



*Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations*  
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STATEMENT

BY

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ON

**"REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF  
THE ICPD AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE FOLLOW-UP  
AND REVIEW OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT"**

DURING

THE

**52<sup>ND</sup> SESSION  
OF THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019  
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

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**Chair,  
Members of the Commission,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The Kenyan delegation is honored to participate in the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Commission on Population and Development whose theme is '**Review and Appraisal of the Programme of Action of the ICPD and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development**'. We align ourselves with the statements delivered by the Delegations of the State of Palestine on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and Nigeria on behalf of the African Group.

Kenya welcomes the political declaration adopted during this session and affirms its commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action and the Agenda 2030 as aligned to the Kenya's development's blue print Vision 2030. Allow me to share highlights of the **Kenya National Report on ICPD @ 25**.

**Chair,**

The implementation of the programme of action is underpinned by various legal, policy and programmatic frameworks. These include the Constitution of Kenya 2010, Vision 2030, the Population Policy for National Development, 2012, the Health Act, 2017, Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health Policy 2017 and the Demographic Divided Roadmap, 2017.

The Constitution of Kenya (2010) guarantees the rights of all citizens, including children, youth, the elderly and persons with disabilities. Kenya has put in place policies and strategies to promote the **family, wellbeing of individuals and society**, key among them being the provision of free maternity services in all public health facilities effective from 2013, the '**Linda Mama**' Programme since 2017, Kenya's First Lady's Beyond Zero initiative which is fashioned towards supporting existing healthcare outreach programs by providing mobile clinics and ensuring that no woman loses her life while giving birth.

**Mr. Chair,**

Kenya is advancing towards the demographic transition as reflected in the declining population growth, fertility and mortality rates. The Total Fertility Rate declined from 8.1 births per woman in 1979 to 3.9 births per woman in 2014. Infant Mortality Rate declined from 88 to 39 deaths per 1,000 live births from 1979 to 2014.

In order to reap a demographic dividend, there is need to invest in health, education, skills development and job creation for the youth who constitute approximately 80 percent of Kenya's population.

**Chair,**

The government has established a National Migration Coordination Mechanism, to coordinate national migration and enacted Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2018 that will provide a framework for urbanization in Kenya and address the high annual urban population growth rate, and concerns of the almost 60 percent of the urban population living in informal settlements, as well as assist refugees and displaced persons access basic social services in collaboration with key partners.

**Distinguished Delegates,**

To address gender **equality, equity and empowerment of women**, the Constitution of Kenya 2010 stipulates that no one gender shall hold more than two thirds of all public appointments; and, also creates other constitutional, legal and structural frameworks for the advancement of women's rights. A National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) was established in 2011 and the various legislations enacted. In addition, the National Gender and Development Policy, the National Government Affirmative Fund and the Access to Government Procurement opportunities in order to promote the economic empowerment of women, youth and persons with disabilities.

Despite all these initiatives, the country acknowledges that disparities in gender equality, equity and the need for empowerment remain a national as well as a global challenge. Kenya looks forward to working with the international community in our collective efforts to achieve our goals.

Basic education is a constitutional right in Kenya and is implemented under the Basic Education Act, 2013 which has resulted to near parity enrolment in primary level and improvement in the transition rates for girls and boys from primary to Secondary level of education.

There have been significant Government investments in family planning and reproductive health programmes. The Contraceptive prevalence rate has risen from 46 per cent in 2009 to 58 percent in 2014 and is estimated currently at 62 percent. Efforts are in place to address the disparity in the uptake of family planning services across the counties and the unmet need among the adolescents of about 21 percent.

**Chair,**

Kenya has a wealth of demographic data generated from the Population and Housing Censuses and Sample surveys. Kenya has just concluded the Population-based HIV Impact Assessment (KENPHIA) to evaluate the impact of the HIV programme in Kenya, the Service Delivery Indicator Survey and Health Facility Assessment. This data will assist in making evidence-based decisions in formulating policy and programme design. Kenya is currently preparing to conduct the 2019 Population and Housing Census.

**In conclusion,** Kenya has made significant strides to realise the goals of ICPD POA as reflected in the improvement of key population indicators. The proportion of those living below the poverty line has reduced from 46 percent in 2005/06 to 36 percent in 2015/16. Further, the country has mainstreamed the SDGs as reflected in Medium Term Plan III (MTPIII) of Vision 2030. We call for international support to the ICPD agenda and take this opportunity to welcome all delegations to the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25, convened by the Governments of Kenya and Denmark and UNFPA, from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2019. The conference will bring together governments, the private sector, civil society and community partners to discuss and agree on actions to accelerate the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action.

**Thank you for your attention.**