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Item 20 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

### Globalization and interdependence

## International migration and development

### Report of the Secretary-General

#### *Summary*

The present report was prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution [75/226](#). Following a brief introduction in section I, in section II of the report the latest global levels and trends in international migration are presented, and the contribution of migration to overall population change is analysed on the basis of the latest estimates and projections of the world population. In section III, the linkages between migration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are addressed. In particular, an overview is provided of how migration was integrated into voluntary national reviews presented during the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2021 and of the progress made in the monitoring of migration-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators by the United Nations system. Several recent projects to improve migration data are discussed in section IV. The current status of ratification of internationally binding legal instruments related to international migration is presented in section V. Conclusions and actionable recommendations for Member States, United Nations entities and the international community are contained in section VI.

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\* [A/77/150](#).



## I. Introduction

1. The number of international migrants worldwide has risen steadily over the past three decades. The number of international migrants as a share of the global population increased from 2.9 per cent in 1990 to 3.6 per cent in 2020. The global distribution of migrants is highly uneven; in 2020, half of the world's 281 million international migrants were residing in only 10 countries. The net flow of migrants moving from the less developed regions to the more developed regions increased from around 140,000 annually during the 1950s to more than 3 million annually during the periods 2000–2009 and 2010–2019. It has since declined to around 2.5 million in 2020 and in 2021, reflecting the severe mobility restrictions put in place owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

2. The declaration of the Second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (see General Assembly resolution 68/4), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (see Assembly resolution 70/1), the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (see Assembly resolution 71/1), the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (see Assembly resolution 73/195) and the Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum (see Assembly resolution 76/266) reaffirm the strong linkages between migration and sustainable development. These global frameworks encourage countries to integrate migration into national development planning and into their voluntary national reviews prepared in the context of the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

3. In recent years, United Nations entities have stepped up efforts to support Governments in developing policies and programmes to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration, to harness the benefits of migration and to address the associated challenges. Indicators have been developed to measure progress made in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to migration. In the Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum, Member States requested the Secretary-General to propose a limited set of indicators, drawing on the Goals, to support them in their reviews of progress made in implementing the Global Compact for Migration. Initiatives to strengthen the evidence base, as called for in objective 1 of the Global Compact, have multiplied. Ratification of internationally binding legal instruments related to migratory movements and migrants is an important indicator of the commitment of countries to facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration.

## II. Migration levels and trends

### A. International migrant stock

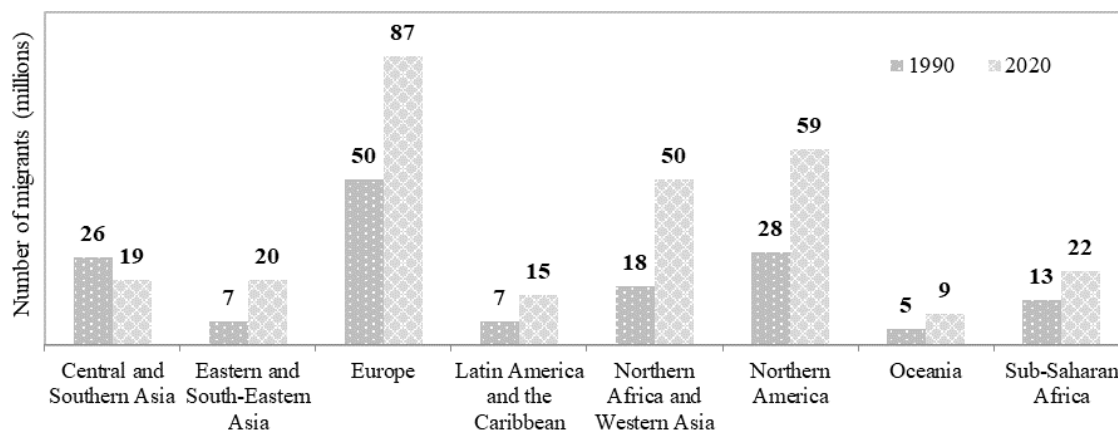
4. The number of international migrants worldwide reached an estimated 281 million in 2020, having grown by 128 million since 1990, with significant variations in levels by region of destination (see figure I).<sup>1</sup> Between 1990 and 2020, countries in the more developed regions received an additional 74 million international migrants, whereas countries in the less developed regions added 53 million.<sup>2</sup> By 2020,

<sup>1</sup> For the purpose of estimating the international migrant stock, international migrants are considered to be persons who are living outside their country of birth or citizenship. The foreign-born or foreign-citizen population covers all persons residing abroad, irrespective of their date of arrival or purpose of stay. The estimates presented herein refer to mid-2020 and may not fully capture the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on migration levels and trends, owing to a lack of data.

<sup>2</sup> More developed regions comprise all countries and areas of Europe and Northern America, plus Australia, New Zealand and Japan. Less developed regions comprise all countries and areas of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan), Latin America and the Caribbean, and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand).

56 per cent of all international migrants, or 157 million people, lived in the more developed regions.

Figure I  
Number of international migrants by region of destination, 1990 and 2020



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2020). *International Migrant Stock 2020* (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2020).

Note: Countries or areas are grouped into geographical regions on the basis of the classification being used to track progress made towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The region of Europe and Northern America has been divided into two separate regions: the region of Europe and the region of Northern America.

5. International migrants accounted for 3.6 per cent of the world's population in 2020, having increased from 2.9 per cent in 1990 – indicating that the number of international migrants worldwide has grown faster than the global population. In 2020, in the more developed regions, international migrants constituted, on average, 12.4 per cent of the total population, whereas migrants comprised only 1.9 per cent of the population in the less developed regions.

6. In 2020, Europe hosted the largest share of the world's migrants (31 per cent), followed by Northern America (21 per cent) and Northern Africa and Western Asia (18 per cent), with the remaining 30 per cent living in other regions of the world.

7. Between 1990 and 2020, the number of international migrants grew by a factor of 2.9 in Eastern and South-Eastern Asia and 2.8 in Northern Africa and Western Asia. During that period, the international migrant stock approximately doubled in Northern America, Latin America and the Caribbean and Oceania, while in Europe and sub-Saharan Africa it increased by 75 per cent and 67 per cent, respectively. Only in Central and Southern Asia did the number of international migrants decrease between 1990 and 2020 (by 26 per cent).

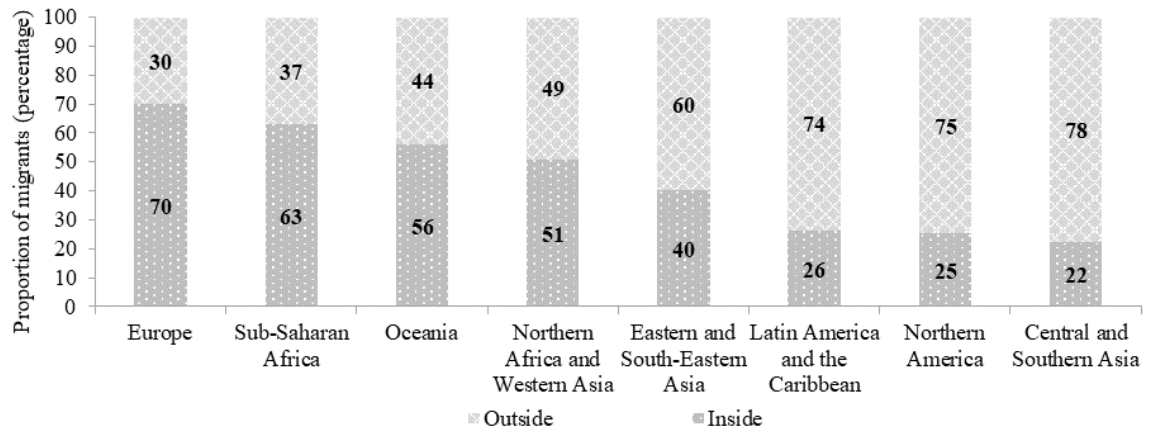
8. Migration often occurs within regions. In 2020, about 45 per cent of all international migrants at the global level were living in their region of origin. Europe had the largest share of intraregional migration, with 70 per cent of all migrants born in the region residing in another country or area of Europe (see figure II). Of those migrating between European countries, nearly half moved between States members of the European Union. Sub-Saharan Africa had the second largest share of intraregional migration globally, with 63 per cent of all migrants born in sub-Saharan Africa living in another country or area of that region in 2020. This reality contradicts the common perception that Europe is the main destination of African migrants.<sup>3</sup> Refugees and

<sup>3</sup> Marie-Laurence Flahaux and Hein De Haas, "African migration: trends, patterns, drivers", *Comparative Migration Studies*, vol. 4, No. 1 (2016).

asylum-seekers comprised around one third of all international migrants within sub-Saharan Africa, pointing to a complex array of factors, including lack of security, that shape migratory movements in the region.<sup>4</sup> By contrast, Central and Southern Asia had the largest share of its diaspora residing outside the region (78 per cent). Other regions with large shares of their transnational populations residing outside the region of origin included Northern America and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Figure II

**Proportions of international migrants who settle inside or outside a given region, by region of origin, 2020**



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2020). *International Migrant Stock 2020* (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2020).

9. In 2020, a mere 20 countries hosted close to two thirds of all international migrants worldwide, and half of all migrants were living in just 10 countries. About 18 per cent of the world's migrants, or close to 51 million people, resided in a single destination country, the United States of America.

10. Women and girls comprised 48.1 per cent of the world's international migrants in 2020. In the less developed regions, the percentage of women and girls among all international migrants fell from 47.1 per cent in 1990 to 43.6 per cent in 2020, resulting in part from the rapid increase in demand for male migrant workers in the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council. In 2020, female migrants accounted for more than half of all international migrants in Northern America, Europe and Oceania (51.8 per cent, 51.6 per cent and 50.5 per cent, respectively). By contrast, male migrants significantly outnumbered female migrants in Northern Africa and Western Asia, where the latter constituted only 35.8 per cent of all international migrants.

11. In 2020, the median age of international migrants residing in the more developed regions was 43.6 years, compared with 34.1 years in the less developed regions. International migrants under 20 years of age accounted for 40.9 million (14.6 per cent) of the world's international migrants in 2020, with 26.3 million (64.2 per cent) residing in the less developed regions. The share of migrants under 20 years of age in the less developed regions (21.3 per cent) is more than twice the share in the more developed regions (9.3 per cent). Close to three quarters of all international migrants worldwide

<sup>4</sup> For statistical purposes, an international migrant is defined as someone who changes his or her country of residence, regardless of the purpose of stay. See *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1*, Statistical Papers Series M, No. 58, Rev.1 (United Nations publication, 1998).

(205 million) were between 20 and 64 years of age, and around 34 million international migrants, or roughly one eighth of the global total, were 65 years of age or older.

12. In 2019, migrant workers represented about 4.9 per cent of the global labour force, comprising 169 million workers, with 41.5 per cent being women. The global share of women among migrant workers masks important differences across regions, with regions such as Northern, Southern and Western Europe having a female share of above 50.0 per cent among migrant workers as compared with below 20.0 per cent in the Arab States. Most migrant workers are employed in high-income (67.4 per cent) or upper-middle-income countries (19.5 per cent).<sup>5</sup> Migrant workers make essential contributions in sectors such as health and agriculture, as became apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>6</sup>

13. In 2021, transfers of remittances were estimated to have reached \$605 billion to low-income and middle-income countries and \$773 billion globally.<sup>7</sup> Remittances contribute to poverty reduction, facilitate access to basic services at the household level and enhance the financial inclusion of migrant families. When invested productively, remittances can foster local entrepreneurship and job creation. Most Governments have implemented policy measures to facilitate the flow of remittances. During the pandemic, many countries declared remittances to be essential services and thus eased regulations, facilitated greater digitalization, offered incentives and abolished or waived transaction fees.

14. Diaspora communities can play an important role in the development of their countries of origin by promoting foreign investment, trade, innovation and access to technology. Diaspora funds and bonds may encourage productive and development-related investments.<sup>8</sup>

15. Most international migrants come from middle-income countries, with such migrants accounting for nearly 177 million, or nearly 63 per cent, of the total in 2020. Some 37 million international migrants, or approximately 13 per cent of the total, originated in low-income countries. In 2020, nearly half of all international migrants from low-income countries were refugees or asylum-seekers.

16. The number of refugees and asylum-seekers more than doubled between 2010 and 2020, reaching an estimated 33.8 million in 2020.<sup>9</sup> In 2020, around 84 per cent of all refugees and asylum-seekers lived in the less developed regions. A total of 40 per cent of all refugees and asylum-seekers, or 13.5 million people, resided in Northern Africa and Western Asia. Sub-Saharan Africa hosted 5.9 million refugees and asylum-seekers, followed by Latin America and the Caribbean, which hosted 4.8 million, while Europe and Central and Southern Asia hosted 3.9 million and 3.6 million, respectively.

<sup>5</sup> ILO, *ILO Global Estimates on International Migrant Workers – Results and Methodology*, 3rd ed. (Geneva, 2021).

<sup>6</sup> Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and others, “2021 annual international migration and forced displacement trends and policies report to the G20”, paper prepared for the Group of 20, 2021.

<sup>7</sup> World Bank, *A War in Pandemic: Implications of the Ukraine Crisis and COVID-19 on Global Governance of Migration and Remittance Flows*, Migration and Development Brief No. 36 (Washington, D.C., 2022).

<sup>8</sup> *Financial Inclusion for Development: Better Access to Financial Services for Women, the Poor, and Migrant Workers* (United Nations publication, 2021).

<sup>9</sup> The latest data on refugees and asylum-seekers available when preparing the 2020 estimates of the international migrant stock refer to 2019; the reported figure also includes Palestine refugees under the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and Venezuelans displaced abroad (see UNHCR, *Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2019* (Geneva, 2020)). The corresponding global number for 2021 was estimated at 36.1 million (see UNHCR, *Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2021* (Geneva, 2022)).

17. Worldwide, refugees and asylum-seekers accounted for 12.0 per cent of the international migrant stock in 2020. The share of refugees and asylum-seekers in the international migrant stock was significantly lower in the more developed regions (3.5 per cent) than in the less developed regions (23.0 per cent).

18. The COVID-19 pandemic affected all forms of human mobility in 2020 and 2021. Around the globe, the closing of national borders and severe disruptions to international travel led millions of people to cancel or delay their plans of moving abroad. Hundreds of thousands of migrants were stranded, unable to return to their countries, while others were forced to return to their home countries earlier than planned when job opportunities dried up and schools closed.

## **B. Contribution of migration to population change**

19. From 1950 to 2020, there was a net flow of persons from countries in the less developed regions to countries in the more developed regions – a pattern that is expected to continue for the foreseeable future. Net international migration<sup>10</sup> from the less developed regions to the more developed regions increased from around 140,000 annually during the period 1950–1959 to peak levels of 3.3 million and 3.2 million annually during the periods 2000–2009 and 2010–2019, respectively. It has since declined to about 2.5 million annually in 2020 and 2021, most likely as a result of the pandemic.<sup>11</sup>

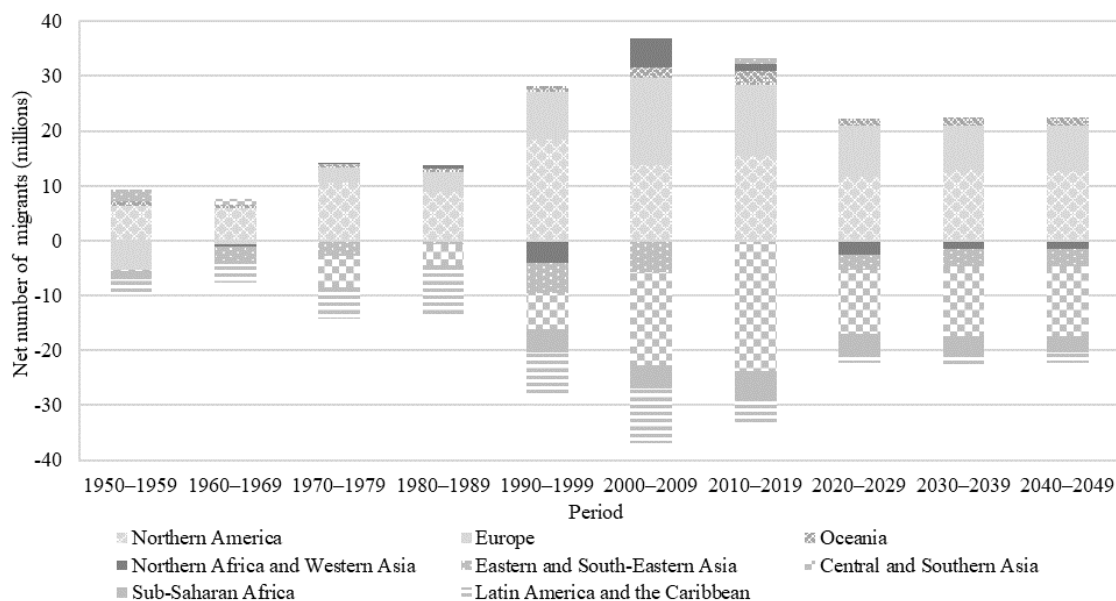
20. Northern America and Oceania have had a net inflow of migrants for all periods from 1950–1959 to 2010–2019, while Europe has experienced positive net migration for all periods since 1970 (see figure III). Latin America and the Caribbean and sub-Saharan Africa have experienced a net outflow of migrants for all 10-year periods between 1950 and 2019, while Central and Southern Asia has experienced negative net migration for all periods since 1970. Both Northern Africa and Western Asia and Eastern and South-Eastern Asia have experienced periods of both positive and negative net migration over the past decades. During the projection periods, mainly from the period 2020–2029 to the period 2040–2049, it is assumed that Northern America, Europe and Oceania will continue to experience net inflows of migrants, while the opposite is anticipated for all other regions. A noticeable change between the projections (2020–2049) and the most recent estimates (2000–2019) can be observed for the regions of Northern Africa and Western Asia and Central and Southern Asia. These shifts are mostly related to an assumed slowdown in migration to Western Asia (mainly to Gulf Cooperation Council countries) and are partly driven by assumed patterns of return migration.

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<sup>10</sup> Net international migration refers to the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants. If more people immigrate than emigrate, the country gains population through positive net migration, or net immigration. When more people emigrate than immigrate, the country loses population through negative net migration, or net emigration.

<sup>11</sup> United Nations, *World Population Prospects 2022*, online edition.

Figure III  
Net numbers of international migrants by region, 1950–1959 to 2040–2049



Source: United Nations, *World Population Prospects 2022*, online edition.

Note: Regions are sorted by level of migration during the period 2010–2019. The estimation period is from 1950 to 2021, and the projections are from 2022 onward.

21. From 2010 to 2021, 113 countries or areas experienced a net inflow of migrants, whereas 123 countries or areas had a net outflow. Over the next few decades, migration will be the sole driver of population growth in high-income countries, as the number of deaths will progressively exceed the number of births. By contrast, for the foreseeable future, population increase in low-income and lower-middle-income countries will continue to be driven by an excess of births over deaths. By comparison, the net outflow of migrants is rather small and has a negligible impact on overall population trends.

22. International migration has a significant impact on the size and age structure of populations in a growing number of countries. Under a hypothetical scenario in which all international migration came to a halt immediately and remained at zero starting in 2022, by 2050 the populations of Northern America and Oceania would be 11 per cent and 9 per cent smaller, respectively, than if current levels and patterns of migration continued, while for Europe this difference would be about 4 per cent. By comparison, the populations of Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean would be about 1 per cent larger.

23. Without future migration, the median age of the population of Northern America would be 1.8 years higher than expected in 2050, while the equivalent differences for Oceania and Europe would be 0.5 years and 0.9 years, respectively. At the same time, in the absence of future migration, old-age dependency ratios would rise more rapidly in those regions. The hypothetical elimination of future migration would have a negligible impact on the median age or old-age dependency ratio of populations in the less developed regions.

24. Because international migrants tend to comprise larger proportions of working-age persons compared with the overall population, immigration can contribute to slowing population ageing. Without future migration, in 2050 the population from 20

to 64 years of age would be 16 per cent smaller than expected in Northern America, 12 per cent smaller in Oceania and 6 per cent smaller in Europe. In Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, if the current net outflow of migrants were eliminated, the working-age population in 2050 would be larger by about 1 per cent.

### III. Migration and the 2030 Agenda

#### A. Integrating migration into voluntary national reviews

25. In 2021, the in-depth review of the status of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals conducted by the high-level political forum on sustainable development included targets 8.8, 10.7 and 10.c of the Goals, which are closely related to migration.

26. Voluntary national reviews prepared in the context of the high-level political forum on sustainable development indicate a great variability in the coverage of migration-related issues.<sup>12</sup> Twenty-nine countries reported on a broad range of initiatives to implement well-managed migration policies. Several countries reported on measures to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration (e.g. Azerbaijan, Germany, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Zimbabwe) and on national mechanisms to coordinate aspects of migration policy (e.g. Mexico and Tunisia). Information on access to legal documents was provided to immigrants in vulnerable situations in several countries (e.g. Colombia, Paraguay and Uruguay). Some countries described measures to facilitate the socioeconomic integration of migrants (e.g. Cyprus, Mexico, Norway and San Marino) and to combat discrimination (e.g. Cuba, Czechia and Malaysia). A number of countries stressed the importance of protecting their nationals residing abroad (e.g. Cuba and Indonesia). Several countries documented their engagement in international cooperation on migration (e.g. Azerbaijan, Germany and Tunisia). Countries also reported on programmes to promote return and reintegration (e.g. Chad), including of qualified nationals (e.g. Angola). Efforts to improve the global governance of migration (e.g. Germany and Spain) and to address drivers of migration (e.g. Denmark and Spain) were also mentioned.

27. Issues related to trafficking in persons or the smuggling of migrants were discussed in 29 voluntary national reviews. Several countries provided recent examples of legislative and other actions taken to combat irregular migration (e.g. Bhutan, Chad, Czechia, Denmark, Egypt, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Namibia, Nicaragua, Spain, Thailand and Zimbabwe), labour exploitation (e.g. Cyprus, Germany and Namibia) and child labour (Mexico). Countries referred to international cooperation to combat these crimes (e.g. Cuba) and to the support provided to victims of trafficking (e.g. Cuba, Cyprus, Paraguay and Qatar).

28. Twenty-four countries reported on measures to reduce the costs of transferring remittances and on the contribution of remittances and diaspora to development. Countries referred to concrete actions to drive down the cost of sending remittances (e.g. Qatar and Sweden), including by relaxing regulations affecting international bank transfers (e.g. Thailand and Zimbabwe). Several countries reported on the loss of remittances as a result of the pandemic (e.g. Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Zimbabwe). Countries discussed measures to harness the benefits of remittances for productive investments (e.g. Germany). Several countries observed that remittances were an important source of foreign exchange revenue (e.g. Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cabo Verde and Dominican Republic).

<sup>12</sup> Further information on voluntary national reviews is available at <https://hlpf.un.org/vnrs>.



29. A few countries reported facing challenges in governing migration (e.g. Japan), in combating trafficking in persons (e.g. Dominican Republic) or in collecting migration data (e.g. Denmark and Malaysia).

## B. Monitoring migration-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators

30. The 2030 Agenda contains several targets that are related to migration (see box below). The global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals (see General Assembly resolution 71/313; E/CN.3/2018/2; E/CN.3/2019/2; and E/CN.3/2020/2) measures the status of implementation of targets of the Goals, including those related to migration.<sup>13</sup>

### Main migration-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals

- Eradicate trafficking in persons (5.2, 8.7, 16.2)
- Protect labour rights of migrant workers (8.8)
- Facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration (10.7)
- Reduce transaction costs of remittances (10.c)

31. According to a recent report, significant progress has been made in developing new methodologies for and innovative approaches to the collection of migration data in the context of the Goals.<sup>14</sup> There is a growing interest in collecting, analysing, reporting and using migration data, as well as in developing partnerships concerning migration data. Nevertheless, the global availability of such data remains limited; only 55 per cent of countries had reported migration-related indicators to the Global SDG Indicators Database in 2020, and only one indicator had been disaggregated by migratory status.<sup>15</sup> It was indicated in the report that there was a disconnect between the global level, where the consideration of migration and development data had greatly advanced, and the national level, where data remained scarce.

32. To further synergies between the Global Compact for Migration and the 2030 Agenda, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) produced a toolkit to assist countries with leveraging the linkages between trade and migration.<sup>16</sup> The toolkit promotes trade-driven economic development to reduce the adverse drivers of migration and to promote migration as a choice.

33. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean conducted research to increase awareness of the contribution of migrants to sustainable development and of the challenges that countries face in governing migration.<sup>17</sup> It is expected that this research will contribute to greater acceptance of migrants by host communities. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

<sup>13</sup> See Erlinda Go, “Technical report on monitoring migration-related SDG indicators”, paper prepared for the Statistics Division, December 2019.

<sup>14</sup> Elisa Mosler Vidal and Frank Laczko, eds., *Migration and the SDGs: Measuring Progress – An Edited Volume* (Geneva, International Organization for Migration, 2022).

<sup>15</sup> United Nations, Global SDG Indicators Database, available at <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal>.

<sup>16</sup> IOM, *Integrating Migration into Private Sector Development and Trade Interventions: A Toolkit for International Cooperation and Development Actors* (Brussels, 2022).

<sup>17</sup> Jorge Martínez Pizarro and María Verónica Cano Christiny, eds., *Sobre las Contribuciones de la Migración al Desarrollo Sostenible: Estudios en Países Seleccionados* (Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2022).

analysed linkages between the 2030 Agenda and the Global Compact to advance the implementation of both documents in the region.

34. A tool for appraising the inclusion of forcibly displaced and stateless persons in national frameworks for the achievement of the Goals, developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Development Programme, was piloted in several countries in 2021.

35. The International Fund for Agricultural Development has launched initiatives to reduce the cost of transferring remittances, to promote access to remittances in rural areas, to foster digital and financial inclusion and to leverage diaspora investment for entrepreneurship in rural areas in partnership with remittance service providers.<sup>18</sup> In June 2021, the Fund convened the seventh edition of the Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development in conjunction with the annual observance of the International Day of Family Remittances to review progress made towards implementing objectives 19 and 20 of the Global Compact for Migration, the contribution of remittances and diaspora investment to sustainable development, and the role of digitization in reducing the costs of transferring remittances and fostering financial inclusion.

36. In the remainder of the present section, an overview will be provided of progress made towards achieving major targets of the Sustainable Development Goals related to migration, as reported by the organizations of the United Nations system.

#### **Eradicating trafficking in persons**

37. Migrants constitute at least half of the victims of trafficking in persons in Central and South-Eastern Europe (50 per cent), East Asia and the Pacific (55 per cent), Western Asia (60 per cent) and Western and Southern Europe (65 per cent).<sup>19</sup> The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) continues to support countries in the fight against trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants by, inter alia, developing the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice stakeholders and increasing the involvement of women law enforcement and criminal justice officers. A compendium of promising practices explores ways of leveraging technological innovation to prevent and counter trafficking in persons and to empower survivors, including by providing information on safe migratory routes and reliable recruiters and employers.<sup>20</sup>

#### **Protecting labour rights of migrant workers**

38. To promote full and productive employment and decent work for all, target 8.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals addresses the specific situation of migrant workers, in particular women migrant workers, many of whom face discrimination and exploitation, including with regard to wages and working conditions. For example, migrant workers in high-income countries were paid an average of 13 per cent less than nationals.<sup>21</sup> In some occupations, such as domestic work, women migrant workers are excluded from protection under national labour law.

39. Migrant workers, especially men, tend to suffer from higher rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injury than nationals, which may be due to their overrepresentation in manual labour and the informal sector.

<sup>18</sup> International Fund for Agricultural Development, “Platform for remittances, investments and migrants’ entrepreneurship in Africa (PRIME Africa)”, available at [www.ifad.org/en/prime+africa](http://www.ifad.org/en/prime+africa).

<sup>19</sup> *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2020* (United Nations publication, 2021).

<sup>20</sup> UNODC, *Compendium of Promising Practices on Public-Private Partnerships to Prevent and Counter Trafficking in Persons* (Vienna, 2021).

<sup>21</sup> Silas Amo-Agyei, *The Migrant Pay Gap: Understanding Wage Differences between Migrants and Nationals* (Geneva, ILO, 2020).

40. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), as of May 2022, data disaggregated by sex and migrant status on fatal injuries (indicator 8.8.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals) had been reported by 36 countries and territories, while data on non-fatal injuries (indicator 8.8.2) had been reported by 38 countries. In total, 97 countries and territories had provided data on fatal injuries and 95 on non-fatal injuries.

41. Indicator 8.8.2 of the Goals measures the level of national compliance with fundamental labour rights through an index that ranges from 0 (highest level of compliance) to 10 (lowest level of compliance) and is based on six ILO supervisory body textual sources and on national legislation. While the index shows some measure of progress made globally, from 5.3 in 2015 to 5.0 in 2020, some regions reported improvements while others experienced stagnation.

42. Migrant workers ensure food supplies and contribute to rural development, including by sending remittances and transferring knowledge to their home countries. To highlight the essential role of migrant workers in agrifood systems, especially during the pandemic, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) organized round tables and webinars and published policy briefs on migrants working in agrifood systems, seasonal workers and return migrants.<sup>22</sup>

### **Facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration**

43. The ILO Fair Recruitment Initiative works with Governments, employers, trade unions and recruitment agencies to promote zero-cost recruitment of migrant workers.<sup>23</sup> Several countries have undertaken surveys to measure the implementation of indicator 10.7.1 of the Goals (recruitment cost borne by the employee as a proportion of monthly income earned in the country of destination). In some contexts, migrant workers have been forced to pay significant amounts in recruitment costs. For instance, Bangladeshi migrant workers in Saudi Arabia paid up to 20 months of salary in recruitment costs, whereas the equivalent fee for Vietnamese migrant workers in the Republic of Korea was close to 9 months of salary.<sup>24</sup>

44. Data on indicator 10.7.2 of the Goals (number of countries with migration policies that facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people) are available for 138 countries. In total, 4 per cent of Governments that replied to the migration module of the twelfth or the thirteenth United Nations Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development<sup>25</sup> fully met the criteria for indicator 10.7.2. In other words, they reported having taken policy measures to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people in relation to all 30 items under the six domains of the indicator. Nearly 6 out of 10 Governments met the criteria for indicator 10.7.2, while 1 out of 3 Governments reported having measures that partially met the criteria.<sup>26</sup>

45. Thus far, no country has reported data for indicator 10.7.3 (number of people who died or disappeared in the process of migration towards an international destination).

<sup>22</sup> Further information on these initiatives is available at [www.fao.org/migration/en/](http://www.fao.org/migration/en/).

<sup>23</sup> Further information on the Fair Recruitment Initiative is available at [www.ilo.org/global/topics/fair-recruitment/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/fair-recruitment/lang--en/index.htm).

<sup>24</sup> Recent data on indicators 10.7.1, 10.7.2 and 10.7.3 were derived from Mosler Vidal and Laczko, eds., *Migration and the SDGs*.

<sup>25</sup> Further information on the United Nations Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development is available at [www.un.org/development/desa/pd/themes/population-policies/inquiry](http://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/themes/population-policies/inquiry).

<sup>26</sup> United Nations and International Organization for Migration, "Development, validation and testing of a methodology for SDG indicator 10.7.2 on migration policies", technical paper No. 2019/03, 2019.

46. FAO supported several countries in mainstreaming migration into agricultural and rural development policies and in increasing coherence between migration and sector-specific policies and programmes related to agriculture, rural development and climate change. In addition, FAO promotes youth employment and entrepreneurship in rural areas and mobilizes the diaspora for agribusiness. It has supported local governments in setting up orientation and help desks for return and prospective migrants. Moreover, it supports prospective migrants, family members of migrant workers and returnees with training in agribusiness and the productive use of remittances. FAO is planning to introduce a matching grants scheme, by which various levels of government match private remittances.

47. UNODC promotes safe migration pathways to curb migrant smuggling, noting that limited access to regular migration pathways forces prospective migrants to resort to services offered by smugglers. In 2021, UNODC published an analysis of the impact of the availability of regular channels of migration on reducing demand for the smuggling of migrants (see CTOC/COP/WG.7/2021/2).

48. Recent research activities by UNCTAD indicate that intra-African migration can foster economic growth and improve livelihoods for migrants, especially women. In a recent report, emphasis was laid on the importance of labour mobility and free movement of people to facilitate trade and to reap its benefits in the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area.<sup>27</sup> UNCTAD, in collaboration with other United Nations entities, organized workshops for migrant and refugee entrepreneurs in Ecuador and Uganda and developed an e-learning course on migrant and refugee entrepreneurship.

49. ILO works with Governments and employers' and workers' organizations to engage in social dialogue and international cooperation, revise laws and build capacities to provide targeted services to migrant workers, with the aim of ensuring migrant workers' rights and ensuring that labour migration contributes to sustainable development, including sustainable business development.

50. Young migrants represent a largely untapped pool of talent, ideas and entrepreneurship. To develop the talent of young people before, during and after migration, the United Nations Children's Fund, in collaboration with various partners, has developed Yoma – a digital marketplace designed to engage young people in tasks with social impact, offering personalized learning opportunities. The marketplace includes a reward system offering digital tokens to incentivize self-development.

### **Reducing the transaction costs of remittances**

51. Remittances have the potential to reduce poverty and to finance access to education, health and improved housing. Remittances also promote financial inclusion through savings, credit, insurance and digital payments, provide capital for productive investment and increase the inflow of foreign currency. Elevated costs associated with transferring remittances reduce the number of remittances available to migrant families and their communities.

52. The average global cost of transferring remittances as a proportion of the amount remitted (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 10.c.1) remained at 6.3 per cent from the second to the third quarter of 2021 and then declined to 6.0 per cent in the fourth quarter. Significant variations in the cost can be observed across regions, ranging from 4.3 per cent in South Asia to 7.8 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>28</sup>

53. As at the end of 2020, the average cost of sending remittances to Western Asia and Northern Africa was 6.6 per cent of the amount remitted, which was slightly

<sup>27</sup> *Economic Development in Africa Report 2021: Reaping the Potential Benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area for Inclusive Growth* (United Nations publication, 2021).

<sup>28</sup> World Bank, "Remittance prices worldwide quarterly, issue 40", Remittance Prices Worldwide Series (December 2021).

higher than the global average of 6.5 per cent and far higher than target 10.c of the Goals, which is less than 3 per cent. In the region, as is the case worldwide, the costs of non-digital remittance services (6.8 per cent) are higher than those provided through digital channels (5.2 per cent).

### **Providing legal identity**

54. During the period 2018–2021, the United Nations Population Fund carried out surveys among young migrants in seven cities.<sup>29</sup> The results indicate that a lack of identification documentation is one of the major barriers hindering migrants from gaining access to basic services, including sexual and reproductive health services.

### **Enhancing data disaggregation**

55. The United Nations Population Fund supports the integration of migration-related topics into the 2020 round of censuses, household surveys and other assessment tools. Emphasis is placed on the inclusion of questions on country of birth, country of citizenship and year of arrival, with a view to facilitating the disaggregation of data by migration status in accordance with target 17.18 of the Goals.

56. In Belize, the United Nations Children’s Fund provided technical and financial support for the inclusion of a migration module in the biannual labour force survey, with a view to collecting information on the position of children as part of the first national multidimensional poverty index planned for 2022.

57. Geocoding censuses and household surveys using the degree of urbanization methods can help to target policies and interventions for migrant populations.<sup>30</sup>

## **IV. Improving migration data: selected initiatives**

58. The General Assembly has repeatedly called for improving the quality, availability, disaggregation and timeliness of migration data (see, for example, [A/CONF.171/13/Rev.1](#), para. 12.9; Assembly resolution [68/4](#), para. 28; and Assembly resolution [71/1](#), para. 40). In recent years, the question of improving migration data has gained prominence following the inclusion of targets related to migration in the Sustainable Development Goals, including the commitment to enhance capacity-building support to developing countries to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by, inter alia, migratory status (target 17.18 of the Goals). Collecting and utilizing accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies is the first of 23 objectives set out in the Global Compact for Migration.

### **A. United Nations Expert Group on Migration Statistics**

59. The United Nations Expert Group on Migration Statistics, under the auspices of the Statistical Commission, promotes the production, analysis and dissemination of high-quality and fit-for-purpose data and indicators on international migration.<sup>31</sup> In particular, the Group reviews and updates existing statistical concepts and definitions related to international migration to reflect changing patterns of migration and to

<sup>29</sup> Nairobi, Tunis, Cairo, Beirut, Bamako, Niamey and Ouagadougou.

<sup>30</sup> European Commission and others, “A recommendation on the method to delineate cities, urban and rural areas for international statistical comparisons”, background document prepared for the Statistical Commission, March 2020.

<sup>31</sup> Further information on the United Nations Expert Group on Migration Statistics is available at <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/migration-expert-group/>.

facilitate the production of migration statistics at the national level, while promoting data comparability at the international level. Most recently, the Commission endorsed a revised conceptual framework on international migration and mobility statistics and related concepts and definitions, which will inform the future revision of the *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1*.

## **B. International Forum on Migration Statistics**

60. In preparation for the negotiations on the Global Compact for Migration, IOM, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Department for Economic and Social Affairs convened the first International Forum on Migration Statistics, held in Paris in January 2018.<sup>32</sup> Following the second International Forum on Migration Statistics, which was held in Cairo in 2020,<sup>33</sup> the third edition of the Forum will be held as a hybrid event in Santiago from 24 to 26 January 2023.<sup>34</sup>

61. The third Forum is expected to mobilize expertise from a range of disciplines, including statistics, economics, demography, sociology, geospatial science and information technology, bringing together producers and users of migration statistics from national and international statistical offices, other government agencies, international organizations, academia, civil society and the private sector. The Forum has six themes, namely: (a) “Strengthening migration data for the follow-up and review of global agreements”; (b) “New approaches, methodologies and innovations in migration data”; (c) “Strengthening data on migrants in vulnerable situations”; (d) “Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on data on migrants and migration”; (e) “Strengthening statistical capacities and financing”; and (f) “Data communication, visualization and public opinion”.

## **C. International Data Alliance for Children on the Move<sup>35</sup>**

62. In 2020, some 35.5 million children, or 13 per cent of all international migrants, were living outside their country of birth or citizenship. Many migrant children face deprivations and threats to their well-being. For example, about 600 children have died crossing international borders since January 2020. Children on the move are often overlooked in data collection. Worldwide, nearly one in three countries do not disaggregate data on the migrant population, or stock, by age. To provide appropriate assistance to children, it is critical to know their age, sex and exact location, as well as their condition and needs. Data gaps threaten the rights of children to education, health care and safety, among others, enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other regional and international instruments. Since 2020, the International Data Alliance for Children on the Move has promoted concerted efforts, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships, to address challenges in collecting, analysing, sharing and utilizing child-specific migration data, including on migratory movements, on reasons for migration and on socioeconomic outcomes for migrant children.

63. In the past two years, the Alliance has organized events and webinars and produced publications to draw attention to the pervasive data gaps and challenges

<sup>32</sup> Further information on the first International Forum on Migration Statistics is available at [www.oecd.org/migration/forum-migration-statistics/](http://www.oecd.org/migration/forum-migration-statistics/).

<sup>33</sup> Further information on the second International Forum on Migration Statistics is available at <https://ifms.iom.int/>.

<sup>34</sup> Further information on the third International Forum on Migration Statistics is available at <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/migrationstat-forum-2023/>.

<sup>35</sup> Further information about the International Data Alliance for Children on the Move is available at <https://data.unicef.org/resources/international-data-alliance-for-children-on-the-move/>.

concerning children on the move. In the report entitled “Missing from the story: the urgent need for better data to protect children on the move”, the Alliance presented good practices to fill data gaps, including by linking data from different administrative registers to produce data on unaccompanied minors.<sup>36</sup> Household surveys have allowed for an assessment of how migrant boys and girls are faring vis-à-vis their non-migrant peers. As a contribution to the first International Migration Review Forum, the Alliance recommended concrete steps to improve data on children on the move, namely: (a) disaggregating migration data; (b) making better use of and sharing existing data; (c) coordinating actions within and among countries; and (d) collecting and analysing data focused on migrant children.

#### **D. National capacities to produce migration data**

64. The Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre, as the technical secretariat of the working group on international migration of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, analysed the capacity of 10 Latin American countries to produce timely, reliable and comparable data on international migration in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the Global Compact for Migration.

#### **E. International Conference of Labour Statisticians**

65. At the twentieth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, held in 2018, guidelines were drawn up concerning labour migration statistics, which provide a common definition of key terms such as “international migrant worker” and “return international migrant workers”.<sup>37</sup>

#### **F. Scientific panel on strengthening the knowledge base for policy**

66. A panel to strengthen the knowledge base to inform national policies and programmatic responses to migration and migrants, established by the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population in 2018, brings scientific theory and evidence to the analysis of current and future trends and patterns of international migration, the causes and consequences of population movements, and policy responses to migration.<sup>38</sup>

67. The panel seeks to build analytical capacities among the current and next generation of social scientists within academia, national Governments and international organizations by convening training workshops on the indirect estimation and analysis of immigration and emigration on the basis of data on the migrant population or “stock”. A training manual on the estimation and analysis of migratory flows is being prepared. With a view to better understanding the drivers and impacts of migration and the contributions of migrants to sustainable development, the panel promotes the creation of a world migration survey programme.<sup>39</sup> The panel also

<sup>36</sup> International Data Alliance for Children on the Move, “Missing from the story: the urgent need for better data to protect children on the move”, Data InSIGHT Series No. 1 (International Data Alliance for Children on the Move, 2021).

<sup>37</sup> ILO, Guidelines Concerning Statistics of International Labour Migration, document ICLS/20/2018/Guidelines.

<sup>38</sup> Further information on the work of the panel is available at <https://iussp.org/en/panel/international-migration-strengthening-knowledge-base-policy>.

<sup>39</sup> Marcela Cerrutti, Philippe Fargues and Mariama Awumbila, “The case for a world migration survey”, Policy and Research Paper No. 25 (Aubervilliers, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, 2021).

advocates the adoption and promotion of standardized statistical definitions of migration and migrants, refugees and displaced persons, as recommended by the Statistical Commission, as well the development of indicators and characteristics, as called for in the Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum. Champion countries of the Global Compact for Migration could play a pioneering role in advancing the world migration survey, in applying common statistical definitions related to migration and in field testing migration indicators.

68. The panel considers the development of measurable indicators of progress to be essential for evidence-based monitoring of the 23 objectives of the Global Compact for Migration. The “360 degree” approach of the Global Compact underscores its broad scope, ranging from migration drivers and circumstances to migratory flows and their impacts. The indicators should allow for and support the evaluation of progress made in implementing the Global Compact at the national, regional and international levels. The development of the indicator set should benefit from the latest available scientific evidence regarding the interrelationships between migration, sustainable development and environmental change. Progress made towards social inclusion and access to rights for migrants in destination countries could be evaluated by disaggregating indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals by migratory status in relation to, for example, poverty, decent work, access to health services (including sexual and reproductive health services), inequalities and education. International partnerships in data collection and scientific research are critical to developing valid, reliable and comparative indicators for assessing the status of implementation of the 23 objectives of the Global Compact.

69. The panel underscores the value of national censuses and surveys as primary sources of data on migration and migrants and the need for incorporating migration modules within existing national household surveys. Administrative registers and other information systems, including big data, can provide additional data to measure the future set of indicators.

## V. Ratification of migration-related instruments

70. The international normative framework related to international migrants and migration includes legal instruments designed to protect the rights of migrant workers and members of their families, to combat migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons and other forms of forced labour, and to protect refugees and stateless persons. Over the past few decades, States Members of the United Nations have ratified internationally binding legal instruments related to international migrants and migration in varying degrees (see table).

71. The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, which entered into force in 2003, is the most comprehensive international treaty on the rights of all migrant workers. As of June 2022, 57 Member States had ratified the Convention, collectively hosting about 11 per cent of the global migrant population.

72. Within the framework of ILO, four instruments are of direct and specific relevance to the protection of migrant workers. The Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97) and its accompanying Recommendation No. 86 cover recruitment, require equality of treatment between regular status migrant workers and nationals in respect of conditions of employment, freedom of association and social security, and promote international cooperation, including through bilateral agreements. The Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143) and its accompanying Recommendation No. 151 address irregular labour migration in abusive conditions and call for the respect of basic human rights for all



migrant workers, irrespective of status, and equality of opportunity and treatment for regular status migrant workers.

73. A number of other ILO conventions, recommendations and protocols are particularly relevant to migration, including the Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118), the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181), the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190). The Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) establishes global labour standards for domestic workers, including migrant domestic workers, guaranteeing them the same basic rights as other workers.

74. The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime aims to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, to protect and assist victims of such trafficking, in particular women and children, to prosecute perpetrators of such crimes and to promote cooperation among States parties. The Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime seeks to prevent and combat that crime, while protecting the rights of migrants and promoting cooperation among States parties. The high rate of ratification of those protocols indicates the concern among Member States about linkages between transnational organized crime and irregular migration.

75. The Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 1951 and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees of 1967 are key legal instruments at the international level to ensure protection of the rights of refugees. The 1951 Convention enumerates the rights of refugees and establishes the legal obligation of Member States to protect them. The 1967 Protocol extended the application of the 1951 Convention to persons who had become refugees after 1 January 1951, without any geographical limitation. The Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons of 1954 is the primary international instrument to regulate and improve the legal status of stateless persons. The Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness of 1961, which entered into force in 1975, provides practical solutions for preventing and reducing statelessness, including among children.

### **Status of ratification of internationally binding legal instruments related to international migration**

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Year of entry into force</i>	<i>Parties to legal instruments</i>	
		<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage<sup>a</sup></i>
<b>Migrant workers</b>			
Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97) <sup>b</sup>	1952	53	28
Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118)	1964	38	19
Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143) <sup>c</sup>	1978	28	15
Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181)	2000	37	19
Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189)	2013	35	19
International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	2003	57	29
<b>Migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons</b>			
Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children <sup>d</sup>	2003	178	91
Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime <sup>d</sup>	2004	150	76

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Year of entry into force</i>	<i>Parties to legal instruments</i>	
		<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage<sup>a</sup></i>
Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)	1932	179	93
Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)	2014	59	31
<b>Refugees and stateless persons</b>			
Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 1951	1954	146	75
Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees of 1967	1967	147	75
Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons of 1954	1960	96	49
Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness of 1961	1975	78	40

*Source:* United Nations Treaty Series (<http://treaties.un.org>, accessed on 9 July 2022); NORMLEX Information System on International Labour Standards, [www.ilo.org/normlex](http://www.ilo.org/normlex), accessed on 30 June 2022.

<sup>a</sup> Of 193 States Members of the United Nations, as well as 2 non-member observer States, or of 187 States members of the International Labour Organization.

<sup>b</sup> See also accompanying Migration for Employment Recommendation (Revised), 1949 (No. 86).

<sup>c</sup> See also Migrant Workers Recommendation, 1975 (No. 151).

<sup>d</sup> Does not include ratifications by the European Union.

## VI. Conclusions and recommendations

**76. Member States are encouraged to build on the momentum of the first International Migration Review Forum and on the broad recognition of the multifaceted linkages between safe, orderly and regular migration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to advance related international frameworks, to ratify or accede to internationally binding legal instruments related to international migration and to deliver on the obligations and commitments contained therein.**

**77. Member States are encouraged to integrate migration as a cross-cutting issue into their national development plans, sectoral policies and development cooperation frameworks when implementing the 2030 Agenda, the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum.**

**78. Member States are encouraged to enhance international cooperation between countries of origin and destination through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach and by leveraging the expertise and action of all relevant stakeholders to maximize the benefits of migration for both migrant workers and communities of origin and destination, and to respect, protect and fulfil the human and labour rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, as well as to ensure that migration does not exacerbate situations of vulnerability or inequality.**

**79. Member States are encouraged to include migrants and refugees, regardless of their status, in health-care and social protection programmes and in national responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, recognizing that the health of migrants and refugees cannot be separated from the health of the general population.**

**80. Member States are encouraged to facilitate the development of safe, orderly and regular migration pathways, including through the use of rights-based bilateral labour migration agreements and seasonal migration schemes and through attention to sector-specific needs and standards.**

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81. Member States are encouraged to strengthen efforts to ensure fair and zero-cost recruitment and decent work for all workers, including migrant workers, including by revising national labour laws to ensure equality of treatment and non-discrimination.
82. Member States and the private sector are encouraged to enhance the access of migrant workers and their families to financial services. Moving remittances to digital channels could help to reduce the costs of transferring remittances, while increasing access, transparency and financial inclusion.
83. Member States are encouraged to address the adverse drivers of migration in both urban and rural areas, including poverty, food insecurity, lack of decent work opportunities, climate change and environmental degradation, and to consider well-governed migration as a way to adapt to and mitigate some of those drivers.
84. Member States are encouraged to give due attention to migration when preparing their voluntary national reviews in the context of the high-level political forum on sustainable development by, inter alia, including relevant data and indicators from the global indicator framework for the 2030 Agenda.
85. The United Nations system will assist Member States by developing guidance with regard to including the consideration of migration in their voluntary national reviews conducted during the high-level political forum on sustainable development, including as it relates to the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration.
86. National authorities are encouraged to include foreign citizens in national systems for civil registration and vital statistics to ensure the establishment of a legal identity and universal access to social protection.
87. The international community should to redouble the support provided to developing countries in the planning and conduct of their censuses to address the severe adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on census-taking around the world, as well as in the collection of data from other sources (administrative records, household surveys and specialized surveys) and in the disaggregation of data by migratory status and geographical location, with a view to strengthening the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies.
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