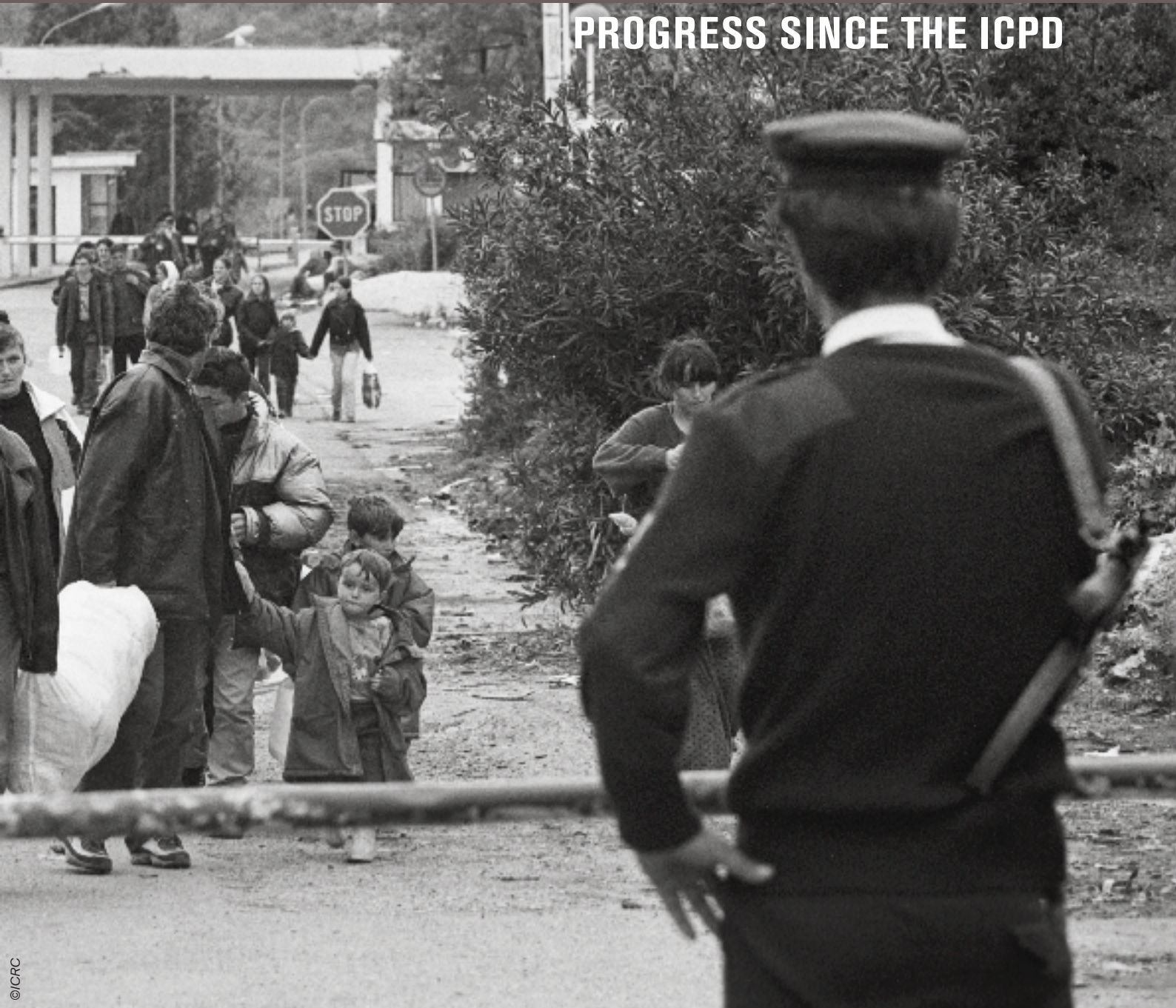


MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION

PROGRESS SINCE THE ICPD



United Nations Population Fund



THE INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION
POLICY PROGRAMME (IMP)



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OF MIGRATION**
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Foreword

In 1994, 179 countries gathered in Cairo, Egypt for the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), organized by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat (UNPD). The Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD PoA) constituted a landmark achievement, setting out a 20-year, progressive action plan and creating a comprehensive basis for national and international action on population and development issues, including internal and international migration. These topics are discussed in Chapters IX and X, respectively, of the action plan. During the 10 years that have transpired since governments committed themselves to the ambitious goals set out in the ICPD PoA, significant developments have occurred in the field of migration. The 10th anniversary of the Cairo Conference, the mid-point of the 20 year ICPD PoA, thus constitutes an ideal moment to take stock of these developments and identify future challenges in terms of migration policy development and related activities. This publication—*Meeting the Challenges of Migration: Progress Since the ICPD*—prepared by the International Migration Policy Programme (IMP) in collaboration with UNFPA, offers an overview of these developments and future challenges.

As noted at the Cairo Conference, 10 years ago, migration, both internal and international, has important implications in terms of poverty, development, demographic and gender dynamics, national and international security and inter-State relations. It presents complex and interlinked

policy challenges for governments and the international community. The increasing importance of migration is evident on several levels. The number of people migrating is rising, and has reached an all time high. At the international level, 175 million persons are estimated to be living outside their country of origin. This number is expected to grow as migration pressures, created by the development gaps between poor and rich countries and fuelled by the process of globalization and demographic dynamics, will result in further migration. Wars and violence continue to displace persons across borders and within their own countries. Also, internal migration from rural to urban settings is evident in the explosive growth of major cities across the globe, with implications for urban environments, development and poverty.

Over the past decade, national and international responses to the growing challenges of migration have been making important headway. Notably, migration is more systematically being incorporated into the development agendas of international and national actors. The global development agenda, adopted in the form of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2001, builds on the ICPD PoA. Increasingly, efforts aimed at achieving the MDGs and the ICPD PoA embrace migration as a development force, not a development failure, and governments and other actors are focusing attention on how to maximize development benefits of migration. International efforts to enhance protection of migrants have also yielded results with the adoption and entry into force of new conventions on the rights of migrant workers

and in the context of human trafficking and smuggling; the elaboration of international standards for protection and assistance for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) also have received universal endorsement. The United Nations' focus on inter-linkages between human habitat management, gender, anti-racism, health and environment reflects the growing understanding of the important relationship between migration and environment, poverty and development. Lastly, the recent establishment of the Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM) is a reflection of the determination of migrant origin, transit and destination countries, the United Nations and other concerned institutions, to enhance international governance of migration and to develop new, innovative responses to the complex challenges that migration currently poses to the international community. On 9 December 2003, at the launch of the GCIM, the UN Secretary-General expressed his vision for the international community's outlook on migration when he stated that "win-win outcomes are possible, if we approach this issue rationally, creatively, compassionately and cooperatively."

Meeting the Challenges of Migration: Progress Since the ICPD draws in part from the activities and experiences of IMP—an inter-agency activity of UNFPA, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), and implemented in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other global and regional bodies. Since 1998, IMP has facilitated migration and refugee policy capacity building for government officials in developing regions. Recognized by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) for its work in this area, IMP has gathered a wealth of knowledge mainly from developing regions' perspectives. This publication draws on this source of information, and more specifically reflects on migration priorities shared by all countries. It contends that as more

countries exhibit characteristics of origin, transit and destination for migrants, so too do they share more synergies and a greater desire to strengthen their cooperation and collaboration in this field.

Through this joint publication, IMP and UNFPA are providing readers with an overview—in an accessible and user-friendly manner—of the salient developments in migration, primarily international migration, since the adoption of the ICPD PoA 10 years ago. It also points to some of the challenges ahead in the coming years. In doing so, it draws on migration-related findings described in the UNFPA Report, *Investing in People: National Progress in Implementing the ICPD Programme of Action 1994-2004*, the results of which are based on the 2003 Global Survey sent to 187 countries to assess progress on all ICPD PoA recommendations since 1994. *Meeting the Challenges of Migration: Progress Since the ICPD* goes into greater depth on migration developments focusing on: migration trends; migration policy developments; migration and development; migration and human rights; economic migration; refugee protection; human trafficking; internal migration; and migration data.

Meeting the Challenges of Migration: Progress Since the ICPD is by no means an exhaustive study nor does it pretend, by this limited volume, to explore the depths of the topics covered. Rather, it draws out a select number of migration issues where considerable developments have occurred since 1994. *Meeting the Challenges of Migration: Progress Since the ICPD* should be of interest to migration practitioners and academics but also to others working on international issues affecting and/or affected by human mobility.

Dr. Rolf K. Jenny
Director
International Migration
Policy Programme (IMP)

Dr. Thoraya Obaid
Under-Secretary-General
Executive Director
United Nations Population
Fund (UNFPA)

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Authors and contributors to this publication include: Colleen Thouez, Boris Wijkström, Gina Veà, Richard Gee, Daniel Jacquerioz, Liv Halperin, Ibrahima Amadou Dia, Frédérique Channac, Laura Barnett, Daniel Cohn, Aspasia Papadopoulou, Alessandra Roversi, Bautista Logioco, and Rebekah Alys Lowri Thomas.

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