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in support of the preparatory process towards the **High-level Plenary Meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants**on 19 September 2016

- 1 The community of population scientists stands ready to support member states and members of civil society in strengthening the foundation of evidence for effective policy making and active steps forward regarding migrants, refugees and vulnerable populations at risk.
- 2 Demography and the broader social sciences hold analytic tools for both description of populations and the revelation of root and proximate causes of displacement, mobility and migration. Robust estimates of the size of unauthorized population serve as one illustration of the contributions of demographic analysis.
- 3 Shared responsibilities regarding refugees and migrants also require strong measures of population vulnerabilities, resilience and capacities. Amplified efforts at standardization of demographic data on both population stocks and flows in collaboration with the UN Population Division will serve to provide measures of progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals and will also serve efforts to protect migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons.
- 4 Finally, this is the moment to plan and implement an international migration survey that will serve to identify the emergence of new trends in human migration and mobility and very critically, to generate a clear understanding of the diverse and shifting meanings and motivations of people who have moved, are moving, or wish to move.

To end, please call upon population scientists to serve and assist in what we hope is a historic moment in international collaborations concerning migrants and refugees.

Thank you.