

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS**

**Towards Better Evidence on Migration and Development in Eastern Europe and Central Asia,  
31 October- 1 November 2013, Almaty, Kazakhstan**

**INFORMATION NOTICE**

**I. Background**

1. The objective of the proposed workshop is to raise the importance of the migration-development nexus in the EECA region and identify ways of improving measurement of the developmental impact of migration through better use of existing data sources and development of new sources. It also aims to develop possible migration-related indicators to be used for the post-2015 UN development agenda, which sees sustainable development at its core.
2. It aims to identify various ways migration impacts development and to look at data availability and data needs for measuring issues like emigration, brain-drain, labour and environmental migration, return and circular migration, remittances, and diaspora populations. Particular emphasis is placed on improving the collection and availability of migration statistics, with specific attention to data related to measuring the impact of migration on development. Reference to the migration profile methodology as a way of utilizing all existing data source will be made.
3. The upcoming 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development at the United Nations General Assembly again highlighted the critical need for better migration data – not only on migration processes per se but also on how migration impacts development. The previous 2006 High-level Dialogue and the subsequent meetings within the Global Forum on Migration and Development concluded that international migration could play an important role in national development, provided it was supported by appropriate policies and development strategies. These events have also emphasised the importance of using appropriate statistical data in designing such policies and strategies and in measuring their effectiveness.
4. In addition to the High-level Dialogue, the UN will be developing the follow-up to its Millennium Development Goals, referred to as its post-2015 UN development agenda. Migration had been identified as a critical element for development, though indicators still need to be developed to measure its developmental impact. The formulation of this new development framework is a major priority of member states and the entire UN system, built upon an inclusive and open consultative process with stakeholders at the global, regional, and national level.
5. The Statistical Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) works to improve the quality of migration statistics produced by its member states, particularly in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia region. IOM and EFTA believe in the importance of making evidence-based policy decisions and share the vision to improve the measurement of migration in the region.

6. UNECE, IOM, and EFTA are organizing the Regional Workshop on Migration and Development on 31 October-1 November 2013 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. It will be held in the **Conference Room Aport Ballroom 2** of Hotel Holiday Inn in Almaty at the address 2D Timiryazev Street, Almaty, 050013 Kazakhstan, telephone +7 727 2440255, fax +7 727 2440277.

## II. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

5. The main purpose of the workshop is to strengthen statistical capacities for measuring the impact of migration on development. It will bring together data producers and policy makers to discuss these migration and development data-related issues, from both the perspective of the upcoming High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, and the post-2015 UN development agenda.

More specifically, the workshop aims to:

- Discuss three dimensions of migration and development, including the social, environmental, and economic pillars.
- Discuss methods to measure the impact of migration on these three dimensions
- Examine available data sources and the potential to use these sources or develop new sources to measure migration
- Develop migration-related indicators applicable to the post-2015 UN development agenda

6. In addition to the organizers, experts from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations University will contribute to the workshop.

## III. AGENDA OF THE MEETING

7. The meeting includes presentations, working group exercises and discussion. The preliminary agenda is available at the following link:

<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2013.11.migration.html>

## IV. PARTICIPATION AND REGISTRATION FOR THE MEETING

8. Migration focal points from the National Statistical Offices and relevant national migration agencies are invited to participate in the meeting and should submit their completed registration form which is available in the meeting page of UNECE website at the following link:

<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2013.11.migration.html>

9. All participants attending the meeting are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. For country specifications, see [www.kazakhstan-tourist.com](http://www.kazakhstan-tourist.com). Applications for visas must be made as soon as possible to the Embassy of Kazakhstan in the country in which the participant resides, with a reference to the **Capacity building workshop on migration statistics, Almaty, 31 October – 1 November 2013**. If you need assistance in obtaining a visa, please request an invitation letter from Agency on Statistics of Kazakhstan (Ms. Markhabat Kassimova: M.Kassimova@stat.kz). Agency on Statistics of Kazakhstan will send you an invitation letter, which you will need to submit with your visa application. Please include your passport details in the request.

10. Please present yourself with a copy of your passport at the Conference Room **Aport Ballroom 2** in the Hotel Holiday Inn at 9 a.m. on 31 October 2013, the first day of the meeting, for your registration.

## V. ACCOMMODATION TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

11. A separate message by email has been sent to all funded participants on their travel arrangements and hotel reservations.

12. Local transportation in Almaty will not be provided for the participants. Therefore, please make your own arrangements for the transportation from and to the airport in Almaty. **The airport transfer service is available in the hotel Holiday Inn at the cost of 4,800 KZT (or USD 31) per car per one way route. If you are interested, please contact the hotel directly and provide your flight details at the following address: [yuliva.efron@ihg.com](mailto:yuliva.efron@ihg.com)**

## VI. OTHER

13. The organisers will provide the following during the meeting on 31 October and 1 November 2013:

- mineral water in the meeting room
- lunches and coffee breaks
- cocktail reception in the evening on 31 October at the hotel Holiday Inn Almaty

Please note that UNECE will **not** assume responsibility for any other expenditure, such as, for example:

- All expenses in the home country incidental to travel abroad, including expenditure for visa, medical examination, inoculations and other such miscellaneous items and internal travel to and from the airport of arrival and departure in the home country;
- Salary and related allowances for the participants during the period of the meeting;
- Costs incurred by participants in respect of travel insurance, accident insurance, medical or dental bills or hospitalization fees in connection with their attending the meeting;
- Compensation in the event of death or disability of participants in connection with their attending the meeting;
- Any loss or damage of personal property of participants while attending the meeting or losses or damages claimed by third parties as a result of negligence on the part of the participants;
- Any other expenses of a personal nature, not directly related to the purpose of the meeting.

14. Participants are advised to ensure that they have adequate travel and medical insurance for the duration of the meeting.

15. Any questions regarding travel arrangements or other issues concerning the meeting should be addressed to UNECE, Mr. Jason Schachter, [Jason.schachter@unece.org](mailto:Jason.schachter@unece.org) or Ms. Mijidgombo Oyunjargal (Oyuna) at [mijidgombo.oyunjargal@unece.org](mailto:mijidgombo.oyunjargal@unece.org).

## VI. WORKING LANGUAGE AND DOCUMENTATION

16. The working languages of the meeting are English and Russian. There will be simultaneous interpretation English-Russian-English in the meeting.

17. Documentation for the meeting will be available at the UNECE web site at:  
<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2013.11.migration.html>

18. Additional documents may be distributed during the meeting.

## **VII. FURTHER INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDANCE**

19. For any request concerning the workshop, the following persons in the UNECE Secretariat may be contacted:

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