

*Check against delivery*

**COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Forty-seventh session, 7-11 April 2014

**Informal briefing for Member States**

New York, 20 March 2013, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Trusteeship Council Chamber

**Statement by John Wilmoth, Director  
Population Division/DESA**

Good afternoon, excellencies, delegates, colleagues.

**Sign-in sheet**

First, let me kindly remind all participants to please sign in on the sheets that are being circulated in the room, if you have not already done so.

Please write your name, the mission or organization you are affiliated with, and your email address. This will ensure that the Secretariat has a complete and up-to-date contact list.

**Documentation**

Regarding the documentation, as Ambassador Koncke just noted, all Commission documents were submitted on time and have been edited and translated. They are available now at the Population Division website, [www.unpopulation.org](http://www.unpopulation.org).

As decided by the Bureau, this year the Commission on Population and Development will again be using the PaperSmart model. All official documentation of the conference is already available electronically via the PaperSmart Portal in all six languages.

There will be no active circulation of hard copies of documents. However, a Print on Demand feature will be available, through which delegates can request a hard copy at the PaperSmart desk in the conference room, or by using the Print on Demand option found on the PaperSmart web portal. Delegates will be able to email any document or statement to themselves from the portal. No log-in will be required to gain access to the portal.

Delegations and participants on the list of speakers are requested to submit electronic versions of their statements to [PaperSmart@un.org](mailto:PaperSmart@un.org) as soon as available and at least two hours in advance of their designated speaking slot. The statements will remain embargoed until their time of delivery, after which they will become available to the public through the web portal.

QR Code posters with a barcode for the PaperSmart web portal will be put up in the conference room to enable easy access to the portal via QR code scanners on personal devices such as smart phones or tablets.

Delegations and participants attending the meeting are encouraged to bring their laptops, tablets or other mobile devices to the meeting to facilitate their access to the Commission's information and documents.

### **Meeting rooms**

The plenary meetings of the Commission are scheduled to be held in Conference Room 1 in the Conference Building. The informal working group will generally meet in conference rooms 5 or 6 in the North Lawn Building.

I would strongly recommend that delegations regularly check the journal for any last-minute room changes, as these sometime may occur.

### **Organization of work**

Let me now turn to the organization of work.

On the first day of the resumed session, Monday 7 April, the Commission will elect its officers under agenda item 1. Also under this agenda item, the Commission will finalize the election of the members of the Bureau.

Adoption of the provisional agenda, the organization of work, and the report of the inter-sessional meetings of the Bureau are considered under agenda item 2.

The Commission will have before it two reports of the Secretary-General on this year's theme, one focusing on world demographic trends since 1994, the year of ICPD, and the other summarizing the operational review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of ICPD. These reports will be presented under agenda item 3.

Statements under this agenda item should focus on progress made, particularly at the regional or global level, in achieving the goals and objectives of the ICPD Programme of Action. Reflections by delegations on both reports are most welcome.

On Monday, 7 April at 12 noon, Dr. Nafis Sadik will deliver a keynote address on the theme of "Dignity and human rights within the context of the ICPD Beyond 2014". Dr. Sadik is a former head of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and served as Executive-Secretary of the 1994 Cairo conference. The keynote will be followed by an interactive discussion.

On Monday afternoon, agenda item 4, general debate on national experience in population matters, will begin. Countries are encouraged to make substantive statements about their national population experiences, with emphasis on the theme of the session.

Item 4 is scheduled to conclude on Wednesday. However, as indicated in the organization of work, the debate under item 4 will continue on Thursday afternoon and on Friday morning, if necessary.

On Tuesday, 8 April at 12 noon, Mr. Massimo Livi-Bacci, the second keynote speaker, will make a presentation on “Population and sustainable development in the context of the post-2015 UN development agenda”. Mr. Livi-Bacci is Professor Emeritus of the University of Florence and a former senator in Italy. The keynote will be followed by an interactive discussion. *[Updated information, 25 March 2014: Following cancellation of the keynote address by Professor Livi-Bacci for personal reasons, the Chair, acting on behalf of the Bureau, has invited Professor David Lam of the University of Michigan to make a keynote presentation on “Population and sustainable development in the context of the post-2015 UN development agenda”. Professor Lam will speak in the time slot originally assigned to Professor Livi-Bacci on Tuesday at 12 noon. Professor Lam has accepted the Chair's invitation.]*

On Wednesday 9 April at 10 am, the Commission will hear an address by the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, Mr. Ahmad Alhendawi.

Then, on Wednesday 9 April between 12 noon and 1 pm, there will be a panel discussion on “ICPD beyond 2014: an unfinished agenda”. The panelists are Ms. Carmen Barroso, Dr. Lola Dare, and Dr. Gamal Serour.

Dr. Lola Dare is the Chief Executive Officer of the Centre for Health Sciences Training, Research and Development in Nigeria.

Ms. Carmen Barroso is the Regional Director of the International Planned Parenthood Federation for the Western Hemisphere Region.

Dr. Gamal Serour is Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Director of the International Islamic Center for Population Studies and Research at Al-Azhar University in Egypt.

On Wednesday afternoon, we are scheduled to commence agenda item 5 on the contribution of this year's Commission to the theme of ECOSOC's Annual Ministerial Review, or AMR. The AMR theme for this year is “Addressing ongoing and emerging challenges for meeting the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 and for sustaining development gains in the future”. We would like to encourage CPD members to actively participate in this discussion in order to tie the work of the Commission more closely to the world of its parent body, the Economic and Social Council.

You will notice on the organization of work that the deadline for the submission of draft proposals is Wednesday, 3 p.m. This deadline is set so that the Secretariat will have 48 hours to issue “L” documents in all six languages. Please note that decisions adopted after this deadline will not be edited or translated.

Based on our experience, we expect that the informal consultations will continue until Friday morning. This is reflected on the organization of work.

The Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and future programme of work of the Population Division will be considered under agenda item 6, scheduled for Thursday morning. Member States are invited to make statements in response to the report prepared for this agenda item.

Immediately following the closing of the 47th session on Friday 11 April, the 48th session will open for the sole purpose of electing the new members of the Bureau. Following the principle of geographical rotation, as stated in decision 2005/2 on the methods of work of the CPD, the Western Europe and Others Group (WEOG) will chair the Bureau of the 48th session. In this regard, allow me to remind the regional groups to submit their candidates for Bureau members of the 48th session of the CPD to the Secretary of the Commission as soon possible.

Finally, I remind you that last year the Commission decided that the theme for the 48th session would be “Realizing the future we want: integrating population issues into sustainable development, including the post-2015 development agenda”.

Allow me to conclude with a few organizational matters.

### **Ground passes for delegates**

We have been advised by security that delegates who need ground passes to attend the commission will need to submit their request at least 48 hours in advance.

### **Side events**

We have received expressions of interest from permanent missions, UN entities, and Non-Governmental Organizations to organize side events. If you are considering organizing such an event, please contact us as soon as possible, since room availability might be an issue. Once we receive final confirmations, we will post a schedule of side events on the CPD website.

### **Reception**

Traditionally, the Population Division and UNFPA will jointly host a joint reception for delegations to the Commission. The reception will be held on Monday, 7 April at 6:00 p.m. in the Southeast corner of the second floor of the North Lawn Building.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.