

**UNITED NATIONS EXPERT GROUP MEETING  
ON RECENT AND FUTURE TRENDS IN FERTILITY**

Population Division  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations Secretariat  
New York  
2 – 4 December 2009

**ORGANIZATION OF WORK**  
(Preliminary Draft)

**Wednesday, 2 December 2009**

*9:00 – 9:30 Registration*

*Morning Session (9:30 – 12:30)*

**I. Opening session**

Hania Zlotnik, Director, United Nations Population Division.

**II. Low fertility countries in Europe, the Northern America, Australia and New Zealand**

- a. Tomáš Sobotka (Czech Republic), Vienna Institute of Demography. *European fertility trends and prospects.*

*Coffee break*

- b. Gerda Neyer (Austria), Stockholm University. *Effects of family policies on childbearing behaviour in developed countries.*
- c. Hans-Peter Kohler (Germany), University of Pennsylvania. *Why has fertility recently increased in many developed countries?*

*Lunch break (12:30 – 14:00)*

*Afternoon Session (14:00 — 17:30)*

**III. Low fertility countries in Asia**

- a. Gavin Jones (Australia), National University of Singapore. *Recent fertility trends, policy responses and fertility prospects in low fertility countries of East and Southeast Asia.*
- b. Gu Baochang (China), Renmin University of China. *Fertility prospects in China.*
- c. Ryuichi Kaneko (Japan), National Institute of Population and Social Security Research. *Fertility prospects in Japan.*

*Coffee break*

- d. Sergio DellaPergola (Israel), Hebrew University Jerusalem. *Fertility prospects in Israel: Ever below replacement level?*

**IV. Arab countries –diversity in fertility levels**

- a. Laila El-Zeini (Egypt), Cairo University. *Fertility transition in Egypt and Morocco: explaining the differences.*
- b. John Casterline (USA), Ohio State University. *Fertility levels and trends in Arab countries: Why so diverse and what are the prospects?*

**Thursday, 3 December 2009**

*Morning Session (9:30 — 12:30)*

**V. Latin American fertility levels**

- a. Suzana Cavenaghi (Brazil), ENCE/IBGE. *Diversity of childbearing behaviour within population in the context of below replacement fertility in Brazil.*

*Coffee break*

- b. Guiomar Bay, UN/ECLAC. *Latin American fertility decline: Differences and commonalities.*
- c. Luis Rosero-Bixby (Costa Rica), University of Costa Rica. *Is Latin America starting to retreat from early and universal childbearing?*

*Lunch break (12:30 – 14:00)*

*Afternoon Session (14:00 — 17:30)*

**VI. Asian countries with intermediate fertility levels**

- a. Carl Haub (USA), Population Reference Bureau. *Fertility prospects in India.*
- b. Zeba A. Sathar (Pakistan), Population Council. *Fertility prospects in Pakistan.*
- c. Terry Hull (Australia), Australian National University. *Fertility prospects in South-Eastern Asia.*

*Coffee break*

**VII. Prospects of fertility decline in Sub-Saharan Africa**

- a. Tom Moultrie (South Africa), University of Cape Town. *Stopping, spacing and postponing: The future of the African fertility decline.*
- b. Jean-Pierre Guengant (France). *Proximate determinants of fertility in Africa and their use in fertility projections.*

**Friday, 4 December 2009**

*Morning Session (9:30 — 12:30)*

**VIII. Projecting fertility**

- a. United Nations Population Division. *The evolution of United Nations Population Division's approach to projecting fertility.*
- b. Presentation of new methodology  
  
Adrian Raftery (Ireland), University of Washington. *Overview of a Bayesian approach to projections.*  
  
Leontine Alkema (Netherlands), National University of Singapore. *Methodology for Bayesian projection of fertility.*

*Coffee break*

- c. Preliminary assessment of new methodology  
  
United Nations Population Division. *Implications for total fertility and population projections*

*Lunch break (12:30 – 14:00)*

*Afternoon Session (14:00 – 17:30)*

**IX. Panel discussion on projecting fertility**

- a. Peter Johnson (USA), United States Census Bureau.
- b. Joel Cohen (USA), Rockefeller University.
- c. Nico Keilman (Norway), University of Oslo.
- d. Timothy Dyson (United Kingdom), London School of Economics and Political Science.
- e. Peter Way (USA), United States Census Bureau.
- f. John Bongaarts (Netherlands), Population Council.

**X. Closing**