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Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)  
Division for Inclusive Social Development



معهد الدوحة الدولي للأسرة  
Doha International Family Institute  
البحوث لدعم السياسات الأسرية  
Research to advance family policies  
عضو في مؤسسة قطر  
Member of Qatar Foundation



International Federation  
for Family Development

## AGENDA

Expert Group Meeting in preparation for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Year of the Family, 2024

### Demographic Changes and Family Wellbeing in Africa

Auditorium: Merensky Library

University of Pretoria

Pretoria, South Africa 23-25 January 2023

## Day 1: Monday 23 January 2023

08:30-09h15	Registration and Tea	Issues for discussion
09:15-10:00	Opening ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Prof. Sandy Africa, Deputy Dean; Faculty of Humanities, University of Pretoria</li><li>– Renata Kaczmarek, Focal Point on the Family, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs</li><li>– Sharifa Al Emadi, Executive Director, Doha International Family Institute</li><li>– Ignacio Socias, Director of Communications and International Relations, International Federation for Family Development</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Introductions</li><li>– Welcome remarks</li></ul>

### Session 1: Africa's commitment to families

MODERATOR	Jane Wathuta, Strathmore University, Kenya	Issues for discussion
10:00-11:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Lefhoko Kesamang; Department of Social Affairs - African Union Commission</li><li>– Zitha Mokomane; Department of Sociology - University of Pretoria</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Overview of the African Union Plan of Action on the Family in Africa and Common Position on the Family in Africa,</li><li>– Update on implementation across continent with a focus on successes, challenges,</li><li>– Emerging issues affecting families in Africa and links to the 2030 Agenda and to IYF+30 objectives</li></ul>

### Session 2: Family Formation

MODERATOR	Nicky Roman, University of the Western Cape	Issues for discussion
11:30 - 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Mohamed Mohieddin; Professor of Sociology and International Consultant; Egypt</li><li>– Zitha Mokomane; Department of Sociology, University of Pretoria</li></ul> <p><b>Good practice:</b> Faith Morwaagole-Mafa; Communications and Media Officer, <i>Re a Nyalana Association</i>, Botswana</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– What have been the major family formation trends in Africa since 1994?</li><li>– How have these changes affected family well-being in Africa?</li><li>– What has been the role of technology in these changes?</li><li>– What types of policies and programmes can support families in the context of these family formation changes</li></ul>

### LUNCH BREAK

### Session 3: Morbidity and Mortality

MODERATOR	Ignacio Socias, International Federation for Family Development	Issues for discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Elmoubasher Abu Baker Abd Farag; Acting Head of Communicable Disease Control Programs, Supreme Council of Health, Qatar.</li><li>– Shingairai Chigeza; Department of Psychology University of Pretoria</li></ul> <p><b>Good practice:</b> Sheila Houghton, Lifeline Pretoria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– What have the major trends in morbidity and mortality in Africa?</li><li>– What are the main causes of morbidity and mortality in contemporary Africa: communicable vs noncommunicable diseases?</li><li>– What has been the role of technology in the current morbidity and mortality patterns in Africa?</li><li>– How has COVID-19 affected the family in Africa?</li><li>– What types of policies and programmes can support families affected by morbidity and/or mortality?</li></ul>

## Day 2: Tuesday 24 January 2023

09:00-09:30	Registration and Tea	Issues for discussion
<b>Session 4: Families and aging</b>		
MODERATOR	Benlance Badrane, Ibn Khaldon Center, Qatar	<b>Issues for discussion</b>
09:30-11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Elena Moore; University of Cape Town</li><li>– Dr. Achraf Othman; ICT Accessibility Innovation and Research Section, Mada Center, Doha, Qatar</li></ul> <p><b>Good practice:</b> Ignatius Gutsa; Department of Community and Social Development University of Zimbabwe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– What are the major trends in aging in Africa?</li><li>– What are the current and projected long-term care needs of older people in the region and what are the main factors that underlie this need?</li><li>– What are the challenges and opportunities presented by current social protection policy frameworks, as well as by formal and informal care institutions for elder care in the region?</li><li>– What is the role of policy in supporting active aging within families?</li></ul>
<b>Session 5: Demographic trends and migration: Interlinkages, challenges and opportunities</b>		
MODERATOR	Renata Kaczmarek, Focal Point on the Family -United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs	<b>Issues for discussion</b>
11:00 - 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Mokhtar El Harras; Mohamed V University, Rabat, Morocco</li><li>– Pragna Rugunanan; Department of Sociology, University of Johannesburg</li></ul> <p><b>Good Practice:</b> Steven Gordon, Human Sciences Research Council of South Africa (<i>Virtual presentation</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– What are the main interlinkages between demographic trends and rural-to-urban migration in contemporary Africa?</li><li>– What are the trends in inter-state labour migration in Africa?</li><li>– What are the challenges to families left behind?</li><li>– What policies and programmes can support orderly migration in Africa?</li></ul>
<b>12:30-13h30 LUNCH BREAK</b>		
<b>Session 6: Interlinkages of demographic trends and urbanisation: Challenges and opportunities</b>		
MODERATOR	Pragna Rugunanan, Department of Sociology, University of Johannesburg	<b>Issues for discussion</b>
13:30 – 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Ahmed Aref; Doha International Family Institute</li><li>– Charles Puttergill; Department of Sociology, University of Pretoria</li></ul> <p><b>Good practice:</b> Stephan de Beer, Centre for Faith and Community, University of Pretoria &amp; Tshwane Homelessness Forum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– What are the main interlinkages between demographic trends and sustainable urbanization in contemporary Africa?</li><li>– What are the challenges in urban design in Africa?</li><li>– What policies and programmes can support urban families, including slum dwellers?</li></ul>

## Day 3: Wednesday 25 January 2023

09:00-09:30 Registration and Tea

### Session 7: Demographic trends and new technologies: Parenting in the digital world

MODERATOR	Alex Vazquez, Representative to the UN, International Federation for Family Development	<b>Issues for discussion</b>
09:30-11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Benlacece Badrane, Ibn Khaldon Center, Qatar University</li><li>– Nicky Roman, Director and SARChI Chair: Human Capabilities and Social Cohesion through the family, University of the Western Cape</li></ul> <p><b>Good practice:</b> Sven Ruygrok, International Federation for Family Development, South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– What are the main parenting challenges in contemporary Africa?</li><li>– What are the advantages and challenges parents face with regard to technology as a facilitator of parenting?</li><li>– What policies and programmes can support parents and children in bridging the digital gap between them?</li></ul>

### Session 8: Family policy development at national and regional levels

MODERATOR	Sharifa Al Emadi, Doha International Family Institute	
11:00 - 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Lauren Graham (<i>virtual</i>) and Tanusha Raniga, University of Johannesburg</li><li>– Jane Wathuta, Strathmore University, Nairobi</li><li>– Ider Dungerdoj, UNICEF, ESARO, Johannesburg</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– What are the major lessons learned in developing and/or implementing national and regional family policies?</li><li>– What was the role or could have been the role of the African Union and the Arab league?</li></ul>

### Closing Session

12:30 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Renata Kaczmarek; Focal Point on the Family -United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs</li><li>– Zitha Mokomane; Department of Sociology, University of Pretoria</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Recommendation,</li><li>– Conclusions,</li><li>– The road ahead,</li><li>– closing remarks</li></ul>
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13:00

**LUNCH AND DEPARTURE**