



# KAZAKHSTAN

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## Statement

**By Ms. Aida Alzhanova, Deputy Permanent Representative of  
the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations  
at the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of the Commission on Population and Development on  
the agenda item (5) «Implementation of the program and future program  
of work of the Secretariat of the Population»  
1 April, 2009, New York**

The delegation of Kazakhstan commends the Secretary-General for the reports reflecting global population trends, as well as the activities of the UN Population Division.

Generalized analysis of current demographic trends gives us an overall picture of the world population. Opposite processes occur in both developed and developing countries. While developing countries are seeking ways to reduce population through birth control to alleviate the demographic burden on the environment and society, the developed countries are concerned about the sharp decline in fertility, which leads to aging and reduce of labor force that consequently increasing socio-economic burden on the state.

At the same time, programs to reduce fertility have more support from donors compare to programs of enhancing fertility. However, as it is noted in the report, currently in 86 countries, including 53 developing countries, fertility levels are below replacement. In this context, it is deemed necessary to provide expert assistance to developing countries, which went through demographic transition and are in the process of population decrease in order to formulate explicit population policies in accordance with their national interests and culture.

My delegation notes with appreciation the work of the Population Division, including produce of relevant publications and databases that are created for the national governments to facilitate formulation of relevant population and development policies.

Recognizing limited financial resources allocated for the distribution of technical publications, however, we think it is possible to find additional resources for their translation into all official UN languages, so that the Governments of Member States would fully use the UN standardized data for the development of national plans.

Moreover, we would like to propose to the Population Division to involve national experts in the ad hoc working groups to improve the quality of demographic data produced by the UN and national statistics, which are sometimes divergent.

For example, according to the report «World Population in 2008», maternal mortality rate in Kazakhstan is 140 deaths per 100 thousand live births as a result of diseases and complications related to pregnancy and childbirth.

However, national data shows maternal mortality rate at 31. In absolute number it is little bit more than 100 deaths per year. We do admit certain data scattering between the UN and national data, but not as huge as this one.

In this regard, we would like to recall that the delegation of Kazakhstan already appealed to the Division to review population projections and some health indicators, such as: maternal mortality, which does not conform to current national statistics. This fact adversely affects the image of the country, which is opened to discuss any development problems in order to overcome them.

In conclusion, we would like to express our wiliness for further fruitful cooperation with the Secretariat and its divisions dealing with population issues and statistics.

Thank you for your attention.