

**United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division
Fifteenth Coordination Meeting on International Migration**

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New York

Tour de Table

**Statement on behalf of International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
(IUSSP)**

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The mission of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) is to promote the scientific study of population, encourage exchange between researchers around the globe, and stimulate interest in population issues. With a membership of approximately 2,000 population scientists, the IUSSP can be a key partner in realizing the values of paragraph 40 of the New York Declaration, to paraphrase, for “... improved data collection... [to] enhance international cooperation” concerning international and refugee migrations.

In furthering its mission, the IUSSP organizes seminars and workshops to further scientific knowledge concerning demographic processes, and organizes training and distance-learning activities to improve the research capacity.

Every four years the IUSSP convenes the International Population Conference, bringing together world specialists in population studies and demography. In 2017, **the International Population Conference will be taking place from 29 October to 4 November 2017 in Cape Town, South Africa**. The timing of the conference thus complements the dedicated work of the international community to implement the [New York Declaration on migration and refugees](#). During the Cape Town population conference, a large number of sessions will be devoted to the topic of international migration. Plans are underway for a plenary session to give focus within the conference to global migration processes. The International Population Conference is a significant opportunity for those working in the area to meet and discuss both methodological as well as policy issues and there remain opportunities to organize side meetings and potentially an invited session for leaders in migration research and policy.

The IUSSP has also established several new scientific panels that will yield new knowledge relevant to human migration and migration data including the scientific panel on “Innovations for Strengthening Civil Registration and Vital Statistical Systems,” chaired by Patrick Gerland, UN Population Division, that includes many UN staff. There are also newly organized panels on “Migration, Climate and Health” and “Big Data and Population Processes.” Results from the recently concluded scientific panel on the “Demography of Refugee and Forced Migration” will be published later this year.

The IUSSP also stands ready to mobilize the demographic research community through promoting continuous and ongoing communication channels among population scientists involved in data collection and analysis concerning migration and migrants – and then through its ongoing communications with members sharing results in timely and effective ways. The IUSSP is poised to create opportunities for researchers and policy makers to meet to consider the critical place of evidence and research in efforts to foster safe, orderly and humane processes of human mobility and migrations.

Finally, population scientists stand ready to contribute to actions on so many of the ideas shared in this conference. We will work to connect information and evidence concerning both current – and emerging – trends and patterns in human migration. In this way, members of the research community of demographers can contribute to meeting the obligations outlined by the Special Representative Peter Sutherland to (1) address the root causes of forced migration; (2) relieve the terrible suffering of the people forced to leave their homes; and (3) find solutions to their plight.

Thank you.