



**United  
Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

**Media advisory**

**PRESS BRIEFING**

## **Growing human population cannot be sustainably fed without urgent overhaul of food systems**

*Countries to discuss the way forward at UN Commission*

### **What**

Under the theme, ‘*Population, food security, nutrition and sustainable development*,’ the 54<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on Population and Development, from 19 to 23 April, will discuss how the global food system can produce adequate, safe, affordable and nutritious food for a growing human population within planetary boundaries.

### **Why**

In 2019, 690 million people were malnourished and for more than 3 billion people around the world, healthy diets were unaffordable. With population growth expected to reach 9.7 billion by 2050, according to UN estimates, an urgent overhaul of global food systems is needed to promote more sustainable patterns of production and consumption, minimizing the impacts on climate and biodiversity.

### **Speakers**

- His Excellency Ambassador Yemadaogo Eric Tiare, Chair of the 54<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on Population and Development and Permanent Representative of Burkina Faso
- Ms. Natalia Kanem, Executive Director, UNFPA
- John Wilmoth, Director, Population Division, UN DESA

**When:** Monday 19 April 2021, 1:00 pm EDT

**Where:** Virtual event on <http://webtv.un.org>

More information on the 54<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on Population and Development is available at <https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/events/CPD54>

### **Background**

#### **Commission on Population and Development**

The primary role of the Commission on Population and Development, established by the UN Economic and Social Council, is to monitor and review the implementation of the Programme of

Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at the national, regional and international levels.

At the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, countries adopted the [Programme of Action](#) that set out a bold new vision about the linkages between population, development and individual well-being, and continues to serve as a roadmap for people-centred development progress.

### **Social Media**

**Hashtags:** #UNPopulation #FoodSystems #CPD54

### **Media contacts:**

Sharon Birch-Jeffrey, UN Department of Global Communications

T: 1 212-963-0564 / E: [birchs@un.org](mailto:birchs@un.org)

Helen Rosengren, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

T: 1 212-963- 9492 / E: [rosengrenh@un.org](mailto:rosengrenh@un.org)

Eddie Wright, United Nations Population Fund

T: 1 917-831-2074 /E: [ewright@unfpa.org](mailto:ewright@unfpa.org)