



ITALY

**FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON
POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

ITEM 6

**PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND FUTURE PROGRAMME
OF WORK OF THE SECRETARIAT IN THE FIELD OF
POPULATION.**

(NEW YORK, 10 APRIL 2014)

Check against delivery

Italy would like to congratulate the UN Population Division for its very commendable, actually indispensable work.

Greater and greater emphasis has been put, in recent times, on evidence-based policy actions, evidence-based decisions, and the like. Without the UN Population Division there would be no such thing as a basis of evidence in population matters – at the world scale, provided by a neutral, competent entity made up of just a few committed individuals, who work all the year round trying to make sense of official data, survey data, estimates, conjectures, and the like. And this for about 200 countries, and for a time windows that has now reached 150 years.

Not only that: estimates and projections are easily and freely downloadable from the website of the UN Population Division, and presented under various scenarios, with a wealth of additional information, including summary indicators, and methodology. Innovations are constantly under way, in various dimensions (methods, presentation, aggregation of countries, etc.) also thanks to the fact that inputs from users are accepted, even solicited.

Italy hopes that the activities of the UN Population Division will continue, indeed expand, in the coming years.