

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Fifty-third session

Future role and organization of the Commission on Population and Development

Questions

1. Given that the Commission is the only intergovernmental forum focused on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in the United Nations, how can we improve its work to better assist Member States and the international community at large in advancing the ICPD agenda while contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

The Commission should focus on the implementation of the Programme of Action (PoA) of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and its link to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Discussion on cross-cutting issues outside the scope of the Commission should be avoided (since more political agenda was put in and caused disagreement among member states in the previous sessions).

2. Population and development issues and trends, including drivers and impacts, have important implications for the further implementation of the Programme of Action and the achievement of the SDGs. What role can the Commission play in guiding Member States and the international community in responding to these issues and trends?

Among the roles that can be played by the Commission in guiding Member States and the international community in responding to these issues and trends are as follows:

- i. hold dedicated consultation with stakeholders to initiate a reflection to respond to population development issues and trends;
- ii. strengthen their cooperation towards enhancing action on strengthening scientific knowledge on population development issues and trends; and
- iii. share information, good practices, experiences and lessons learned including planning, policies and implementation in relation to PoA and the SDGs.

3. In order to address the above questions and issues, would it be desirable or feasible for the Commission to adjust its methods of work (organizational aspects, substantive elements, and outcome)? If so, could the practices and experiences of other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) provide any guidance?

Propose for the Commission to distribute a common "Guidance note for comprehensive national-level reviews of the implementation of PoA ICPD" to assist in and facilitate the conduct of comprehensive national-level reviews. This is to complement the monitoring framework developed by regional commissions.