

**FOURTH COORDINATION MEETING ON  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Population Division  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations Secretariat  
New York, 26-27 October 2005

**ECA ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION  
2004-2005**

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

## ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CEMAC	Communauté Economique et Monétaire d'Afrique Centrale
COMESA	Common Market for East and Southern Africa
CHGA	Commission for HIV/AIDS and Governance in Africa
EAC	East African Community
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
HIV	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus
NEPAD	New Partnership for African Development
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
SADC	Southern African Development Cooperation
SDD	Sustainable Development Division
TB	Tuberculosis
TRID	Trade and Regional Integration Division
UEMOA	Union Economique et Monétaire de l'Ouest Africaine

## A. INTRODUCTION

This ECA submission on international migration is a follow-up to our submission in 2004 on *“International migration and development in Africa and related ECA and partnership activities.”* It provides ECA’s additional activities on international migration in 2004-05

## B. ECA ACTIVITIES

Though international migration is not a programmatic area for actions and policy research at the

Moreover, cooperation between countries and economic communities on free mobility of labor has been obstructed by security considerations, lack of employment opportunities and competition for limited job opportunities. Due to paucity of statistics on cross country labor flows in Africa, ARIA I (2004) considered spending on education as a proxy factor for skilled labor mobility and capacity building for regional integration. The report indicates that an increase in education spending will promote international migration and the movement of skilled labor within the continent.

Considering international migration and labor mobility as major constraints in Africa, ARIA II (2005) report called for harmonization of labor laws and labor markets to encourage labor mobility across countries. The countries will need to relax visa requirements for people through adopting common travel