

**UN Commission on Population and Development
47th Session**

**United States Statement on Agenda Item 6
Programme implementation and progress of work
in the field of population in 2013**

Mr. Chairman, I would like to express the appreciation of our delegation for the report of the Secretary-General on *Programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2013: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs*.

Our delegation commends the staff of the Population Division for their continued excellent work relating to the analysis of population trends, monitoring the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, preparing population projections, and making information about their work available to the community of nations.

The Population Division continues to play an essential role as a source of policy-neutral population expertise -- producing analytical reports, compendia of data and policies, and other products that are widely used by technical experts in the governments of member states, multinational organizations, academia, and the general public. These products represent definitive international references on a wide range of population-related topics.

Mr. Chairman, in our view, the Population Division has done an exceptional job of delivering on its expected accomplishments, including the task of effectively facilitating the review by member states of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action as well as progress toward population-related goals adopted by the General Assembly, at the Millennium Summit, and in other United Nations conferences and summits.

In the context of the theme of this meeting of the Commission, "Assessment of the Status of Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development," I would like to highlight several of the accomplishments of the Population Division during the past year.

We thank the Population Division for the summary of “World Demographic Trends” prepared for these meetings (E/CN.9/2014/5), as well as for its insightful assessment of “Shifting demographic and emerging mega-trends in population” over the past 20 years, and for its contributions to the work of the UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. [p13]

This body of work benefits from the fourth *World Fertility Report* [p4], released in early 2013, from a Population Division report on “Adolescent Fertility since the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo” [ST/ESA/SER.A/337; p4], and from its release of long-term estimates and projections of met and unmet demand for contraception by country for the period 1970-2020 [p5]. The Population Division’s work on tracking and modeling demand for contraception provides an important foundation for developing strategies for achieving objective of universal access to reproductive health within the context of primary health care set out in the Programme of Action [POA para 7.6]

The Population Division has made major contributions to our collective understanding of world mortality trends since Cairo through its participation on the UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (IGME), and the associated improved accessibility of demographers and others to IGME’s estimates of infant and child mortality for each country, through its new report on *Levels and Trends in Child Mortality* [p6], and through its assessment, in its *World Mortality Report 2013*, of the extent to which survival targets set of in the ICPD Programme of Action have been met by countries with lower levels of life expectancy in 1994 [p6].

Mr. Chairman, our delegation would also like to commend the Population Division for its continued expansion of its website, making population information increasingly accessible to the global community. Its *World Population Prospects* website was exceptionally useful in 2010. But it is even stronger in 2014. Our delegation notes that, in addition to a wealth of excellent research reports and other products, a dozen web- or electronic-media-based datasets are now available to on-line users. [p19] The Population Division has more than met its obligation, set out in Document E/CN.9/2014/5, to improve accessibility and the timeliness of

population information and data for use by Member States, the United Nations system, civil society, and academia. [p3]

Our delegation would like to thank the Population Division for its work in 2013 in an area that is likely to become increasingly important during the next two decades – documenting the interrelationships, challenges, and progress made toward integrating population issues into the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of policies and programs aimed at sustainable development. In its discussion on work in the area of population and development in the document on program implementation for 2013, Population Division mentions its new technical paper on population and sustainable development in the small island developing states. [pp [pp14-15] This report illustrates a framework for thinking about the important linkages between goals set out in the ICPD Programme of Action, ICPD+5, and the MDGs, and climate change, sustainable development, and poverty alleviation. The report also illustrates the Population Division's continuing efforts to leverage its limited resources to maximize its contributions to our collective understanding of population-development relationships and to our discussions of priorities over the next twenty years.

Finally, we would like to express appreciation to the Population Division for its outstanding work in anticipation of this session of the Commission, including its work in identifying the Keynote speakers, whose presentations greatly benefit our deliberations. This session's speakers provide a unique perspective and will enhance our understanding of the issues under consideration.

Thank you.