

B. COMPILATION AND DISSE

international migration statistics; and explored ways to produce more complete and timely statistics to meet the growing demand for data to inform policy and decision-making.

Participants considered the requirements for and uses of international migration statistics with reference to statistics on international trade in services. A parallel meeting of a technical subgroup of the Task Force on Statistics on International Trade in Services was held during the Workshop. The subgroup had been set up to address the need for statistics on mode 4 of trade in services—that is, the international movement of natural persons to provide services—according to the General Agreement of Trade in Services (GATS). The technical subgroup included representatives of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), UNCTAD, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and Statistics Division/DESA. Representatives of other international organisations, such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), were also present.

Participants stressed the need to reduce the burden on national statistical offices when providing international migration data, and called for better coordination at both the national and international levels. The role of international organisations in building national capacity in the compilation of statistics on international migration was also emphasized, with particular reference to training in the coordination and use of different sources for the collection of international migration data.

The Statistics Division is seeking collaboration with the United Nations regional commissions and other institutions in organising workshops to inform national statisticians about the United Nations *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration* and elicit feedback on the relevance of United Nations standards and methods for compiling international migration statistics at the country level.

D. LESSONS LEARNED AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Statistics Division is currently reviewing the *Demographic Yearbook* (DYB) system. The aim of the review is to ensure that the official national statistics reported to the United Nations through the *Demographic Yearbook* system remain comprehensive, relevant, timely, and readily accessible to interested Member States, researchers, libraries and the public at large. As part of this review, an Expert Group Meeting will be held from 10 to 14 November 2003 in New York. The Experts will recommend actions to be taken to improve the content and coverage of data collection so as to enhance the system for researchers, statisticians, and the public.

A revised International Travel and Migration Statistics Questionnaire for the DYB system has been developed and was first tested at the ‘Workshop on Improving the Compilation of International Migration Statistics’. A technical report presenting the results of the test and status of international migration statistics in selected countries will be issued early in 2004 and will be posted on the Statistics Division website at

http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2003/20030820030815.htm

ANNEX I

Metadata collection

Questionnaire on International Migration and Travel Statistics

In this questionnaire it is requested to indicate which of the following statistics has been used:

Port Statistics (statistics based on manifests);

Statistics of frontier control (other than those based on manifests);

Statistics of registration coupons detached from certain documents;

Statistics of passports issued;

Statistics of local population registers;

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