

**UN STATISTICAL COMMISSION and
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (EUROSTAT)**

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Joint UNECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics
(Geneva, 3-5 March 2008)

INFORMATION NOTICE FOR PARTICIPANTS

The meeting will be held at the Salle XI at Palais des Nations, Geneva, on 3-5 March 2008.
The meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, 3 March 2008 and will finish on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

I. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

1. The meeting has the following objectives:
 - To review guidelines on selected methods to measure emigration and discuss emerging methods to improve emigration estimates
 - To address the challenges in defining and measuring difficult-to-count migrants
 - To discuss ways to produce migration data through household sample surveys

II. AGENDA OF THE MEETING

2. The work programme of the meeting will consist of the following substantive topics:

(i) Measuring emigration: statistical methods and regulatory constraints

The discussion on this issue started at the 2006 Work Session and the final outputs will be presented at this meeting. This includes (i) the guidelines on the use of immigration data of receiving countries to improve emigration data of sending countries and (ii) the lessons learnt on the use of an emigration module in the Population Census to improve knowledge of the emigrant population.

Countries are invited to present statistical methods used to improve emigration estimates, as for example through household surveys or by statistical use of existing administrative data.

(ii) Difficult-to-count migrants

There are two main categories of difficult to count groups: irregular migrants and short-term migrants. The measurement of these two groups poses different definitional and operational challenges. Other typologies of migrants, such as circular or returning migrants, have also attracted policy interest and poses different measurement challenges. A review of countries' definitions and practices used to identify/count difficult-to-count migrants will be presented. Additional presentations will be made on country experiences and on main information needs from the data users' perspective. Given the nature of this phenomenon, good practices from research outside the national statistical system will also be considered. The work should aim at identifying good practices under different statistical and regulatory systems.

(iii) The contribution of household surveys to measure selected aspects of international migration

In many countries data on international migration primarily derive from administrative sources. The contribution of household sample surveys in providing statistical information on international migration is not yet fully explored. An example concerns the use of household surveys to derive data on remittances. The results of an expert group meeting on the contribution of household surveys to the measurement of migration and remittances will be presented at the Work Session. Countries are invited to present experiences on the use of household sample surveys to produce international migration data. The key conceptual and methodological issues related to the measurement of migration in household surveys will also be discussed.

3. The annotated agenda will be posted on the meeting website as soon as available.

III. PARTICIPATION, ACCREDITATION AND REGISTRATION

4. Representatives of all Member States of the United Nations and of interested intergovernmental organizations are welcome to participate in the meeting. Participants representing non-governmental organizations in a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council may also attend. All participants must be accredited by the competent authorities of their country or international organization.

5. All participants attending the meeting are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas should be made as soon as possible to the Embassy of Switzerland in the country in which the participants reside, with a reference to the Joint UNECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics. If a formal invitation letter is required by the embassy, this can be requested from the UNECE secretariat (fax: +41 22 917 0040 or e-mail: mijidgombo.oyunjargal@unece.org).

6. Participants are requested to fill in the attached **Conference registration form** and send it to the UNECE secretariat by fax (+41 22 917 0040) **by 15 February 2008** at the latest so that it may be processed well in advance of the meeting. The information will be used to register participants with the UN Security Section and for the list of participants.

7. In order to enter the Palais des Nations where the Work Session is being held, all participants need to obtain a security pass (ID badge). For this purpose, please present yourself with your passport at the UN Security Identification Office at Pregny Gate of the Palais des Nations (Avenue de la Paix 14, Buses 8 and 18, Stop Appia), by 8:30 a.m. at the latest on Monday, 3 March 2008. The Security Identification Office is open Monday to Friday from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (non-stop). For identification and security reasons, delegates are requested to wear their security badges at all times while inside the Palais des Nations.

8. Maps of Geneva, list of hotels and information for visitors to the Palais des Nations are available on the following website: <http://www.unece.org/stats/geneva.e.htm>. Please see map of the Pregny Gate on the above website: Geneva', 'Plan of the UN building').

IV. DOCUMENTATION, METHODS OF WORK AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

9. The working languages of the work session are English and Russian. English/Russian interpretation will be available at the work session, but documents for the meeting will not be translated, and will be disseminated in the language in which they are submitted. Authors of papers in Russian are encouraged to provide a 1-2 pages abstract in English.

10. For each substantive item on the agenda, the Organizers will invite 2-3 speakers to write and present an **invited paper**. All other participants are welcome to submit a **supporting paper** for any topic on the agenda.

The supporting papers will be distributed to the delegates, and they will not be presented but only summarized by discussants.

10. The following deadlines and requirements apply:
 - Interested national statistical offices and other government bodies should inform the UNECE secretariat of their intention to attend the meeting and to contribute a paper (indicating the topic) **by 17 December 2007**.
 - A short abstract of the paper should also be sent to the UNECE secretariat **by 17 December 2007**.
 - The full versions of papers, not exceeding 10 pages, should be sent to the UNECE secretariat **by 8 February 2008**.
 - Presenters are requested to send their power point presentations to ECE Secretariat by **27 February 2008**
 - Papers and presentations should be submitted in MS Word format electronically to Mr. Enrico Bisogno (enrico.bisogno@unece.org).
11. Invited and supporting papers will be made available on the website of the UNECE secretariat at the following location: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2008.03.migration.htm> .
12. Delegates are encouraged to download the papers from the website and bring their own copies to the meeting. Documents posted on the website before the meeting will not be distributed in the conference room.

VI. ACCOMMODATION IN GENEVA

13. Participants are requested to make their own hotel reservations. The ECE secretariat in Geneva is not in a position to provide such services to delegates. Participants are advised to book hotel accommodation well in advance of the meeting, because hotels in Geneva are often fully booked in coincidence with large conferences or other events. In order to assist them in organizing their accommodation, the UNECE secretariat provides a list of hotels on its website (<http://www.unece.org/stats/geneva.e.htm>). If difficulties are encountered, participants may contact their Permanent Mission in Geneva for assistance.

VII. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDANCE

All queries concerning the meeting should be addressed to:

UNECE Secretariat:

Mr. Enrico Bisogno
Social and Demographic Statistics Section
Statistical Division, UNECE

Tel: +41-22 917 1662
Fax: +41-22 917 00 40
E-mail: enrico.bisogno@unece.org

Ms. Oyuna Oyunjargal
Social and Demographic Statistics Section
Statistical Division, UNECE

Tel: +41-22 917 4147
Fax: +41-22 917 00 40
E-mail: mijidgombo.oyunjargal@unece.org

Eurostat:

Mr. David Thorogood
Head, Migration and Asylum Statistics Section
tel. +352 4301 35487
fax: +352 4301 34029
email: david.thorogood@ec.europa.eu



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

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Title of the Conference

UNECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics, Geneva, 3-5 March 2008

Delegation/Participant of Country, Organisation or Agency

Participant

Family Name

First Name

Mr.

Ms.

Date Of Birth

 / /

(DD/MM/YYYY)

Participation Category

Head of Delegation Members

Observer Organisation

Participating From / Until

Delegation Member

NGO (ECOSOC Accred.)

From

3 March 2008

Observer Country

Other (Please specify below)

Until

5 March 2008

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