) | Register of asylum-seekers |
| (d) | Other, specify: _____ |
| 2. Other administrative sources | |
| (a) | Residence permits |
| (b) | Work permits |
| (c) | Applications for asylum |
| (d) | Exit permits |
| (e) | Clearance of migrant workers |
| (f) | Other, specify: _____ |
| 3. Border collection | |
| 4. Household-based field inquiries: | |
| (a) | Census |
| (b) | Household surveys |
| (c) | Other, specify: _____ |
| 5. Other source, specify: | _____ |

^bCodes for duration indicator:

1. Intended duration of stay abroad as declared by migrant
2. Duration of programme of studies or training
3. Duration of employment contract to work abroad
4. Actual duration of stay abroad
5. For short-term migrants duration between ___ months and ___ months
6. Other, specify: _____
7. Other, specify: _____

^cCode for data availability:

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------------------------------|
| NA | Not available | |
| NP | Not applicable | |
| DI | Dependants included with principal migrants | |
| DNS | | Data on dependants not available |

DNA No dependants accompanied departing migrants
EI Domestic employees included with: __ principal migrants __ dependants
ENS Data on domestic employees not available at all
ENA Domestic employees never accompany principal migrants
S(...) Sum of categories or subcategories indicated in parentheses
I Independent from other categories or subcategories
O(...) Overlap with the categories or subcategories indicated in parentheses
E(...) Excluding the categories or subcategories indicated in parentheses

TABLE 7. FRAMEWORK FOR THE COMPILATION OF STATISTICS ON THE INFLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT CITIZENS

Country: *Inflows of international migrant citizens*

<i>International migrant citizens, by purpose of stay abroad</i>	<i>Inflows by duration of stay in the country</i>			<i>Type of data</i>		
	<i>At least three months but less than one year</i>	<i>One year or more</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Source^a</i>	<i>Duration indicator^b</i>	<i>Data code^c</i>
Returning citizens without distinction by purpose of stay abroad						
1. Education and training						
(a) Returning students and trainees						
Dependants returning						
2. Employment						
(a) Returning migrant workers						
Dependants returning						
(b) Returning international civil servants						
Returning dependants						
Returning domestic employees						
3. Humanitarian						
(a) Repatriating refugees						
(b) Repatriating asylum-seekers						

4. Citizens deported from abroad						
5. Other returning citizens						

TABLE 7 (continued)

^aCodes to indicate source of data:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Administrative register | |
| (a) | Population register |
| (b) | Register of foreigners |
| (c) | Register of asylum-seekers |
| (d) | Other, specify: _____ |
| 2. Other administrative sources | |
| (a) | Residence permits |
| (b) | Work permits |
| (c) | Applications for asylum |
| (d) | Exit permits |
| (e) | Clearance of migrant workers |
| (f) | Other, specify: _____ |
| 3. Border collection | |
| 4. Household-based field inquiries: | |
| (a) | Census |
| (b) | Household surveys |
| (c) | Other, specify: _____ |
| 5. Other source, specify: | _____ |

^bCodes for duration indicator:

1. Intended duration of stay as declared by migrant
2. Intention to establish residence
3. Renting or buying a dwelling
4. Actual duration of stay
5. For short-term migrants duration between ____ months and ____ months
6. Other, specify: _____
7. Other, specify: _____

^cCode for data availability:

- | | |
|----|---|
| NA | Not available |
| NP | Not applicable |
| DI | Dependants included with principal migrants |

DNS	Data on dependants not available
DNA	No dependants accompanied migrating citizens
EI	Domestic employees included with: __
principal migrants __ dependants	
ENS	Data on domestic employees not available
at all	
ENA	Domestic employees never accompany principal migrants
S(...)	Sum of categories or subcategories
indicated in parentheses	
I	Independent from other categories or subcategories
O(...)	Overlap with the categories or
subcategories indicated in parentheses	
E(...)	Excluding the categories or subcategories
indicated in parentheses	

migrant citizens returning for short periods and those returning for lengthy periods, the data available should be reported under the column labelled "total". Otherwise, it is important to record under the column labelled "duration indicator" the criterion actually used to effect a differentiation. Possible criteria are suggested in the list of codes for duration indicators shown in footnote (b) to table 7 and any other criterion used should be added to the list.

124. In the cases of migrant citizens returning after education, training or employment abroad, a distinction should be made between the return of principal migrants and that of their dependants. If data on dependants are not available separately, the appropriate code should be inserted in the column labelled "data code" to indicate whether: the data on dependants are included with those on principal migrants (code *DI*); the data on dependants are not included at all because they are not available (code *DNS*); or the data are not available because no dependants ever accompany migrant citizens abroad (code *DNA*). Similar codes are provided to indicate the equivalent contingencies in the case of data referring to the domestic employees of international civil servants. Regarding the category labelled "humanitarian", if the distinction between repatriating refugees and repatriating asylum-seekers cannot be made, the total should be recorded on the line for "humanitarian".

125. It is likely that very few sources of information will allow the identification of the various categories of returning migrant citizens distinguished in table 7. If information on the return migration of citizens is gathered at all, it will likely refer to all returning migrant citizens without distinction by purpose of stay abroad. Such information should be recorded on the first line of table 7, under the category "returning citizens without

distinction by purpose of stay abroad". As in other tables of the framework, it is not expected that the data reported under that category represent the sum of the entries recorded for other categories.

G. MEASUREMENT OF SHORT-TERM MIGRATION

126. Compilation of data on international flows of people according to the framework presented

a b o v e

will allow the identification of long-term and short-term international migrants as defined in box 1 provided the data sources available record information on the duration of stay of persons moving from one country to another. Thus, the framework makes allowance for the reporting of data on certain types of internationally mobile individuals whose presence in the country of destination matters even if their expected duration of stay is less than a year. The most relevant groups include persons moving for purposes of education or training, or employment, or to seek asylum. The framework also records statistics on other groups of short-term movers, but the three listed above are the most relevant from the policy perspective. In fact, the 1976 recommendations on international migration statistics (United Nations, 1980a) had already identified as worthy of attention persons who moved from one country to another for at most a year in order to exercise an economic activity remunerated from within the receiving State. The present framework permits the identification of short-term migrant workers among both the inflows of foreigners (table 3) and the outflows of citizens (table 6).

127. As noted in chapter I, one of the new traits of international population mobility is the increase of short-term movements of various kinds, many of which may not be considered migration proper. The movement of asylum-seekers or of persons seeking protection abroad who do not file applications for asylum but are nevertheless allowed to stay under a temporary protected status cannot be neatly categorized as forming part of what is traditionally conceived of as international migration. Yet, those movements are significant in number and important politically. The framework accommodates them, trying to reflect

their complexity and leaving the analyst free to use the data relative thereto in a way appropriate for each application.

128. In a similar vein, the definition of short-term international migrant presented in box 1 introduces maximum flexibility by focusing on persons who move temporarily to a country other than that of their usual residence for purposes other than those related to tourism. Short-term migration for employment is a special category deserving attention, but so is short-term migration for education and training, if only because of its implications for the improvement of

human capital. Similarly, the movement of persons in need of protection, whether it remains short-term in nature or not, must be considered a key component along the full spectrum of international mobility. Note, however, that the introduction of a lower limit (three months) for the duration of stay abroad that distinguishes short-term migrants from other persons moving internationally implies that, strictly speaking, migrant workers whose period of employment abroad is less than three months will not be covered by the statistics compiled. Because countries that gather statistics on such types of migrants do not necessarily impose a lower time-limit on duration of stay or, if they impose such a limit, do not necessarily set it at three months, the framework makes allowance for the reporting of data on short-term movers who do not necessarily conform to the limits on duration of stay set by the definition of short-term migrant in box 1. If this is the case, however, it is important to indicate that

the data available do not conform exactly to such a definition by recording in the appropriate table of the framework the limits on duration of stay that were actually used (see code 6 of the "codes for duration indicator" in footnote (b) to table 3 and code 5 of the "codes for duration indicator" in footnote (b) to table 6).

NOTES

¹In fact, the statistics of most countries conform to this practice: only persons allowed to file applications for asylum are considered asylum-seekers.

²When using data from administrative registers, there may be some cases in which it is known through independent checks that the persons concerned have left the country but their date of departure may remain unknown, therefore making it impossible to establish whether their duration of stay was less than a year or longer. The number of persons in that situation should be reported under the "uncertain or unknown" category.

IV. INFORMATION NEEDED TO CHARACTERIZE INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS AND RECOMMENDED TABULATIONS

129. The present chapter focuses on the type of information that should be gathered regarding international migrants so as to characterize them in ways that are useful for the analysis of the dynamics of international migration. Section A identifies the core variables that are relevant for the characterization of each and every category of international migrants listed in tables 3 to 7 and proposes ways in which they should be measured. It also discusses variables that are specific to the general classes of international migrants covered by each of the tables of the framework presented in chapter III, namely, inflows of international migrant foreigners (tables 3 and 4), outflows of international migrant foreigners (table 5), outflows of international migrant citizens (table 6) and inflows of international migrant citizens (table 7). In addition, particular attention is given to variables relevant for the study of the economic activity of international migrants who work or who are intending to work while abroad.

130. Section B, which follows the description of the core variables, presents and discusses a set of recommended tabulations. Given that the core variables are truly basic, they can be used to characterize each of the categories of international migrants identified separately in the framework presented in chapter III. Consequently, the description of recommended tabulations will not be made in terms of those specific categories but rather in terms of the general classes of international migrants recorded in each of the tables of the framework. It is expected, however, that the recommended tabulations will be used to classify not just the overall number of international migrants (if available) in each of the tables of the framework, but also each of the major categories included in the framework. In fact, in many instances tabulations will need to be made separately for specific categories of migrants because information about each may be derived from different data sources. Thus, if a country gathers statistics on foreign settlers through a population register and statistics on short-

term foreign migrant workers on the basis of work permits, it would not be useful to add up the information for tabulation purposes. Rather, the tabulations on foreign settlers should conform to those recommended below for inflows of all categories of international migrant foreigners and those for short-term foreign migrant workers should correspond to those recommended specifically for inflows of international migrant foreigners allowed to work in the receiving country. Another important point to bear in mind is that any tabulations made for the categories or subcategories of migrants presented in table 3 should be the same as those for the equivalent categories or subcategories presented in the "other" lines of table 4, which are meant to be used to adjust the data reported in table 3.

131. Following the strategy just described simplifies the presentation of the list of recommended tabulations. However, there are certain categories of internationally mobile persons whose particular situation requires special treatment. Asylum-seekers constitute one such category. Given the importance of their numbers and the complexity of the systems in place to adjudicate asylum applications, special recommendations will be made in chapter V about the types of tabulations needed to assess the impact of this part of the internationally mobile population on the more general international migration process. In addition, treatment of persons whose status is regularized through special regularization programmes requires the gathering of some information specific to those migrants and the preparation of special tabulations to make the adjustment of retrospective data on long-term migrants possible. This issue will be discussed in section C below.

A. RECOMMENDED INFORMATION ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS

132. The information needed on inflows of international migrants is presented in table 8, which refers to five groups of incoming international migrants: (a) inflows of all categories of arriving international migrants (without distinction as to citizenship); (b) inflows of all categories of international migrant citizens; (c) inflows of international migrant citizens who worked while they were abroad; (d) inflows of all categories of international migrant foreigners; and (e) inflows of

international migrant foreigners who are allowed to work in the receiving country. For simplicity, migrants in group (b) will also be called *returning citizens* so that those in group (c) become *returning citizens who worked abroad*. Note that group (a) includes all categories of migrants reported in tables 3, 4 and 7 of the framework; group (b) refers to all the categories in table 7 and group (d) to all those in tables 3 and 4. Groups (c) and (e) are subsets of the migrants included in tables 7, 3 and 4, comprising at the very minimum the categories of returning migrant workers (2 (a) in table 7) and foreign migrant workers (2 (a) in tables 3 and 4), respectively. In the case of foreigners, those migrants admitted for settlement, for free establishment or as refugees and reported in tables 3 and 4 are almost certainly allowed to work and consequently should also be included in group (e).

133. According to table 8, nine items of information should be recorded for every arriving international migrant (the information listed in the first column should be recorded for each class of international migrant whose column is shaded) and one item (educational attainment) should be recorded on an optional basis. Furthermore, two additional items should be recorded for each major class of incoming international migrant—returning citizens and international migrant foreigners—though the items are different in each case. Lastly, three additional items are listed as optional for returning citizens who worked abroad and six others for international migrant foreigners allowed to work in the receiving country. The core information relevant for all migrants includes country of citizenship, sex, date of birth, date of arrival, intended duration of stay, previous country of usual residence, country of birth, marital status and expected location of place of residence in the receiving country. Returning citizens should be requested to report the purpose and duration of their stay abroad. In the case of newly arriving international migrant foreigners and those changing status, it is important that the type of visa or permit they hold and its duration of validity be recorded (for those changing status, that information should refer to the most recent or current visa or permit). For international migrants who work, it is suggested that information regarding their occupation, the industry of their employer and their status in employment be gathered, although coverage of such items is presented as optional. If that information is collected, it should refer to the last job a citizen held abroad before returning to the country,

and both to the last job a foreigner held abroad before entering the country and to the job that the foreigner is planning to obtain or has already obtained in the country of destination.

134. Table 9 summarizes the information required in the case of outflows of international migrants. It indicates which information is relevant for (a) outflows of all categories of departing international migrants; (b) outflows of all categories of international migrant citizens (also called *emigrating citizens*); (c) outflows of international migrant citizens intending to work abroad; (d) outflows of all categories of international migrant foreigners; and (e) outflows of international migrant foreigners who worked in the country of departure. Group (a) includes all the categories of international migrants reported in tables 5 and 6 of the framework; group (b) corresponds to those reported in table 6; and group (d) covers those reported in table 5. As before, groups (c) and (e) are subsets of the international migrants included in tables 6 and 5, respectively, and include at a minimum the categories of citizens departing for employment abroad (2 (a) in table 6) and foreign migrant workers departing (2 (a) in table 5). Among international migrant foreigners, those admitted for free establishment, refugees or even those deported are also likely to have worked in the country of departure and consequently should be included in group (e) so that information about their economic activity in that country is recorded if at all possible.

135. According to table 9, ten items are to be recorded about all categories of departing international migrants: nine are required and the other (educational attainment) is optional. An additional item is required about all emigrating citizens (purpose of stay abroad), and three more about all departing international migrant foreigners (type and expiration date of visa or permit, and duration of stay in the country of departure). As in the case of inflows, it is suggested that those working or intending to work be requested to state their occupation, the industry of their employer and their status in employment, but coverage of these items is optional. For international migrant foreigners departing such information, if collected, should refer to the last job a foreigner held in the country of departure; for emigrating citizens the information

s h o u l d

TABLE 8. CORE AND OPTIONAL INFORMATION ON DIFFERENT GROUPS OF INCOMING INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS

Inflows				
<i>All categories of arriving migrants</i>	<i>Returning citizens</i>		<i>International migrant foreigners</i>	
	<i>All categories</i>	<i>Who worked abroad</i>	<i>All categories</i>	<i>Allowed to work in the receiving country</i>
Country of citizenship				
Sex				
Date of birth				
Date of arrival				
Intended duration of stay				
Previous country of usual residence				
Country of birth				
Marital status				
Expected location of place of usual residence in receiving country (address)				
Educational attainment (number of years of schooling completed)^a				
	Duration of stay in previous country of usual residence		Type of visa or permit	
	Purpose of stay abroad		Duration of validity of current visa or permit	
		Occupation in previous country of usual residence^a		Occupation in previous country of usual residence^a
		Industry of employer in previous country of usual residence^a		Industry of employer in previous country of usual residence^a

TABLE 8 (continued)

Inflows				
All categories of arriving migrants	Returning citizens		International migrant foreigners	
	All categories	Who worked abroad	All categories	Allowed to work in the receiving country
		Status in employment in previous country of usual residence ^a		Status in employment in previous country of usual residence ^a
				Occupation in receiving country ^a
				Industry of employer in receiving country ^a
				Status in employment in receiving country ^a

^aOptional item.

refer both to the last job the citizen had in his or her own country and to the job the citizen is expected to have in the next country of usual residence.

136. Because there is considerable overlap between the information needed about departing and that about arriving international migrants, the items to be recorded will be discussed only once, presenting first a definition of each item and then a discussion of data-collection and classification issues.

1. *Core and optional information about all categories of international migrants*

137. **Country of citizenship:** The information sought is the country of current citizenship or legal nationality of the migrant concerned. Data-collection systems that rely on the presentation of documentation should record the country issuing the passport that the migrant presents. Otherwise, self-reporting will have to be relied upon. It is important to record the country of citizenship and not just the citizenship of a person in terms of an adjective (for example, Chinese, German, British and so forth) in order to avoid confusion between ethnic background and citizenship or legal nationality. Allowance should be made for the

existence of persons who lack a country of citizenship by including a “stateless” category. For purposes of coding, it is recommended that the numerical coding system presented in the publication entitled *Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use (Current Information as of 31 March 1996)* (United Nations, 1996b) be used. The use of standard codes for classification of the country of citizenship facilitates an international exchange of information. If it is decided that some countries of citizenship will be combined into broad groups, it is recommended that the standard regional and subregional classifications identified in that publication be adopted. As underscored before, the distinction between citizens and foreigners is essential for the understanding of the dynamics of international migration.

138. **Sex:** The sex of migrants should **always** be recorded explicitly. It should not be deduced from the name of the person or from other indirect evidence. In addition, **all tabulations on flows of international migrants should be presented by sex.** The tables of the framework, in particular, should be filled in separately for male and female migrants. Recent

TABLE 9. CORE AND OPTIONAL INFORMATION ON DIFFERENT GROUPS OF DEPARTING INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS

<i>Outflows</i>				
<i>All categories of departing migrants</i>	<i>Emigrating citizens</i>		<i>Departing international migrant foreigners</i>	
	<i>All categories</i>	<i>Intending to work abroad</i>	<i>All categories</i>	<i>Who worked in the country of departure</i>
Country of citizenship				
Sex				
Date of birth				
Date of departure				
Intended duration of stay abroad				
Future country of usual residence				
Country of birth				
Marital status				
Location of place of usual residence in country of departure (address)				
Educational attainment (number of years of schooling completed) ^a				
	Purpose of stay abroad		Type of visa or permit	
			Expiration date of current visa or permit	
			Duration of stay in country of departure (date of first arrival)	
		Occupation in country of departure ^a		Occupation in country of departure ^a
		Industry of employer in country of departure ^a		Industry of employer in country of departure ^a

TABLE 9 (continued)

<i>Outflows</i>				
<i>All categories of departing migrants</i>	<i>Emigrating citizens</i>		<i>Departing international migrant foreigners</i>	
	<i>All categories</i>	<i>Intending to work abroad</i>	<i>All categories</i>	<i>Who worked in the country of departure</i>
		Status in employment in country of departure^a		Status in employment in country of departure^a
		Occupation in future country of usual residence^a		
		Industry of employer in future country of usual residence^a		
		Status in employment in future country of usual residence^a		

^aOptional item.

reviews of the availability of statistics on female international migration have shown that very few sources publish systematically information classified by sex (United Nations, 1995b; and United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, 1994). A major advance could therefore be made by ensuring that all published tabulations make the necessary distinction.

139. **Date of birth:** It is recommended that age be assessed by recording date of birth, at least in terms of month and year. Since many data-collection systems are administrative in nature and require the presentation of documentary evidence, they have the potential of producing fairly reliable information on date of birth and, consequently, on age (misreporting associated with age-heaping, for instance, is likely to be avoided, though errors in recording a person's date of birth in official documents will remain). Given that data on flows of migrants should cover events occurring over a year, for purposes of tabulation it is recommended that the data be classified according to year of birth and not according to age in completed

years at the time of migration. Such a procedure has the advantage of allowing the identification of birth cohorts and thus facilitating the comparison of the data on flows with the data generated by other sources. In all tabulations that include classification by age, the age groups used should be five years in length and the open-ended group should be aged 85 years or over.

140. **Date of arrival:** It is crucial to record this item of information for every person considered to be part of the international migrant inflow. Given that many data sources record information on international migrants some time after their arrival in the country, recording the date of arrival is necessary to ensure that the data reported for a given year refer in fact to events that occurred during that year. Depending on the type of data-collection system generating the data, it may be important to report the number of international migrants recorded over a year according to year of arrival. This will be the case, for instance, for data derived from the processing of residence permits if the latter can be granted to persons who have already been

present in the country for some time. A tabulation on the number of residence permits issued over a year according to the year of arrival of the migrants would allow proper adjustments to be made to the data.

141. **Date of departure:** The date of departure should be recorded for every person considered to be part of the international migrant outflow. Data-collection systems that permit the comparison of the date of arrival and the date of departure of individual migrants should take advantage of such a possibility to calculate the actual duration of stay of departing migrants.

142. **Intended duration of stay:** Information on intended duration of stay is needed to identify long-term immigrants according to the definition presented in box 1. In the case of citizens, information on intended duration of stay in their own country provides the only means of identifying incoming long-term migrants on a prospective basis. The same is true in the case of foreigners having the right to free establishment in the country where the data are being collected. For other foreigners, another useful indicator of duration of stay is the duration of validity of the residence permit, work permit or visa that the foreigner holds upon arrival. When information on intended duration of stay is obtained from foreigners at the time of their admission and in conjunction with an examination of their documents, it is likely that there will be a high correlation between reported intentions regarding duration of stay and length of validity of the documents allowing the foreigner to stay in the country.

143. **Intended duration of stay abroad:** Information on intended duration of stay abroad is necessary to establish whether or not a person departing qualifies as a departing long-term migrant according to the definition presented in box 1. Because, according to international law, the country from which a migrant departs has few means of imposing restrictions on an individual's duration of stay abroad (except perhaps to keep undesirable foreigners from returning), the most direct way of determining who qualifies as a long-term migrant at the time of departure is to record the intentions of individuals regarding their duration of stay abroad. It must be noted, however, that persons who are usual residents of the country of departure and who leave

with the intention of staying abroad less than a year may still qualify as short-term migrants if their intended length of stay abroad is at least three months and its purpose is other than recreation, holiday, visits to friends or relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage.

144. **Previous country of usual residence:** This is the country where the migrant lived during the year preceding his or her arrival in the receiving country. If the data are gathered at the time of arrival in country A, the following questions can be used to determine both the previous country of usual residence of a traveller and the intended length of stay in the country of arrival (country A):

1. *In which countries have you been living during the past 12 months?*

- Country A [Go to 5]
- Country B [Go to 5]
- Two or more countries [Continue]

2. *Where are you living now (up until this trip)?*

3. *Will you complete 12 months in [country mentioned in question 2]?*

- YES [Go to 5] NO [Continue]

4. *Which is the last country in which you have lived for 12 months or longer? _____*

5. *How long do you plan to stay in country A?*

- Less than 3 months
- At least 3 months but less than 12 months
- One year or more

For purposes of coding the previous country of usual residence, it is recommended that the numerical coding system presented in the publication entitled *Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use* (United Nations, 1996b) be used. The use of standard codes for classification of the previous country of usual residence facilitates the international exchange of information. If it is decided that some countries will be combined into broad groups, it is recommended that

the standard regional and subregional classifications identified in that publication be adopted.

145. Future country of usual residence: The country where the migrant plans to live during the year following departure. The future country of usual residence can be determined by inquiring:

Where do you plan to live during the next year?

Indicate country: _____

Note that in the cases of persons who are usual residents of the country of departure and who plan to remain abroad for less than a year for purposes other than recreation, holiday, visits to friends or relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage, the country that ought to be recorded is the country of destination of the migrant, without its necessarily being the country where the migrant will live during most of the year following departure. For purposes of coding the future country of usual residence, it is recommended that the numerical coding system presented in the publication entitled *Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use* (United Nations, 1996b) be used. The use of standard codes for classification of the country of future usual residence facilitates an international exchange of information. If it is decided that some countries will be combined into broad groups, it is recommended that the standard regional and subregional classifications identified in that publication be adopted.

146. Country of birth: Country of birth is the country where a person was born. Information on country of birth is useful because that country does not change over the life of an individual and because a person must have spent at least part of his or her life in the country of birth. Consequently, when a person lives in a country other than the one in which he or she was born, that person must have moved from one country to another at some time in the past. For that reason, information on country of birth is useful in identifying the population of lifetime migrants and will be used in defining a measure of stock in chapter VI. Consequently, to provide a way of relating such a stock measure with the characteristics of international migration flows, information on country of birth must be gathered from all arriving and departing international migrants. To facilitate the collection of

the data and its coding, it is recommended that information on country of birth be obtained in accordance with the national boundaries existing at the time of data collection. Problems are likely to arise, however, when neither the migrant nor the person collecting the information knows precisely how boundaries have changed. If there is doubt, the name of the country of birth as it existed at the time of birth should be recorded and adjustments should be made at the time of data entry. In such cases, recording both the country and the locality in which a person was born may be helpful in identifying the country to which that locality belongs currently. For purposes of coding, it is recommended that countries use the numerical coding system presented in *Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use* (United Nations, 1996b). The use of standard codes for classification of the country of birth will enhance the usefulness of such data and permit an international exchange of information. If countries decide to combine countries of birth into broad groups, it is recommended that the standard regional and subregional classifications identified in the above-mentioned publication be adopted.

147. Marital status: Information on marital status should be gathered from all migrants aged 15 years or over. The categories distinguished should be, at a minimum: never-married; married; separated or divorced; and widowed.

148. Educational attainment (optional): Information on educational attainment is crucial to ascertaining the level of human capital characterizing international migration. However, the problem of having to gather similar information from persons originating in a variety of countries with different educational systems is considerable. For that reason, this item of information is considered optional. For those interesting in gathering information on educational attainment, two possible measures are recommended. The first is the number of years of schooling completed and the second is the highest level of education completed, distinguishing at least the following levels: primary; secondary; technical school; and university. If only one piece of information can be obtained on this topic, the number of years of schooling completed should be selected. For tabulation purposes, distinguishing the following

groups would be useful: less than 6 years; 6 to 8 years; 9 to 11 years; 12 to 15 years; and 16 years or more.

149. Expected location of place of usual residence in receiving country: Since international migrants tend to cluster in certain regions of the countries of destination, it is of interest to know where they settle. Information on the place where international migrants plan to live while in the receiving country, possibly in the form of an address, or at least in terms of a locality and a province, state or department, is useful in ascertaining the geographical distribution of international migrants in the receiving country.

150. Location of place of usual residence in country of departure: International migrants also tend to cluster with respect to their exact places of origin within the country of departure. It is therefore useful to obtain information on the location of the place of usual residence that a migrant had in the previous country of usual residence during the year before his or her departure. Such information may be obtained in the form of an address but should in any case record both the name of the locality and the province, state or department where the migrant lived.

2. Additional core information required about international migrant citizens

151. Duration of stay in previous country of usual residence: This information is to be obtained from citizens returning after migration. It is useful in corroborating whether or not the person involved is a migrant who stayed abroad for at least a year, and thus in identifying long-term and short-term migrants returning. Duration of stay should be measured in terms of the time elapsed since the migrant first established a place of usual residence in the previous country of usual residence. It should not be measured as of the most recent time in which the migrant departed the country of citizenship. The question on duration of stay should be posed after that inquiring about the previous country of usual residence and it may be phrased in the following way:

How long did you live in that country?

If more than a year, indicate number of years:

If less than a year, indicate number of months:

152. Purpose of stay abroad: Information on purpose of stay abroad obtained from both departing citizens and those returning is essential in order to establish if they belong to the category of migrants moving to study, of migrants moving to be trained or of migrants moving to work abroad. It is also necessary to identify short-term migrants. Some data-collection systems that cover only citizens planning to work abroad (for example, statistics based on the clearance of employment contracts to work abroad) will not require a question on purpose of stay abroad since they already focus on migrants with a particular purpose. Other systems will have to rely on the information provided by the migrants themselves, unless documentary evidence can be checked. Ideally, the purpose of stay abroad should be established in terms of the permits granted to the migrant by the receiving State. However, since the information is being gathered in the State of origin, the authorities of the latter may not be sufficiently familiar with the procedures used by receiving States to ascertain which documents need to be checked.

3. Additional core information required about international migrant foreigners

153. Type of visa or permit: Information on the type of visa or permit or any other document held by a foreigner and allowing him or her to stay in the receiving country is essential for determining the migrant category to which the foreigner belongs. It is important, therefore, that such information be recorded by all data-collection systems capable of generating statistics on flows of international migrants. Note that, as suggested in describing the framework presented in chapter III, the type of visa or permit held by a foreigner is to be used to classify both the arrivals and the departures of foreigners, as well as their changes of status. Such information should be gathered, therefore, at the time of each of those events. The information collected should refer to the current visa or permit held by the foreigner since in most countries changes of status are possible and it may be that the permit held at the time of departure is of a different kind than that held upon arrival.

154. Duration of validity of current visa or permit:

This information is useful for establishing the likely length of stay of a foreigner in the receiving State. As indicated in the framework, the key distinctions to be made are among permits allowing a stay of less than a year, those allowing at least a year but establishing that the duration of stay should be limited (in other words, having an upper bound stated as a fixed number of months or years or in terms of a specific date), and those allowing an unlimited duration of stay.

155. Expiration date of current visa or permit:

This information is useful in establishing if a foreigner is likely to return to stay in the country of departure within a year of the current departure. If a foreigner's permit has an expiration date that is still more than a year away from the date of departure and the permit remains valid even while the foreigner is abroad (in other words, the permit is not withdrawn from the foreigner at the time of departure), the likelihood of a return will be higher than if the expiration date of the permit is close to the date of departure. Information on expiration dates in conjunction with dates of departure is also useful in ascertaining the degree of compliance with the conditions for admission and stay. In collecting information on expiration dates, allowance should be made for the fact that some permits may have no expiration date (in other words, they may be valid forever) or may be renewable without restrictions.

156. Duration of stay in the country of departure:

This information should be obtained from all departing international migrant foreigners to assess, a posteriori, whether their duration of stay in the country was shorter than a year or not. Some data sources that maintain in the same record information on date of arrival and on date of departure can derive information on duration of stay by subtracting one from the other. Other sources will have to rely on reports made by the migrants themselves at or near the time of departure. The question posed to a migrant at that time may focus on the duration of stay per se or it may establish instead the year of first arrival in the country which, by being subtracted from the date of departure, could be used later in the calculation of duration of stay.

4. Optional information about migrants who exercise an economic activity

157. Occupation: Information on occupation is crucial to assessing the likely impact of migration on the economy of a country, whether occupation refers to that of the migrants departing or that of the migrants arriving to work. However, because the recording and processing of data on occupation are onerous, the collection of information on this item is considered to be optional. For those opting to gather information on occupation, tables 8 and 9 indicate in which cases the occupation to be recorded is that relating to the job held by the migrant before migration and in which cases it is that relating to the job the migrant expects to obtain after migration. In all cases, the occupation of the migrant should be determined on the basis both of information on the migrant's occupational title and of a description of the main tasks and duties associated with the job. Coding of the information gathered should be done with as much detail as possible using an occupational classification based on the *International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-88)* of the International Labour Organization (ILO) (International Labour Organization, 1990).

158. Industry: Given that migrants tend to be concentrated in certain sectors of economic activity, it is useful to ascertain the industry in which they have worked or will work by obtaining information about their previous or future employers. For those opting to gather this information, tables 8 and 9 indicate in which cases the information on industry should refer to the job carried out in the previous country of usual residence or in the country of departure, and in which cases it should refer to the job expected in the receiving country. Information on industry should be gathered by recording both the title of the industrial sector to which an employer belongs and the main products and services produced by the establishment to which the migrant's job belongs. Coding should be carried out with as much detail as possible in a manner consistent with the *International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC, Rev.3)* (United Nations, 1990) or with its European Community counterpart, the General Industrial Classification of Economic Activities within the European Communities (NACE), Rev.1 (Eurostat, 1990).

159. Status in employment: The migrant's status in employment is often determined by the type of visa or

permit the person holds, since in some countries own-account workers would not be granted the same type of permit as a salaried employee. For those opting to gather information on this item, the classification of status in employment used should distinguish at least the following categories: (a) employees; (b) employers; (c) own-account workers; (d) members of producers' cooperatives; and (e) contributing family workers. A more appropriate classification may be derived from the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93) (International Labour Organization, 1993) which distinguishes sub-groups of employees whose contractual situations better reflect the conditions established for foreign workers under certain types of visas or permits. The groups of migrants for which status of employment should be recorded and the job to which that status should refer are presented in tables 8 and 9.

been classified as "optional" will be possible only if such information is gathered. Their relative importance is indicated as

B. RECOMMENDED TABULATIONS ON INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS

160. The present section lists a set of tabulations that would be useful for the analysis of the dynamics of international migration and that exploit the richness of the core as well as the optional information gathered on the different classes of international migrants. As explained above, the tabulations described below can be produced for the major groups of international migrants as well as for the specific categories identified in the framework. For instance, the classification of international migrants by sex and country of citizenship should ideally be available separately for those foreigners admitted as migrant workers whose likely duration of stay is less than a year, for those who are migrant workers with permits of stay valid for a year or more, for persons admitted as refugees, for the dependants of refugees, for persons filing applications for asylum, for all persons admitted for settlement and their dependants and so on. Since the number of tabulations suggested is long (40 are listed for international migrant inflows and 38 for international migrant outflows), they have been classified within three groups according to priority. High priority tabulations should be produced for all major categories of international migrants identified in the framework. High priority tabulations are printed in bold face in the list below. Those tabulations having lower priority are printed in italics. Clearly, tabulations that involve the use of information that has

well. It must be stressed, however, that most of the tabulations listed are important and national statistical offices should work towards producing a set of tabulations of the data gathered that is as comprehensive as possible. Without such an effort, the data will remain poorly used and underexploited.

161. In the listing below, tabulations have been presented according to major class of migrant and in order of complexity. Similar tabulations are grouped together. Every tabulation includes a classification by sex, a practice that needs to be fostered and given priority. Several tabulations include a classification by age group. As mentioned in discussing the information on date of birth, it is recommended that the span of the age groups used be five years in all cases except for the open-ended interval at the end which should be ages 85 years or over. Because the users of the data are multiple, it is not desirable to prejudge their needs and reduce the usefulness of the data by reducing the number of age groups reported through the use of arbitrary groupings having various spans.

162. A number of tabulations include classifications by country (of citizenship, of previous usual residence, of future usual residence, of birth). The classification of countries used should conform to that presented in *Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use* (United Nations, 1996b). The use of standard codes for classification of the countries will enhance the usefulness of such data and facilitate the international exchange of information. If countries decide to combine countries into broad groups, it is recommended that the standard regional and subregional classifications identified in the above-mentioned publication be adopted. However, the practice of listing only the major countries for each particular purpose and grouping others according to larger geographical regions often reduces the usefulness of the statistics gathered. Since a full listing of all countries or areas of the world will result in long tabulations, the possibility of distributing the detailed information in machine-readable form should be explored.

I. RECOMMENDED TABULATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT INFLOWS

1. **Number of incoming migrants by sex and country of citizenship**
2. **Number of incoming migrants by sex and country of birth**
3. **Number of incoming migrants by sex and previous country of usual residence**

4. Number of incoming migrants by sex, age group and country of citizenship
5. Number of incoming migrants by sex, age group and country of birth
6. Number of incoming migrants by sex, age group and previous country of usual residence

7. Number of incoming migrants by sex, marital status and citizenship (citizens versus foreigners)
8. Number of incoming migrants by sex, educational attainment and citizenship (citizens versus foreigners)

9. **Number of incoming migrants by sex, single calendar year of birth and citizenship (citizens versus foreigners)**
10. **Number of incoming migrants by sex, age group, marital status and citizenship (citizens versus foreigners)**
11. **Number of incoming migrants by sex, age group, educational attainment and citizenship (citizens versus foreigners)**

12. Number of incoming migrants by sex, citizenship (citizens versus foreigners) and expected location of place of usual residence in the receiving country

13. *Number of incoming migrants by sex, educational attainment and country of citizenship*

A. Recommended tabulations on inflows of international migrant citizens (returning citizens)

14. **Number of returning citizens by sex, age group and previous country of usual residence**
15. **Number of returning citizens by sex, age group and duration of stay abroad**
16. Number of returning citizens by sex, age group and purpose of stay abroad

17. Number of returning citizens by sex, previous country of usual residence and purpose of stay abroad
18. *Number of returning citizens by sex, previous country of usual residence and duration of stay abroad*
19. *Number of returning citizens by sex, purpose of stay abroad and duration of stay abroad*

B. Recommended tabulations on returning citizens who worked abroad

20. **Number of returning citizens who worked abroad by sex, age group and occupation in previous country of usual residence**
21. Number of returning citizens who worked abroad by sex, age group and industry of employer in previous country of usual residence
22. Number of returning citizens who worked abroad by sex, age group and status in employment in previous country of usual residence

23. *Number of returning citizens who worked abroad by sex, occupation and previous country of usual residence*
24. *Number of returning citizens who worked abroad by sex, industry and previous country of usual residence*

C. Recommended tabulations on inflows of international migrant foreigners

25. **Foreigners by sex, age group and duration of validity of current visa or permit**
26. Foreigners by sex, age group and type of visa or permit
27. Foreigners by sex, age group, country of citizenship and type of visa or permit
28. Foreigners by sex, age group, country of citizenship and duration of validity of current visa or permit

D. Recommended tabulations on inflows of international migrant foreigners who are allowed to work

29. **Foreigners allowed to work by sex, age group and occupation in receiving country**
30. **Foreigners allowed to work by sex, age group and industry in receiving country**
31. Foreigners allowed to work by sex, age group and status in employment in receiving country
32. Foreigners allowed to work by sex, occupation in receiving country and country of citizenship
33. Foreigners allowed to work by sex, industry in receiving country and country of citizenship
34. Foreigners allowed to work by sex, occupation in previous country of usual residence and occupation in receiving country
35. Foreigners allowed to work by sex, industry in previous country of usual residence and industry in receiving country
36. *Foreigners allowed to work by sex, age group and occupation in previous country of usual residence*
37. *Foreigners allowed to work by sex, age group and industry in previous country of usual residence*
38. *Foreigners allowed to work by sex, age group and status in employment in previous country of usual residence*
39. *Foreigners allowed to work by sex, occupation in previous country of usual residence and country of citizenship*
40. *Foreigners allowed to work by sex, industry in previous country of usual residence and country of citizenship*

II. RECOMMENDED TABULATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT OUTFLOWS

1. **Number of departing migrants by sex and country of citizenship**
2. **Number of departing migrants by sex and country of birth**
3. **Number of departing migrants by sex and future country of usual residence**
4. Number of departing migrants by sex, age group and country of citizenship
5. Number of departing migrants by sex, age group and country of birth
6. Number of departing migrants by sex, age group and future country of usual residence
7. Number of departing migrants by sex, marital status and citizenship (citizens versus foreigners)
8. Number of departing migrants by sex, educational attainment and citizenship (citizens versus foreigners)
9. **Number of departing migrants by sex, single calendar year of birth and citizenship (citizens versus foreigners)**
10. **Number of departing migrants by sex, age group, marital status and citizenship (citizens versus foreigners)**

11. Number of departing migrants by sex, age group, educational attainment and citizenship (citizens versus foreigners)

12. Number of departing migrants by sex, citizenship (citizens versus foreigners) and location of place of usual residence in country of departure

13. *Number of departing migrants by sex, educational attainment and country of citizenship*

A. Recommended tabulations on outflows of international migrant citizens (emigrating citizens)

14. Number of emigrating citizens by sex, age group and future country of usual residence

15. Number of emigrating citizens by sex, age group and purpose of stay abroad

16. Number of emigrating citizens by sex, age group and intended duration of stay abroad

17. Number of emigrating citizens by sex, future country of usual residence and purpose of stay abroad

18. *Number of emigrating citizens by sex, future country of usual residence and intended duration of stay abroad*

19. *Number of emigrating citizens by sex, purpose of stay abroad and intended duration of stay abroad*

B. Recommended tabulations on emigrating citizens intending to work abroad

20. Number of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad by sex, age group and occupation in future country of usual residence

21. Number of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad by sex, age group and industry in future country of usual residence

22. Number of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad by sex, age group and status in employment in future country of usual residence

23. Number of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad by sex, future occupation and future country of usual residence

24. *Number of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad by sex, future industry and future country of usual residence*

25. Number of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad by sex, occupation in country of departure and occupation in future country of usual residence

26. Number of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad by sex, industry in country of departure and industry in future country of usual residence

27. Number of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad by sex, age group and occupation in country of departure

28. *Number of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad by sex, age group and industry in country of departure*

29. *Number of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad by sex, age group and status in employment in country of departure*

C. Recommended tabulations on outflows of international migrant foreigners

30. **Foreigners departing by sex, age group, type of visa or permit, and duration of stay in country of departure**
31. Foreigners departing by sex, age group and expiration date of current visa or permit
32. *Foreigners by sex, age group, country of citizenship and type of visa or permit*
33. *Foreigners by sex, age group, country of citizenship and expiration date of current visa or permit*

D. Recommended tabulation on outflows of international migrant foreigners who worked in the country of departure

34. **Departing foreigners who worked classified by sex, age group, occupation in country of departure and duration of stay in country of departure (less than a year versus a year or more)**
35. Departing foreigners who worked classified by sex, age group, industry in country of departure and duration of stay in country of departure (less than a year versus a year or more)
36. Departing foreigners who worked classified by sex, age group, status in employment in country of departure and duration of stay in country of departure (less than a year versus a year or more)
37. *Departing foreigners who worked classified by sex, occupation in country of departure and country of citizenship*
38. *Departing foreigners who worked classified by sex, industry in country of departure and country of citizenship*

C. DATA AND TABULATIONS REQUIRED ON PERSONS
REGULARIZING THEIR STATUS

163. As noted in the discussion on changes of status in section C of chapter III, in order to use information on foreigners regularizing their status for the retrospective adjustment of information on long-term migrants, it is necessary to know the year of arrival of the persons whose status is regularized, since in most regularization programmes it is possible for persons in an irregular situation who have been present in a country for lengthy periods to apply for and be granted a regular migration status (for a description of regularization programmes in different countries, see Bilsborrow and others, 1997). It is therefore crucial to obtain from all persons applying for regularization the date of their arrival in the country. The date of interest is the year during which the person moved to the country to establish his or her place of usual residence in it. Because regularization programmes tend to stipulate a cut-off date of arrival beyond which foreigners in an irregular situation do not qualify for regularization, it is likely that some misreporting may

ensue. However, precisely because the date of arrival matters and it must generally be validated with some kind of documentary evidence, it is likely to be reported with some accuracy among those who do qualify for regularization. Be that as it may, for purposes of data adjustment and to better understand the dynamics of irregular migration, both recording the date of arrival and tabulating the results of the regularization programme by date of arrival are essential.

164. Unfortunately, the statistical information produced and disseminated by most regularization programmes is meagre. A common practice is to produce the total number of persons regularized and possibly their distribution by country of citizenship. For purposes of data analysis and for the adjustment of past migration trends, the following tabulations are necessary and all should be given priority:

1. **Total regularized population by sex and year of arrival**
2. **Total regularized population by sex, year of arrival and country of citizenship**
3. **Total regularized population by sex, age group, year of arrival and country of citizenship**

165. In addition, if the population regularized differs by a wide margin from that applying for regularization, it would also be important to produce the following tabulations:

1. Total population applying for regularization by sex and year of arrival
2. Total population applying for regularization by sex, year of arrival and country of citizenship

166. Although it is generally assumed that persons applying for regularization are undocumented migrants who entered the country clandestinely, it is possible that a sizeable proportion of them may have entered the country legally and then violated the terms of stay of their original permit. It is important, therefore, to obtain also some information on the status that a person applying for regularization held at the time he or she first arrived in the country to establish usual residence in it. This information is needed to determine whether the migrants regularized should be

reported in the “long-term” or the “other” categories of table 4 in the framework. Thus, foreigners who were admitted initially under a permit valid for at least a year are likely to have already been counted as long-term migrants in the year of their arrival and should not again be counted as such after regularization. To ascertain which of the persons whose status is regularized should be taken into account in adjusting statistics on long-term migration retrospectively, it is necessary to produce tabulations classifying the regularized population into at least two categories: (a) those who were legal long-term migrants initially; and (b) those who were legal short-term migrants initially, non-migrants or persons entering the country clandestinely. Using those two categories to indicate initial migration status, the tabulations necessary are:

- 1. Total regularized population by sex, year of arrival and initial migration status**
- 2. Total regularized population by sex, year of arrival, initial migration status and country of citizenship**
- 3. Total regularized population by sex, age group, year of arrival, initial migration status and country of citizenship**

V. RECOMMENDATIONS ON ASYLUM STATISTICS

167. Given the nature of statistics relative to the asylum process, fairly sophisticated systems are already in place in several countries to gather and process the data obtained. The specificity of those systems implies, however, that the general recommendations provided in previous chapters are not sufficient to yield comparable statistics on the asylum process. Consequently, there is a need to focus specifically on asylum statistics and to provide recommendations on the kinds of tabulations needed to compare the performances of the asylum systems of different countries. These recommendations centre on the collection of the data needed to prepare tabulations of the type presented schematically in tables 10 through 13. Note that each tabulation requires that the data be classified by country of citizenship of the principal applicant covered by an application for asylum. Definitions of the terms used in the tabulations are presented below. Additional tabulations necessary to assess the impact of asylum-seekers on the host society are described in paragraph 186 below.

168. **Period:** Refers to the year when the events (for example, filing an application, reaching a decision and so forth) reported took place. Calendar years are recommended, but some countries may use fiscal years.

169. **Country:** Refers to the country of citizenship of those applying for asylum. Allowance should be made for those lacking a country of citizenship by including the “stateless” category.

170. **Cases and persons:** Because it is common for a single application to cover several individuals, it is important to present, for all categories of applications, both the number of cases or applications involved and the number of persons they cover. Note that the number of cases is equivalent to the number of principal applicants. Tables 10 to 13 should present the number of cases according to the sex of the principal applicant and the number of persons covered also classified by sex.

171. **Applications pending at the beginning of the period:** A backlog of applications develops when not all those submitted during a period are adjudicated during that period. Information on the number of applications still pending at the beginning of the period for which data are being reported should be provided in terms of number of cases and number of persons involved.

172. **Applications submitted during the period:** All asylum applications should be reported, including those rejected during the initial or “pre-screening” phase of the refugee status determination procedure. Some countries make a distinction between the number of newly submitted applications and those reopened, that is to say, those that were submitted during a previous period, were closed without a decision and are being reconsidered. If this is the case, each group should be reported separately. In all cases, both the number of cases and the number of persons involved should be reported. For purposes of reporting the number of asylum-seekers admitted during a year in tables 3 and 4 of the framework, the date in which the asylum application was filed or submitted to the appropriate authorities is considered the date of admission.

173. **Decisions granting Convention status:** The number of cases in which the decision was to grant refugee status on the basis of the 1951 Convention (United Nations, 1957) and the 1967 Protocol (United Nations, 1967) relating to the Status of Refugees should be reported, together with the number of persons affected by such decisions. All favourable decisions should be included, irrespective of whether they were reached at the first instance or on appeal.

174. **Decisions to admit asylum-seekers on humanitarian grounds (humanitarian status granted):** The number of cases in which the decision was not to grant the status of Convention refugee (see above) but rather to allow admission on humanitarian grounds should be reported in conjunction with the number of persons

TABLE 10. FRAMEWORK FOR THE PRESENTATION OF STATISTICS ON THE
PROCESS OF ADJUDICATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR ASYLUM

Country: _____

Year: _____

		<i>Country of citizenship</i>	
		<i>Country A</i>	<i>Country B</i>
1. Applications pending at beginning of period	Cases		
	Persons		
2. Applications submitted during period	(a) Total	Cases	
		Persons	
	(b) Of which, re-opened	Cases	
		Persons	
3. Positive decisions during period	(a) Convention status granted	Cases	
		Persons	
	(b) Humanitarian status granted	Cases	
		Persons	
4. Negative decisions during period	(a) Total	Cases	
		Persons	
	(b) Of which, stay of deportation	Cases	
		Persons	
5. Cases otherwise closed	Cases		
	Persons		
6. Applications pending at end of period	Cases		
	Persons		
7. Convention recognition rate			
8. Total recognition rate			

TABLE 11. FRAMEWORK FOR THE TABULATION OF STATISTICS ON THE MODE OF REACHING POSITIVE DECISIONS ON ASYLUM APPLICATIONS

Country: _____ Year: _____

				Country of citizenship	
				Country A	Country B
Positive decisions during period	Convention status granted	First instance	Cases		
			Persons		
		Appeal	Cases		
			Persons		
	Humanitarian status granted	First instance	Cases		
			Persons		
		Appeal	Cases		
			Persons		

covered by those decisions. All decisions to grant humanitarian status should be reported, whether they are reached at the first instance or on appeal.

175. **Negative decisions:** The number of cases that were decided negatively, that is to say, where the decision was **not** to grant refugee status of any kind (either on the basis of the 1951 Convention or on humanitarian grounds), should be reported, distinguishing those where the persons concerned are allowed to stay temporarily under stay-of-deportation orders from the cases in which the persons involved are expected to leave the country. Both the number of cases and the number of persons involved under each category should be presented.

176. **Cases otherwise closed:** The number of cases that were closed without a decision should be reported together with the number of persons involved. Reasons for closing cases in this category should be indicated in a footnote. They usually include the impossibility of contacting the applicant to schedule an interview, the non-appearance of the applicant for an interview, the death or departure of the applicant. In some countries, this category also includes cases closed on formal grounds such as “safe country of origin”, “transit through a safe third country” and so

forth. Under these circumstances, the separate reporting of the number of cases closed on formal grounds is recommended.

177. **Applications pending at the end of the period:** With respect to table 10, this number is equal to the number of applications pending at the beginning of the period (1), plus the number of applications submitted during the period (2), minus the number of positive (3) and negative decisions (4) and minus the number of cases otherwise closed (5).

178. **Recognition rates:** There are several possible measures of the extent to which asylum-seekers are being granted refugee status. The most narrow refers to the percentage granted Convention status, which is calculated as the ratio of the number of cases obtaining Convention status (3 (a) in table 10) to the total number of cases adjudicated (positive plus negative decisions: the sum of 3 and 4). That percentage is commonly known as the Convention recognition rate and is a period measure. Another possible measure is the percentage of positive decisions derived by including in the numerator the number of cases granted Convention status plus the number admitted on humanitarian grounds (3 (a) plus 3 (b)), and dividing

that number by the total number of positive and
n e g a t i v e

TABLE 12. FRAMEWORK FOR THE TABULATION OF THE NUMBER OF ASYLUM APPLICATIONS
BY STATUS OF PERSON FILING AND DECISION TAKEN BY STATUS OF APPLICANT

Country:

Year:

			Country of citizenship		
			Country A	Country B	
Applications submitted during period	Newly arrived	Cases			
		Persons			
	From within country	Cases			
		Persons			
Positive decisions during period	Convention status granted	Newly arrived	Cases		
			Persons		
		From within country	Cases		
			Persons		
	Humanitarian status granted	Newly arrived	Cases		
			Persons		
		From within country	Cases		
			Persons		
Negative decisions during period	Newly arrived	Cases			
		Persons			
	From within country	Cases			
		Persons			
Cases otherwise closed	Newly arrived	Cases			
		Persons			
	From within country	Cases			
		Persons			

TABLE 13. FRAMEWORK FOR THE TABULATION OF STATISTICS ON THE REASONS FOR REJECTING APPLICATIONS FOR ASYLUM OR FOR DENYING ASYLUM

Country: _____ Year: _____

			Country of citizenship		
			Country A	Country B	
Applications rejected on formal grounds as manifestly unfounded	Safe country of origin	Cases			
		Persons			
	Transit through safe third country	Cases			
		Persons			
	Other grounds (specify at foot of table)	Cases			
		Persons			
	Total applications rejected through initial decisions	Cases			
		Persons			
	Applications rejected after full hearing	Cases granted stay of deportation	Cases		
			Persons		
Order to deport		Cases			
		Persons			
Total rejected after full hearing		Cases			
		Persons			
Total number of applications rejected	Cases				
	Persons				

Other grounds, specify: _____

decisions (3 plus 4). This measure is called the total recognition rate. If all cases submitted over the course of a year are followed through to their completion, the equivalent measures can be obtained on a cohort basis. Very few countries, however, produce data relative to cohorts by year of application.

179. **First instance and appeal:** It is recommended that the number of positive decisions taken be tabulated by type (Convention status granted and humanitarian status granted) and by whether the decision was

reached at the first instance or on appeal (see table 11). Systems allowing more than two instances for the consideration of asylum applications should present the results of each instance separately.

180. **Status of applicant:** Table 12 indicates that information on the number of asylum applications filed and processed, classified by whether the applicant is newly arrived or has already been living in the country where the application is filed, should be produced.

181. **Grounds for rejection of applications:** Table 13 indicates that data on the number of asylum applications rejected according to reason for rejection should be produced. Also to be included is the number of applications that received negative decisions after going through the full determination procedure, by type of decision reached.

182. In addition to tables 10 to 13, it is recommended that the distribution by sex, five-year age group and country of citizenship of the persons covered by the following sets of applications or cases be prepared: (a) applications for asylum submitted during a period (category 2 in table 10); (b) cases granted Convention status; (c) cases granted asylum on humanitarian grounds; (d) all cases receiving negative decisions; and (e) cases receiving negative decisions but subject to stay of deportation. Note that use of this approach implies that the data on asylum-seekers proper will be tabulated according to the date on which the application for asylum was filed. To recapitulate, the list of tabulations recommended is the following:

1. Total number of persons covered by the applications for asylum submitted or filed during a period classified by sex, age group and country of citizenship
2. Total number of persons granted Convention status after adjudication of asylum applications classified by sex, age group and country of citizenship
3. Total number of persons granted humanitarian status after adjudication of asylum

applications classified by sex, age group and country of citizenship

4. Total number of persons covered by asylum applications receiving negative decisions classified by sex, age group and country of citizenship
5. Total number of persons covered by asylum applications receiving negative decisions, but who are subject to stay-of-deportation orders, classified by sex, age group and country of citizenship

183. In respect of countries admitting refugees for resettlement whose cases are processed abroad, it is recommended that those cases be excluded from the asylum tabulations discussed so far. A separate tabulation of the number of resettled refugees by sex, age group and country of citizenship should be prepared. In estimating the refugee stock, only those asylum-seekers who have been formally granted refugee status, either as Convention refugees or for humanitarian reasons, should be included.

184. In countries where migration for family reunification is permitted, immediate family members who do not accompany the principal asylum applicant during the period in which the application is considered but join him or her at a later stage should be excluded from the asylum statistics. Family members who are admitted on the basis of their relationship with a person granted refugee status should be included in the statistics relative to migration inflows as indicated in table 4 of the framework.

VI. STOCK DATA RELEVANT FOR THE STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

185. Given the general definition of “long-term international migrant” presented in box 1, the natural definition of “stock of international migrants present in a country” would be “the set of persons who have ever changed their country of usual residence, that is to say, persons who have spent at least one year of their lives in a country other than the one in which they live at the time the data are gathered”. Having information on this set of persons, however, will not be useful in answering the questions posed in chapter I nor in addressing many of the issues raised in the policy domain. In fact, as has been stressed throughout these recommendations, many of the concerns related to international migration are citizenship-specific in the sense that foreigners and citizens do not necessarily have equal social, economic or political rights. Consequently, it is common to find that the need for information relates not to the generality of international migrants as characterized above but rather to those who do not have the citizenship of the country where they live and to those who, despite their having acquired the citizenship of the country where they live, were not part of that country's population since the beginning of their lives.

186. Consequently, for the study of the impact of international migration, two subpopulations are the focus of interest: (a) that of foreigners living in a country; and (b) that of persons born in a country other than the one in which they live (the foreign-born). Most of the individuals included in each of these subpopulations satisfy the definition of long-term migrant, since they have lived during at least a year of their lives in a country other than that in which their usual residence is located at the time of data collection. Foreigners are likely to have lived in their country of citizenship, the foreign-born in their country of birth. There are, however, exceptions. According to the nationality laws of certain countries, children born to foreign parents are foreigners even if they were born and have always lived in the receiving country. These foreigners would therefore not qualify as long-term migrants under the general definition. Fewer exceptions arise in the case of foreign-born persons, though it is conceivable that some may have spent only a few days or months in the country of birth

before settling in the country where they are enumerated, and would therefore not strictly qualify as long-term migrants.

187. In view of these exceptions, neither the foreign nor the foreign-born population can be equated with the stock of international migrants. However, both represent stocks that are relevant for the study of international migration and as such will be the focus of attention in the present chapter whose task is to present recommendations on the production of the stock statistics needed for the analysis of international migration.

A. DEFINITIONS AND DATA-COLLECTION ISSUES

188. **The foreign population of a country includes all persons who have that country as country of usual residence and who are the citizens of another country.** Ideally the country of citizenship or legal nationality of a person should be established on the basis of documentary evidence such as the passport that the person holds. In the case of a person having double or multiple nationalities, that person should be considered a foreigner only if those nationalities do not include that of his or her country of usual residence. Because the most common sources of information on the foreign population or the foreign stock are household-based field inquiries, citizenship or legal nationality is generally established on the basis of self-reporting or reporting by the head of household. Under those circumstances, documentary evidence is not used to establish the validity of reports on citizenship and the possibility of reporting errors arises.

189. **The foreign-born population of a country includes all persons who have that country as country of usual residence and whose place of birth is located in another country.** A person's country of birth is the country where the place in which that person was born is located according to the geographical and political configuration of countries at the time of data collection. If there have been boundary changes affecting the country of birth of a

person, it may be necessary to make allowance for them in recording the person's country of birth. It is particularly important that persons who have remained in the territory where they were born but whose "country of birth" may have changed because of boundary changes **not** be counted as foreign-born because of failure to take account of the new configuration of the country where they live.

190. The major sources of information on the foreign-born population are censuses, nationally representative household surveys and population registers. Information on the foreign population is also obtained from those three sources as well as from registers of foreigners. Because population registers are more likely to record information on citizenship than on country of birth, they are more commonly the source of information on the foreign than on the foreign-born population.

191. Both nationally representative sample surveys and censuses are the most common sources of information on the foreign or the foreign-born populations. Among the countries that conducted a census during the period 1975-1984, 61 per cent published data on the foreign-born population and 39 per cent did so on the foreign population. Household surveys, particularly those carried out periodically in countries that have been important destinations of international migrants, generally include questions on place of birth, citizenship or both, thus allowing the estimation of the size of the foreign or the foreign-born population present in a country. Thus, the labour-force surveys carried out in many European countries include a question on citizenship and the Current Population Survey of the United States of America gathers information on place of birth. A major advantage of both censuses and household surveys is that they allow the analysis of information on place of birth or citizenship jointly with other characteristics of the population covered. They are therefore key sources of information on the number of economically active foreign-born persons or on the number of economically active foreigners. Labour-force surveys can also yield information on the level of unemployment among the foreign-born or the foreign population, though sampling error and reporting problems that may be more accentuated among the foreign-born or among foreigners may compromise the quality of the information obtained.

192. Because information on both place of birth and current citizenship is necessary to make a full assessment of the impact of international migration on a country, it is recommended that all sources of information covering the whole population gather information on both items. In particular, censuses, population registers and registers of foreigners should record information on both place of birth and citizenship.

193. When censuses are used to obtain information on the foreign or the foreign-born population in a country, the coverage of the data obtained will depend on the definition of the population being enumerated. Censuses may aim at enumerating the *de facto* population and thus include all persons physically present in the country at the census reference date, or they may cover only the *de jure* population and hence include only the usual residents of the country in question, some of whom may not be physically present in the country at the reference date. Straightforward as these concepts seem, strict conformity to either is rare. In particular, there are certain groups of persons, many of whom are foreign or foreign-born, who may be included or excluded from census counts on arbitrary grounds. Thus, some censuses claiming to cover the *de facto* population may nevertheless exclude foreign military and naval personnel or diplomatic personnel and their accompanying family members and domestic employees, while at the same time including national merchant seaman or fishermen (in other words, persons who are citizens) who were outside the country at the time of enumeration. Censuses based on a *de jure* approach may also include groups of foreigners who may not strictly qualify as residents, such as short-term foreign workers.

194. The census recommendations published in 1980 (United Nations, 1980b) list 14 distinct population groups that are generally subject to special treatment in census enumerations (see box 6). Several of the groups, particularly those encompassing civilian foreigners (*j to m*), are relevant for the measurement of

Box 6. Population sub-groups accorded special treatment in population censuses

- (a) Nomads.
- (b) Persons living in areas to which access is difficult.
- (c) Military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families located outside the country.
- (d) Merchant seamen and fishermen resident in the country but at sea at the time of the census (including those who have no place of residence other than their quarters aboard ship).
- (e) Civilian residents temporarily in another country as seasonal workers.
- (f) Civilian residents who cross a frontier daily to work in another country.
- (g) Civilian residents other than those in (c), (e) and (f) who are working in another country.
- (h) Civilian residents other than those in (c) to (g) who are temporarily absent from the country.
- (i) Civilian foreigners temporarily in the country as seasonal workers.
- (j) Civilian foreigners temporarily in another country as seasonal workers.
- (k) Civilian foreigners who cross a frontier daily to work in the country.
- (l) Civilian foreigners other than those in (i), (j) and (k) who are working in the country.
- (m) Civilian foreigners other than those in (i) to (l) who are temporarily absent from the country.
- (n) Transients on ships in harbour at the time of the census.

Source: *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*, Statistical Papers, No. 67 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.XVII.8), 1980b, para. 2.47.

both the foreign and the foreign-born populations. Although there is no comprehensive set of information indicating to what extent those groups are included in or excluded from census enumerations, data compiled by the United Nations Statistical Division (1994) for selected countries carrying out censuses during the 1970 and 1980 rounds suggest that, in most instances, sub-group *l*, consisting of civilian foreigners working in the country, is included in the population enumerated by censuses, whether the latter are carried out on a *de facto* or a *de jure* basis. Civilian foreigners who are not working and are only temporarily in the country tend to be included when a *de facto* approach is followed and may or may not be included if the census is carried out on a *de jure* basis. National military, naval or diplomatic personnel stationed outside the country are likely to be excluded except in some *de jure* censuses. It is therefore possible that some groups may end up being excluded from the censuses of both the country of origin and that of

destination. To ensure that data users become aware of the groups included in or excluded from the census count, the treatment of the special groups listed in box 6 should be presented in conjunction with the census results. Ideally, to obtain a measure of the foreign and the foreign-born populations as defined above, censuses should enumerate only those persons who are usual residents of the country concerned.

195. In recording information on place of birth, the question posed needs to allow for the recording of either a place within the country of enumeration or the name of a country in the case of those born abroad. The question used during field inquiries should make it possible to distinguish persons who do not know their place of birth but know that it was within the country of enumeration from those who do not know or do not state their place of birth but know that it was in another country. Thus the question should have the form:

Where were you (or this person) born?

- G** *In this country*
Indicate locality: _____
and province: _____
or Place not known: _____
- G** *In another country*
Indicate country: _____
or Country not known: _____

Because the information on place of birth is relevant for the analysis of both internal and international migration, the tabulations produced often present both the distribution of the locally born population by state, province or department of birth and that of the foreign-born population by country of birth, and often such tabulations include only one category for all those whose place of birth is unknown or not stated. When countries follow such a practice, it is common to find that the number of persons in the not-stated category is similar to the number of foreign-born. In such cases, the interpretation of the data changes significantly depending on whether the not-stated category includes mostly locally born persons who ignore or did not report their province of birth or is constituted mostly of foreign-born persons. To avoid possible misinterpretations, the tabulated data should include two different categories of not-stated: (a) those born in the country of enumeration but with place of birth unknown and (b) those born abroad with place of birth unknown.

196. In gathering information on citizenship or legal nationality it is important to record both country of current citizenship and mode of acquisition of citizenship. Thus, the question on citizenship should have the following form:

What is the current citizenship of this person?

- G** *Citizen of this country (of enumeration) by birth*
- G** *Citizen of this country (of enumeration) by naturalization*
- G** *Citizen of another country, specify country*

Note that citizenship is recorded in terms of “country of citizenship” and not in terms of an adjective (for

example, British, English, Chinese, Indian and so forth) which may mean both ethnic group and citizenship. For a more detailed discussion of the strengths and limitations of censuses for the measurement of the foreign and the foreign-born population, see Bilborrow and others (1997).

197. Some countries that gather information on both place of birth and mode of acquisition of citizenship use a restricted definition of “foreign-born” for tabulation purposes: they regard as “foreign-born” only those persons who were born abroad and did not have a right to the citizenship of the country concerned at the time of their birth (in other words, persons who are **not** citizens by birth). Such a practice is followed by Canada and the United States. In both those countries, the elimination of foreign-born persons who are citizens by birth from the total stock of the foreign-born makes the residual conform more closely to the concept of immigrant upheld by their legal systems, that is to say, a foreigner admitted for permanent settlement. Although the rationale for adjusting the foreign-born population in this way is strong, it would be useful to also produce a few tabulations that indicated the size of the adjustment made. A tabulation of the total enumerated population by place of birth (in the country vs. abroad) and citizenship (by birth, naturalization, or foreign) is recommended. In addition, if a restricted definition of the foreign-born is used in other tables, a clear indication of the restricted definition used should be given in each of them.

198. One of the advantages of censuses and populations registers is that they can produce a comprehensive, albeit limited, profile of the population in a country. Clearly, information about the socio-economic characteristics of the population in general is also relevant for the characterization of the foreign and foreign-born subpopulations. Thus it is useful to know their distribution by age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, labour force participation, occupation, industry and so forth. In addition, there are certain items of information that are particularly relevant for the study of international migration, such as time of arrival in the country or language ability.

199. Because the duration of stay of foreigners and foreign-born persons in the receiving country is a key

variable associated with or even determining the socio-economic standing of the persons concerned, it is important to gather information allowing such a duration to be estimated. The recommended approach is to record year of arrival in the country, defined as the year in which the person first established his or her usual residence in the country (or, in other words, when the person first moved to the country in order to live there). In field inquiries, recording the year of arrival is preferable to providing pre-coded answers in terms of time intervals. In population registers or registers of foreigners, if the date of first registration or the date of arrival at the time of first registration is maintained in a person's record, no additional information is needed to estimate the duration of stay of the foreign-born or foreign persons that remain registered.

200. Information on language can have several variants. It may refer to: (a) mother tongue, defined as the language first spoken at home by a person during his or her childhood; (b) usual language, defined as the language currently spoken, or most often spoken by the individual in his or her present home; or (c) ability to speak one or more designated languages (such as those considered the official languages of the country concerned). Since each of these types of information serves a distinct analytical purpose, each country should decide which is most appropriate for its needs. Information on language should be collected for all persons (and the criterion for determining the language of children not yet able to speak should be clearly indicated). In countries having significant numbers of foreign or foreign-born persons, recording both their usual language and their ability to speak the country's official language or languages is desirable to indicate the degree of integration of international migrants into the host society.

201. The population registers and registers of foreigners may gather information permitting the classification of foreigners according to the type of visa or permit allowing them to stay in the country. Whenever that information is available, it should be used to classify the foreign population according to migrant category (type of permit), as suggested in the recommended tabulations below. It may also be possible to distinguish certain types of migrants using information gathered through household-based field inquiries. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has suggested,

for instance, that foreigners or the foreign-born should be asked whether they were originally admitted as refugees so as to obtain an estimate of the number of surviving persons who have been granted asylum by the country of enumeration (a measure of stock). Such information, however, cannot be taken to represent the number of refugees in a country since persons admitted originally as refugees may have changed their status since admission.

202. Population registers, registers of foreigners and household surveys may record information on the previous country of usual residence of foreign or foreign-born persons. Censuses might also record such information if there is a sense that many foreign-born individuals have lived in a country other than their country of birth before moving to the country of enumeration. However, because adding questions to censuses is costly and information on previous country of usual residence is expected to be highly correlated with that on country of birth, adding a question to censuses on previous country of usual residence has low priority.

203. To conclude this discussion on the data sources most likely to furnish information on the foreign or the foreign-born population of a country, it is important to stress the key role that censuses play in this respect. Today, they provide the most comprehensive source of data on the types of population stock that are most relevant for both the measurement and the study of international migration. In countries that are major receivers of international migrants, census information provides the basis for many types of in-depth analysis of the economic and social aspects of international migration. The practice of producing easily accessible census samples with a sufficiently large coverage so as to permit an adequate representation of the foreign or the foreign-born population in a country has greatly enhanced the availability of data to carry out such analyses. Furthermore, the universal coverage of the population that only a census can attain is an asset in countries where the foreign or the foreign-born populations represent a low percentage of the total.

204. Census data have provided the basis for the most comprehensive set of estimates of the "total migrant stock" in countries of the world (see United Nations, 1996c) and the availability of detailed

tabulations of the foreign or the foreign-born population by country of origin (that is to say, country of citizenship for foreigners and country of birth for the foreign-born) for the major receiving countries is potentially one of the most useful bases for the estimation of the stock of emigrants originating in different countries. In this respect, fostering the exchange of information on the foreign or the foreign-born population between countries of origin and destination is a strategy likely to improve both the usefulness and the quality of the data concerned. In fact, since the 1970s, the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) has been sponsoring the formal exchange of information on the foreign-born as enumerated by censuses among the countries of the Americas. At the global level, the United Nations has also contributed to such exchange through the publication of tabulations of the foreign and foreign-born population by country of origin in the *Demographic Yearbook* series. The present recommendations fully endorse such efforts and, by providing guidance on other types of tabulations that would exploit the richness of census data, hope to enhance their use for the measurement and analysis of international migration.

B. RECOMMENDED TABULATIONS ON THE FOREIGN AND FOREIGN-BORN POPULATIONS

205. The list of recommended tabulations presented below assumes that information on a number of socio-economic characteristics of the foreign and the foreign-born populations have been recorded by the data-collection system gathering the relevant information. Most of the items of information needed are similar to those discussed in chapter IV in connection with data relative to flows of international migrants and a discussion of their meaning and ways of classifying them is found in section A of that chapter. A discussion on period of arrival, language and migration category is found in the previous section of this chapter.

206. Note that it is essential that all tabulations relative to the foreign or the foreign-born population be presented by sex. In addition, all those tabulations including age group as a variable should present distributions by five-year age groups with an open-ended interval set at 85 years of age or over. The use

of other groups is not recommended because it reduces the usefulness of the data for many potential users.

207. Although all the tabulations listed below are relevant, those judged to have the highest priority have been set in bold face. Note that it is assumed that the sources of information available will gather information on both place of birth and citizenship thus allowing the preparation of tabulations on both items simultaneously.

208. In classifying the data by country (be it of birth or of citizenship), it is important to present as much detail as possible and to use a comprehensive list of the countries and areas constituting the world at the time of data collection. The grouping of data for various countries should be kept to a minimum and be limited to those countries from which very few foreign-born or foreign persons originate. For purposes of coding, it is recommended that the numerical coding system presented in the publication entitled *Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use* (United Nations, 1996b) be used. The use of standard codes for classification of the country of citizenship facilitates an international exchange of information. If it is decided that some countries (of birth or citizenship) will be combined into broad groups, it is recommended that the standard regional and subregional classifications identified in that publication be adopted.

209. Given the nature of the data systems most likely to produce information on the foreign and the foreign-born populations, the data are likely to be available only at lengthy intervals (depending on when censuses are conducted). It is therefore more pressing to obtain as much information as possible from those sources. To enable the in-depth exploitation of the data gathered, census takers are urged to produce census samples in machine-readable form that allow the comparison of foreigners and the foreign-born with citizens and natives, respectively. The dissemination of machine-readable public-use files containing information only on the foreign population (that is to say, only on households having members who are foreigners) and only on the foreign-born population (in other words, households with members who are foreign-born) is also recommended.

I. Recommended tabulations using both place of birth and citizenship

- 1. Population by sex, age group, country of birth and citizenship (citizens by birth, citizens by naturalization, foreigners)**
- 2. Population by sex, country of birth and country of citizenship**
- 3. Population by sex, place of birth (in country of enumeration versus abroad) and citizenship (citizens by birth, citizens by naturalization, foreigners)**

II. Recommended tabulations using information on place of birth

- 1. Population by sex and country of birth**
- 2. Population by sex, age group and country of birth**
3. Population by sex, marital status and country of birth
4. Population by sex, educational attainment and country of birth
5. Population by sex, age group, marital status and place of birth (native versus foreign-born)
6. Population by sex, age group, educational attainment and place of birth (native versus foreign-born)
- 7. Foreign-born population by sex and single year of age**
- 8. Foreign-born population by sex and state or province of usual residence in the country**
9. Foreign-born population by sex, country of birth and period of arrival
10. Foreign-born population by sex, age group and period of arrival
11. Foreign-born population by sex, age group, country of birth and period of arrival
12. Foreign-born population by sex, age group and previous country of usual residence
13. Foreign-born population by sex, age group, country of birth and ability to speak the official language(s) of the country of usual residence
14. Foreign-born population by sex, age group, country of birth and usual language
- 15. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, age group and occupation**
- 16. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, age group and industry**
- 17. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, age group and status in employment**
- 18. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, occupation and country of birth**
19. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, industry and country of birth
20. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, occupation and period of arrival
21. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, industry and period of arrival
22. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, status in employment and industry
23. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, status in employment and occupation
24. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, industry and occupation
25. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, age group, occupation and educational attainment
26. Economically active foreign-born population by sex, age group, industry and educational attainment

III. Recommended tabulations using information on citizenship

- 1. Population by sex and country of citizenship**
- 2. Population by sex, age group and country of citizenship**
3. Population by sex, marital status and country of citizenship
- 4. Population by sex, educational attainment and country of citizenship**
- 5. Population by sex, age group and citizenship (citizens by birth, citizens by naturalization, foreigners)**
- 6. Population by sex, age group, marital status and citizenship (citizens by birth, naturalization and foreigners)**
7. Population by sex, age group, educational attainment and citizenship (citizens by birth, citizens by naturalization and foreigners)
- 8. Foreign population by sex and single year of age**
- 9. Foreign population by sex and state or province of usual residence in the country**

10. **Foreign population by sex, country of citizenship and migrant category (type of permit)**
11. **Foreign population by sex, country of citizenship and period of arrival**
12. **Foreign population by sex, age group and period of arrival**
13. Foreign population by sex, age group, country of citizenship and period of arrival
14. Foreign population by sex, age group and previous country of usual residence
15. Foreign population by sex, age group, country of citizenship and ability to speak the official language(s) of the country of usual residence
16. Foreign population by sex, age group, country of citizenship and usual language
17. **Economically active foreign population by sex, age group and occupation**
18. **Economically active foreign population by sex, age group and industry**
19. **Economically active foreign population by sex, age group and status in employment**
20. **Economically active foreign population by sex, occupation and country of citizenship**
21. Economically active foreign population by sex, industry and country of citizenship
22. Economically active foreign population by sex, occupation and period of arrival
23. Economically active foreign population by sex, industry and period of arrival
24. Economically active foreign population by sex, status in employment and industry
25. Economically active foreign population by sex, status in employment and occupation
26. Economically active foreign population by sex, industry and occupation
27. Economically active foreign population by sex, age group, occupation and educational attainment
28. Economically active foreign population by sex, age group, industry and educational attainment

REFERENCES

- Bilsborrow, Richard E., and others (1997). *International Migration Statistics: Guidelines for Improving Data Collection Systems*. Geneva: International Labour Office.
- Eurostat (1990). Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3037/90 of 9 October 1990 (OJ L 293 of 24 October 1990) as modified by Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 761/93 of 24 March 1993 (OJ L 83 of 3 April 1993). Luxembourg: Eurostat.
- _____ (1994). *Asylum-seekers and Refugees: A Statistical Report*, vols. 1 and 2. Luxembourg: Eurostat.
- Gisser, Richard, and Michel Poulain (1992). *Migration Statistics for the EFTA Countries*. Report presented to the Working Party on Demographic Statistics, meeting on 26, 27 and 28 February. Doc E3/SD/12/92. Luxembourg: Eurostat.
- Grundström, Curt (1993). *Report on Nordic Immigrants and Migration*. Statistical Reports of the Nordic Countries. No. 94. Copenhagen: Tryk & Design a-s.
- Hoffmann, Eivind, and Sophia Lawrence (1996). Statistics on international migration: A review of sources and methodological issues. Geneva: International Labour Office.
- International Labour Organization (1990). *International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-88)*. Geneva: International Labour Office.
- _____ (1993). *Report of the Fifteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, Geneva, 19-28 January 1993, Appendix I, resolution III*. Geneva: International Labour Office.
- Kelly, John J. (1987). Improving the comparability of international migration statistics: contributions of the Conference of European Statisticians from 1971 to date. *International Migration Review* (Staten Island, New York), vol. 21, No. 4 (winter), pp. 1,017-1,037.
- Poulain, Michel (1993). Confrontation des statistiques de migrations intra-européennes: vers plus d'harmonisation. *European Journal of Population* (Dordrecht, Netherlands), vol. 9, pp. 353-381.
- _____, Marc Debuissou and Thierry Eggerickx (n.d.). *Projet d'harmonisation des statistiques de migration internationale au sein de la Communauté européenne: Rapports nationaux*. Louvain-la-Neuve: Catholic University of Louvain. Mimeograph.
- United Nations (1949). *Problems of Migration Statistics*. Population Studies, No. 5. Sales No. 1950.XIII.1. Lake Success, New York.
- _____ (1953). *International Migration Statistics*. Statistical Papers, No. 20. Sales No. E.53.XIII.10.
- _____ (1957). *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.
- _____ (1967). *Treaty Series*, vol. 606, No. 8791.
- _____ (1969a). *Principles and Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses*. Statistical Papers, No. 44. Sales No. E.67.XIII.3.
- _____ (1969b). *Methodology and Evaluation of Population Registers and Similar Systems*. Studies in Methods, No. 15. Sales No. E.69.XVII.15.
- _____ (1978a). *Demographic Yearbook, 1977*. Sales No. E/F.78.XIII.1.
- _____ (1978b). *Provisional Guidelines on Statistics of International Tourism*. Statistical Papers, No. 62. Sales No. E.78.XVII.6.
- _____ (1980a). *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration*. Statistical Papers, No. 58. Sales No. E.79.XVII.18.
- _____ (1980b). *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*. Statistical Papers, No. 67. Sales No. E.80.XVII.8.
- _____ (1985). *Consolidated Statistics of All International Arrivals and Departures: A Technical Report*. Studies in Methods, No. 36. Sales No. E.85.XVII.8.
- _____ (1986). *National Data Sources and Programmes for Implementing the United Nations Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration*. Studies in Methods, No. 37. Sales No. E.86.XVII.22.
- _____ (1990). *International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities*. Statistical Papers, No. 4, Rev.3. Sales No. E.90.XVII.11.
- _____ (1991). *Demographic Yearbook, 1989*. Sales No. E/F.90.XIII.1.
- _____ (1995a). *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994*. Sales No. E.95.XIII.18.
- _____ (1995b). *International Migration Policies and the Status of Female Migrants*. Sales No. E.95.XIII.10.
- _____ (1996a). *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995*. Sales No. E.96.IV.8.
- _____ (1996b). *Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use*. Statistical Papers, No. 49, Rev.3. ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/49/Rev.3.
- _____ (1996c). Trends in Total Migrant Stock, Revision 4. Database maintained by the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat. POP/1B/DB/96/1/Rev.4.
- _____ (1997). *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 4*. E/1997/29.
- _____ (1998). *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*. Revision 1. Statistical Papers, No. 67, Rev.1. Sales No. E.98.XVII.8.
- _____, and World Tourism Organization (1994). *Recommendations on Tourism Statistics*. Statistical Papers, No. 83. Sales No. E.94.XVII.6.
- United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) (1994). *The Migration of Women*. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic: INSTRAW.
- United Nations Statistical Division (1994). *Definition of Total Population: National Practices and Implications for Population Counts or Estimates and Projections*. Paper presented to the ACC Subcommittee on Demographic Estimates and Projections, Eighth Session, 28-30 June (ACC/SCDEP/1994/TP/3).
- _____, and Statistical Office of the European Communities (1995). Final report of the Expert Group Meeting on International Migration Statistics, New York, 10 to 14 July 1995.

Glossary

Ancestry-based settlers: Foreigners admitted by a country other than their own because of their historical, ethnic or other ties with that country, who, by virtue of those ties, are immediately granted the right of long-term residence in that country or who, having the right to citizenship in that country, become citizens within a short period after admission.

Asylum-seekers: Persons who file an application for asylum in a country other than their own. They remain in the status of asylum-seeker until their application is considered and adjudicated. See also *foreigners seeking asylum*.

Border workers: Persons commuting between their country of usual residence (which is usually their country of citizenship as well) and their place of employment abroad.

Citizens deported from abroad: Citizens returning to their country as a result of deportation procedures against them in another country.

Citizens in transit: Persons who arrive in their own country but do not enter it formally because they are on their way to another destination.

Contract migrant workers: Persons working in a country other than their own under contractual arrangements that set limits on the period of employment and on the specific job held by the migrant (that is to say, contract migrant workers cannot change jobs without permission granted by the authorities of the receiving State).

Country of usual residence: The country in which a person lives, that is to say, the country in which he or she has a place to live where he or she normally spends the daily period of rest. Temporary travel abroad for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends or relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage does not change a person's country of usual residence.

Dependants: Immediate relatives of the principal migrant who are normally admitted in the same migration category as that person. Although the definition of *immediate relative* varies from country to country, the spouse and minor children of a principal migrant usually qualify as dependants.

Diplomats and consular personnel: Foreigners working under diplomatic permits for foreign embassies or consulates established in the receiving country. Also, citizens travelling under diplomatic passports in order to

work in their country's embassies or consulates abroad or in order to return from a posting abroad.

Domestic employees: Foreign persons admitted for the specific purpose of providing personal services to the foreign diplomatic and consular personnel in the country.

Employment: See *foreign migrant workers*.

Employment-based settlers: Foreigners selected for long-term settlement because of their qualifications and prospects in the receiving country's labour market. However, they are not admitted expressly to exercise a particular economic activity.

Entrepreneurs and investors (as settlers): Foreigners granted the right to long-term settlement in a country on condition that they invest a minimum sum of money or create new productive activities in the receiving country.

Excursionists (also called "same-day visitors"): Persons who do not reside in the country of arrival and stay for just a day without spending the night in a collective or private accommodation within the country visited. This category includes cruise passengers who arrive in a country on a cruise ship and return to the ship each night to sleep on board as well as crew members who do not spend the night in the country. It also includes residents of border areas who visit the neighbouring country during the day to shop, visit friends or relatives, seek medical treatment, or participate in leisure activities.

Family-based settlers: Foreigners selected for long-term settlement because of the family ties they have with citizens or foreigners already residing in the receiving country.

Foreign border workers: Foreign persons granted the permission to be employed on a continuous basis in the receiving country provided they depart at regular and short intervals (daily or weekly) from that country.

Foreign-born population of a country: All persons who have that country as the country of usual residence and whose place of birth is located in another country.

Foreign business travellers: Foreign persons granted the permission to engage in business or professional activities that are not remunerated from within the country of arrival. Their length of stay is restricted and cannot surpass 12 months.

Foreign diplomatic and consular personnel: Foreigners admitted under diplomatic visas or permits.

Foreigners admitted for family formation or reunification: Foreigners admitted because they are the immediate relatives of citizens or foreigners already

residing in the receiving country or because they are the foreign fiancé(e)s or the foreign adopted children of citizens. The definition of *immediate relatives* varies from country to country but it generally includes the spouse and minor children of the person concerned.

Foreigners admitted for humanitarian reasons (other than asylum proper or temporary protection): Foreigners who are not granted full refugee status but are nevertheless admitted for humanitarian reasons because they find themselves in refugee-like situations. See also *asylum-seekers*, *refugees* and *foreigners granted temporary protected status*.

Foreigners admitted for settlement: Foreign persons granted the permission to reside in the receiving country without limitations regarding duration of stay or exercise of an economic activity. Their dependants, if admitted, are also included in this category.

Foreigners granted temporary protected status: Foreigners who are allowed to stay for a temporary though possibly indefinite period because their life would be in danger if they were to return to their country of citizenship. See also *foreigners seeking asylum*.

Foreigners having the right to free establishment: Foreigners who have the right to enter, stay and work within the territory of a country other than their own by virtue of an agreement or treaty concluded between their country of citizenship and the country they enter.

Foreigners in transit: Persons who arrive in the receiving country but do not enter it formally because they are on their way to another destination.

Foreigners seeking asylum: A category that encompasses both persons who are eventually allowed to file an application for asylum (asylum-seekers proper) and those who do not enter the asylum adjudication system formally but are nevertheless granted the permission to stay until they can return safely to their countries of origin (that is to say, they become foreigners granted temporary protected status).

Foreigners whose entry or stay is not sanctioned: This category includes foreigners who violate the rules of admission and stay of the receiving country and are deportable, as well as foreign persons attempting to seek asylum but who are not allowed to file an application and are not permitted to stay in the receiving country on any other grounds.

Foreigners whose status is regularized: Foreigners whose entry or stay has not been sanctioned by the receiving State or who have violated the terms of their admission but who are nevertheless allowed to regularize their status. Although most persons regularizing their status have already been present in the receiving country for some time, their regularization may be taken to represent

the time of their official admission as international migrants. *Foreign excursionists* (also called “same-day visitors”): Foreign persons who visit the receiving country for a day without spending the night in a collective or private accommodation within the country visited. This category includes cruise passengers who arrive in a country on a cruise ship and return to the ship each night to sleep on board as well as crew members who do not spend the night in the country. It also includes residents of border areas who visit the neighbouring country during the day to shop, visit friends or relatives, seek medical treatment, or participate in leisure activities.

Foreign migrant workers: Foreigners admitted by the receiving State for the specific purpose of exercising an economic activity remunerated from within the receiving country. Their length of stay is usually restricted as is the type of employment they can hold.

Foreign military personnel: Foreign military servicemen, officials and advisers stationed in the country. Their dependants and domestic employees are sometimes allowed to accompany them.

Foreign population of a country: All persons who have that country as country of usual residence and who are the citizens of another country.

Foreign retirees (as settlers): Persons beyond retirement age who are granted the right to stay over a long period or indefinitely in the territory of a State other than their own provided that they have sufficient independent income and do not become a charge to that State.

Foreign settlers: See *migrants for settlement*.

Foreign students: Persons admitted by a country other than their own, usually under special permits or visas, for the specific purpose of following a particular course of study in an accredited institution of the receiving country.

Foreign tourists: Foreign persons admitted under tourist visas (if required) for purposes of leisure, recreation, holiday, visits to friends or relatives, health or medical treatment, or religious pilgrimage. They must spend at least a night in a collective or private accommodation in the receiving country and their duration of stay must not surpass 12 months.

Foreign trainees: Persons admitted by a country other than their own to acquire particular skills through on-the-job training. Foreign trainees are therefore allowed to work only in the specific institution or establishment providing the training and their length of stay is usually restricted.

International civil servants: Persons working for international organizations located in a country other than their own. They usually reside in that country under special visas or permits. Their dependants and domestic employees are generally allowed to accompany or join them.

Long-term migrant: A person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least a year (12 months), so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence. From the perspective of the country of departure, the person will be a long-term emigrant and from that of the country of arrival, the person will be a long-term immigrant.

Migrants for settlement: Foreigners granted the permission to stay for a lengthy or unlimited period, who are subject to virtually no limitations regarding the exercise of an economic activity.

Migrants having the right to free establishment or movement: See *foreigners having the right to free establishment*

Migrant workers: See *foreign migrant workers*.

Migration for employment: See *foreign migrant workers*.

Nomads: Persons without a fixed place of usual residence who move from one site to another, usually according to well-established patterns of geographical mobility. When their trajectory involves crossing current international boundaries, they become part of the international flows of people. Some nomads may be stateless persons because, lacking a fixed place of residence, they may not be recognized as citizens by any of the countries through which they pass.

Principal migrant: Within a family group, the person who is considered by immigration authorities to be the head of the family and upon whose admission depends that of the other members of the family.

Project-tied migrant workers: Migrant workers admitted by the country of employment for a defined period to work solely on a specific project carried out in that country by the migrant workers' employer.

Refugees: Foreign persons granted refugee status either at the time of admission or before admission. This category therefore includes foreign persons granted refugee status while abroad and entering to be resettled in the receiving country as well as persons granted refugee status on a group basis upon arrival in the country. In some cases, refugee status may be granted when the persons involved are still in their country of origin through "in-country processing" of requests for asylum. Refugee status may be granted on the basis of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol or pertinent regional instruments.

Repatriating asylum-seekers: Citizens returning after having attempted to seek asylum abroad. In principle, this category includes persons who return after their asylum cases have been decided negatively as well as persons who may not have been able to apply for asylum but who stayed abroad under temporary protection for some time.

Repatriating refugees: Citizens returning after having enjoyed asylum abroad. Both refugees returning under internationally assisted repatriation programmes and those returning spontaneously are included in this category.

Returning citizens: See *returning migrants*.

Returning migrants: Persons returning to their country of citizenship after having been international migrants (whether short-term or long-term) in another country and who are intending to stay in their own country for at least a year.

Same-day visitors: See *excursionists* and *foreign excursionists*.

Seasonal migrant workers: Persons employed by a country other than their own for only part of a year because the work they perform depends on seasonal conditions. They are a subcategory of *foreign migrant workers*.

Settlement: See *migrants for settlement*.

Settlers: See *migrants for settlement*.

Short-term migrant: A person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least three months but less than a year (12 months) except in cases where the movement to that country is for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends or relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage. For purposes of international migration statistics, the country of usual residence of short-term migrants is considered to be the country of destination during the period they spend in it.

Stateless persons: Persons who are not recognized as citizens of any State.

Students: See *foreign students*.

Tourists: Persons who do not reside in the country of arrival and are admitted to that country under tourist visas (if required) for purposes of leisure, recreation, holiday, visits to friends or relatives, health or medical treatment, or religious pilgrimage. They must spend at least a night in a collective or private accommodation in the receiving country and their duration of stay must not surpass 12 months.

Trainees: See *foreign trainees*.

Usual residence: See *country of usual residence*.

Visitors (from abroad to the country): Persons who do not reside in the country of arrival and who are admitted for short stays for purposes of leisure, recreation, holidays; visits to friends or relatives; business or professional activities not remunerated from within the receiv-

ing country; health treatment; or religious pilgrimages.
Visitors include excursionists, tourists and business
travellers.