Dear Ms. Pillay,

I refer to your letter dated 3 March 2010 in which you request information for the preparation of a study on challenges and best practices in the implementation of the international framework for the protection of the rights of the child in the context of migration, as mandated by resolution 12/6 adopted by the Human Rights Council.

In my Department, the Population Division carries out policy-relevant, evidence-based research on international migration and development, prepares estimates on the global migrant stock and produces databases on international migrant stocks and flows. I am pleased to inform you that the Division, supported by UNICEF and UNDP’s Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, has launched a new global database on international migrants. The database allows registered users to extract statistical data on the number of international migrant children by age and sex, country of residence, country of birth and country of citizenship. The Global Migration Database, which can be accessed at www.unmigration.org, allows users to monitor the participation of children in international migration movements and to assess levels and trends of statelessness of migrant children, as called for by the above resolution.

Pursuant to operative paragraph 6 of the above resolution, the Population Division continues to raise awareness about the 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. For example, the ratification status of the Convention was included in the wall chart International Migration 2009.

I trust that these activities, although modest, provide a useful contribution to an evidence-based implementation of the framework for the protection of the rights of the child in the context of migration.

I wish you best of luck in preparing the report and look forward to receiving a copy in due course. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Hania Zlotnik, Director of the Population Division (email: zlotnik@un.org), should you require any further information on our activities in the field of migration.

Yours sincerely,

Sha Zukang
Under-Secretary-General

Ms. Navanethem Pillay
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Geneva, Switzerland.