

Distr.  
GENERAL

CES/SEM.42/10  
29 February 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

---

STATISTICAL COMMISSION and  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE  
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (EUROSTAT)

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION  
FOR WESTERN ASIA (ESCWA)

Joint ECE-EUROSTAT-ESCWA work session  
on Migration Statistics\*  
(Geneva, 8-10 May 2000)

Topic 3

**Application of the New UN Recommendations on International Migration  
Statistics: Some test applications by selected countries**

Note by the ECE secretariat

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations Statistical Commission adopted a new set of recommendations on International Migration Statistics in 1997.
2. A new set of recommendations was subsequently published in all official UN languages, so as to bring them to the attention of countries. However, thus far few countries in the World have attempted to apply them.
3. The ECE secretariat and Eurostat considered that it would be useful to have a small number of countries attempt to apply a new set of recommendations. This was felt useful because it would help illustrate the realities countries face when they attempt to apply the new set of UN

---

\* The documentation for this work session will be processed as for seminars.

Recommendations in a real life situation. Therefore they set up a Task Force of interested countries to examine this situation.

## **II. ECE/EUROSTAT TASK FORCES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION STATISTICS**

4. The ECE secretariat and Eurostat asked the following countries to serve on the Task Force: Belgium, Canada, Israel, Norway, Romania, Slovenia and the United Kingdom.

5. The Task Force met on 8 February 2000 for the first time. All countries on the Task Force participated in the meeting, with the exception of Canada which was not able to attend the meeting. The countries were selected so as to ensure that the countries included in the trial run would include countries which collectively cover all major sources of national migration statistics that ECE countries are currently using, such as border control, surveys, registers, and administrative records.

6. The Task Force discussed and agreed a way forward for the experiment to be conducted by the Task Forces Members. The new set of UN Recommendations contains a taxonomy of international inflows and outflows and this taxonomy identifies various categories of international inflows and outflows which constitute international immigration and emigration flows in the new set of recommendations.

7. A questionnaire in the form of a table was prepared which identified the categories of international inflows and outflows in the taxonomy which are identified in the recommendations as international migrant inflows and outflows. The table was sent to Task Force Members and selected other countries which were invited to participate in the trial run, such as Ireland, Germany and Italy. The object of the exercise is to ascertain which combinations of various data sources in a country can be used to collectively cover as many categories of international inflows and outflows in the revised taxonomy that are defined as being international immigration and emigration flows in the recommendations.

8. The categories in the taxonomy of flows which constitute international immigration and international emigration flows in the new set of recommendations is reproduced in Annex I.

9. The table the Task Force Members were asked to complete is shown in Annex II.

10. Task Force Members will report orally at the 8-10 May 2000 ECE/Eurostat Joint Meeting on the outcome of the tests they made in trying to apply the new set of recommendations in their countries.



## ANNEX I

**PARTS OF THE REVISED TAXONOMY OF INTERNATIONAL INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS THAT ARE IMMIGRATION INFLOWS AND EMIGRATION OUTFLOWS ACCORDING TO THE NEW SET OF UN RECOMMENDATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION STATISTICS**  
(Categorized according to entry status established by the receiving States)

CITIZENS		FOREIGNERS		CITIZENS
OUTFLOWS		INFLOWS	OUTFLOWS	INFLOWS
Categories 1-8 of the typology are omitted here <sup>1</sup> because they do not constitute international migration flows				
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)	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 joint 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 8 omitted categories are: 1. Border workers departing daily or weekly to work in a neighbouring country; 2. Departing citizens in transit; 3. Departing excursionists; 4. Departing tourists; 5. Departing business travellers; 6. Departing diplomatic and consular personnel plus their dependants and household employees; 7. Departing military personnel plus their dependants; 8. Nomads.

<b>Box 1. Definition of country of usual residence, of long-term international migrant and of short-term international migrant</b>	
<b><i>Country of usual residence</i></b>	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.
<b><i>Long-term migrant</i></b>	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.
<b><i>Short-term migrant</i></b>	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.

<b>Box 2. Definitions of the categories included in the taxonomy</b>	
<b>A.</b>	<b>Categories of transients not relevant for international migration</b>
1.	<i>Citizens departing as border workers → Foreign border workers</i>
2.	<i>Citizens/foreigners in transit</i>
<b>B.</b>	<b>Categories relevant for international tourism</b>
3.	<i>Citizens departing as excursionists → Foreign excursionists (also called "same-day visitors")</i>
4.	<i>Citizens departing as tourists → Foreign tourists</i>
5.	<i>Citizens departing as business travellers → Foreign business travellers</i>
<b>C.</b>	<b>Categories traditionally excluded from international migration statistics</b>
6.	<i>Citizens departing with the status of diplomatic or consular personnel or as dependants and employees of that personnel → Foreign diplomatic and consular personnel plus their dependants and employees</i>
7.	<i>Citizens departing with the status of military personnel or as dependants or employees of that personnel → Foreign military personnel plus their dependants and employees</i>
8.	<i>Nomads</i>

**Box 2 (continued)****D. Categories relevant for the compilation of international migration statistics**

9. *Citizens departing to study abroad* → *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* → *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* → *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* → *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* → *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* → *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 relative abroad* → *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* → *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<sup>a</sup> relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol<sup>b</sup>, other pertinent regional instruments, or humanitarian considerations.

---

<sup>a</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, No. 2545.

<sup>b</sup> Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

**Box 2 (continued)****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 → 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 → 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.

**ANNEX II**

**TABLE REFERRING TO THE CATEGORIES OF INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS REFERRED TO IN ANNEX I WHICH WERE SENT TO TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

<b>The following table will help to the implementation of the recently revised recommendations on statistics of international migration</b>									
<b>FLOW OR MIGRATION DATA</b>									
For each of the following cells please give the potential data source in your country (e.g. population register, census, foreign register, survey...)									
and the body responsible for the data collection (Ministry of Interior, Justice, Education...).									
Note if the time constraint is respected as described in box 1 on page 10 (3 months or 1 year)									
Check if the whole population is concerned and specify all sub-population that are not included									
Give an indication on the reliability of the data collection (e.g. good = more than 90%, medium from 50 to 90% or low below 50%)									
<b>INFLOWS - ARRIVALS</b>	<b>SHORT-TERM MIGRATION</b>			<b>LONG-TERM MIGRATION</b>			<b>TOTAL MIGRATION</b>		
	Citizens	Non-citizens	TOTAL	Citizens	Non-citizens	TOTAL	Citizens	Non-citizens	TOTAL
Categories of inflows in the country (numbers are related to box 2 , p. 14)									
(9,10) Entry linked to education and training	A.1	A.2	A.3	A.4	A.5	A.6	A.7	A.8	A.9
(11) Entry linked to employment	B.1	B.2							
(12) Entry of international civil servants	C.1	C.2							
(13) Entry with free establishment	D.1	D.2							
(14) Entry for settlement	E.1	E.2							
(15) Entry linked to family reunification or family formation	F.1	F.2							
(17) Entry to seek asylum		H.2							
Other entries (please specify)	G.1	G.2							
Total entries	I.1	I.2							



O U T F L O W S - D E P A R T U R E S	S H O R T - T E R M M I G R A T I O N			L O N G - T E R M M I G R A T I O N			T O T A L M I G R A T I O N		
	Citizens	Non-citizens	TOTAL	Citizens	Non-citizens	TOTAL	Citizens	Non-citizens	TOTAL
Categories of outflows in the country (numbers are related to box 2 , p. 14)									
(9,10) Departure linked to education and training	J.1								
(11) Departure linked employment	K.1								
(12) Departure of international civil servants	L.1								
(13) Departure with free establishment	M.1								
(14) Departure for settlement	N.1								
(15) Departure linked to family reunion or family formation	O.1								
(17) Departure of a former asylum seeker		Q.2							
Other departures (please specify)	P.1								
Total departures									
<b>MIGRANT STOCK</b>									
<p>For each of the following categories, please specify the potential data source in order to identify the number of persons or to estimate the volume of that stock            Check if the whole population is concerned and detect all sub-population that is not concerned (e.g. dependants and employees)            Please indicate the time of the year for each migrants stocks (e.g. 30th June, 1st December, 31 December).            Give an indication on the reliability of the data collection (good = more than 90%, medium from 50 to 90% or low below 50%)            Is there a systematic link between the data collection on migrants stocks and the related flow statistics ?</p>									
Categories of migrants stock	<b>CITIZENS LIVING ABROAD</b>			<b>NON CITIZENS LIVING IN THE COUNTRY</b>					
For education and training	R.1			R.2					
For employment on a permanent base (long term)	S.1			S.2					
For employment on a temporary or seasonal base	T.1								
International civil servants	U.1								
With free establishment	V.1								
For settlement	W.1								
For family reunification or family formation	X.1								
Admitted refugees	Y.1								
For seeking asylum	Z.1								
Diplomatic or consular status	AA.1								
Military personnel	AB.1								
Other migrant stock (please specify)	AC.1								

TOTAL MIGRANT STOCKS	AD.1								
COMMENTS :									
COUNTRY :									
Person to be contacted for clarification :									