



POPULATION *Newsletter*

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WORLD POPULATION IN 2300

World population may ultimately stabilize at between 8 and 9 billion people after 2200. This is one of the results of the most recent long-range projections prepared by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division. *World Population in 2003* (forthcoming) is the seventh of a series of long-range projections of the world population. However, it is the first set to include long-range projections for each country with a population of 100,000 inhabitants or more in 2000. In all cases, long-range projections span the period 2000 to 2300.

World population may ultimately stabilize at between 8 and 9 billion people after 2300.

This set of long-range population projections extends the results of the *2002 Revision of World Population Prospects* (United Nations, 2003a and 2003b) and consist of five different scenarios, varying exclusively with respect to the assumptions made about future fertility trends. The five scenarios are: the medium, high, low, zero-growth and constant-fertility scenarios. In all of these scenarios international migration is assumed to be zero after 2050 and mortality is assumed to decline steadily from 2050 to 2300. The *medium scenario* assumes that all countries of the world will complete the demographic transition by experiencing a prolonged period of fertility below replacement level (of approximately 100 years) and then return to a level of fertility ensuring that the net reproduction rate (NRR) is 1, that is, to true replacement level. The timing of the period of below-replacement fertility is country-specific and depends on the position of each country in the demographic transition as of 2050. Between 2000 and 2050, the *medium scenario* has the same fertility assumptions as in the *2002 Revision*. In the *high scenario* total fertility after 2050 is assumed to be a quarter of a child higher than in the medium scenario and to remain constant at 2.35 children per woman when the medium scenario stabilizes at replacement level. Similarly, in

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the *low scenario* total fertility is assumed to be 0.25 of a child lower than in the medium scenario and to remain constant at 1.85 children per woman when the medium scenario settles at replacement level. Both the low and the high scenarios take off in 2050 from the low and high scenarios of the *2002 Revision*. The *zero-growth scenario* maintains, for each country, the same fertility levels as the medium scenario until about 50 years after the latter reaches replacement level and from there on the zero-growth

scenario has fertility levels that ensure that the number of births matches the number of deaths in each population, thus ensuring zero-growth. Lastly, the *constant-fertility scenario* maintains fertility constant during 2000-2300 at the level estimated for 1995-2000.

These scenarios illustrate, often dramatically, the implications of small differences in future fertility levels. They also demonstrate that it is possible to attain over the next 300 years a world population that would be growing very slowly if at all and whose overall size might not differ markedly from that expected for by 2050. Attainment of such a population depends crucially on the continued reduction of fertility in

developing countries, so that they may emulate developed countries in attaining and maintaining below-replacement fertility for lengthy periods. However, if the world population is to avoid a sustained decline in the long run, most populations need to return eventually to fertility levels that ensure population replacement. In all scenarios, the expectation of life at birth is assumed to increase steadily over time. Because no limit has been put on the increase of life expectancy, some countries attain very high levels of life expectancy by 2300. Such steady increases in survivorship imply that in the medium scenario the population would continue to grow even when fertility reaches and maintains a level ensuring the replacement of generations.

TABLE 1. EVOLUTION OF THE POPULATION OF THE WORLD AND THE MAJOR DEVELOPMENT GROUPS ACCORDING TO THE DIFFERENT SCENARIOS, 2000-2300

Year	Population (billions)				
	Low	Medium	Zero-growth	High	Constant
World					
2000.....	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1
2100.....	5.5	9.1	9.1	14.0	43.6
2200.....	3.2	8.5	8.3	21.2	1 775.3
2300.....	2.3	9.0	8.3	36.4	133 592.0
More developed regions					
2000.....	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
2100.....	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.7	0.9
2200.....	0.6	1.2	1.1	2.8	0.7
2300.....	0.4	1.3	1.1	4.7	0.6
Less developed regions					
2000.....	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9
2100.....	4.7	7.9	7.9	12.4	42.7
2200.....	2.6	7.3	7.2	18.4	1 774.6
2300.....	1.9	7.7	7.2	31.8	133 591.4
Least developed countries					
2000.....	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
2100.....	1.5	2.2	2.2	3.1	19.9
2200.....	0.8	1.9	1.9	4.3	1 352.3
2300.....	0.6	2.0	1.9	7.4	119 748.5

The low and high scenarios illustrate the population changes that may be expected if fertility continues to decline in all countries with current fertility levels above 2.35 children per woman and if, eventually, their fertility levels remain within an interval of half a child around replacement level. As table 1 indicates, in the high

scenario, whose fertility remains at or above replacement level until 2300, the world population, which would reach 10.6 billion in 2050, would keep on rising steadily to attain 36.4 billion in 2300. In contrast, in the low scenario, where fertility remains below replacement level until 2300, the population would be 7.4 billion in 2050

and would decline to 2.3 billion in 2300. The wide difference between 2.3 billion and 36.4 billion is largely the result of half a child difference in fertility levels roughly centered on replacement level and maintained for at least 250 years. World population has the potential to attain any size in between (or even higher or lower sizes for that matter). However, the medium scenario illustrates a path that is consistent with our understanding of current trends and that leads to less marked changes in population size.

The wide difference between the world population projected for 2300 in the low and high scenarios, 2.3 billion and 36.4 billion respectively, is largely the result of half a child difference in fertility levels centred around replacement level and maintained for at least 250 years.

Thus, by assuming that national populations will reach and maintain below-replacement fertility levels for lengthy periods but not forever, the medium scenario projects that world population would reach a maximum of 9.2 billion in 2075 and then decline to 8.3 billion in 2175. Under the further assumption that fertility will eventually return to replacement level in all countries, world population would rise slowly after 2175, partly as a result of increasing longevity, to reach 9 billion by 2300. Even if the effects of rising longevity were counterbalanced by changes in fertility, as in the zero-growth scenario, world population would remain in the range of 8 billion to 9 billion (8.3 billion in 2300 is the figure produced by the zero-growth scenario). That is, the medium scenario produces a path for world population growth that is more likely to be sustainable than the path resulting from the high scenario. In addition, the medium scenario also produces a population that, although nearly four times as large as that in the low scenario, is not as concentrated in older ages as the latter, an outcome that would seem preferable given the challenges posed by rapid population ageing.

In all scenarios, population growth or decline is more concentrated in the less developed regions of today. According to the medium scenario, the population of the less developed regions would increase from 4.9 billion in 2000 to 8.1 billion in 2080 and then would start a steady decline to reach 7.2 billion in 2175. From there on, as fertility reaches and remains at replacement level and life expectancy continues to increase, the population of

the less developed regions would rise slowly to reach 7.7 billion in 2300.

It is important to underscore that according to the medium scenario the major population increase projected for the less developed regions occurs during the 21st century as a result of the still relatively high levels of fertility that are expected to prevail in most developing countries during the next 20 to 30 years and of the resulting population momentum. Thus, by 2050 the population of the less developed regions would already reach 7.7 billion according to the medium scenario. Even with the considerably lower fertility levels assumed under the low scenario, the population of the less developed regions would increase from 4.9 billion in 2000 to 6.3 billion in 2050, but population reductions would start after 2040. That is, according to the low scenario the population of the less developed regions would peak in 2040 at 6.4 billion whereas according to the medium scenario it would peak in 2080 at 8.1 billion. Only according to the high scenario would the population of the less developed regions rise steadily during the 21st century, reaching 9.3 billion in 2050 and 12.4 billion in 2100. Given current fertility trends in the majority of developing countries, it is not expected that they would follow the high scenario over the long-run but, if fertility levels fail to decline as fast as projected in the medium scenario, the onset of population reductions in the less developed regions as a whole may occur after 2080.

Population growth is also affected by changes in mortality. Under constant fertility conditions, reductions in the risks of dying contribute to increase population growth. When fertility is falling, the effects of declining mortality counterbalance those of declining fertility on population growth. The five long-range projection scenarios assume that mortality declines steadily after 2050. Thus, the expectation of life at birth for women at the world level increases from 77 years in 2045-2050 to 97 years in 2300. For men the increase is from 72 years to 95 years over the same period.

Projected life expectancy at the world level rises more among males than among females during 2000-2100, with males gaining 19 years (rising from 62 year in 2000 to 81 years in 2100) and females gaining 17 years (from 67 years in 2000 to 84 in 2100). By 2100, females in the more developed regions as a whole are projected to have an expectation of life of 90 years and males of 85

years. In the less developed regions the equivalent values are 83 years for females and 80 years for males. Life expectancy is projected to increase more in the less developed regions than in the more developed regions during the 21st century, gaining 19 years among both males and females in the less developed regions, and 14 years among males and 11 among females in the more developed regions.

Life expectancy increases slow down in future centuries as ever higher expectations of life at birth are reached. The world's females gain 8 years of life expectancy between 2100 and 2200 to reach 92 years in 2200, but just 5 during 2200-2300 to reach 97 years by the end of the twenty-third century. For males the gains are larger: 9 years during 2100-2200 and 5 during 2200-2300, leading to life expectancies of 90 years in 2200 and 95 in 2300. That is, the differences in survivorship between males and females are projected to decline markedly over the next 300 years.

According to the medium scenario, the proportion of children would decline from 30 per cent in 2000 to 16 per cent in 2100, whereas the proportion of persons aged 60 or over would triple, passing from 10 per cent in 2000 to 30 per cent in 2100.

The long-range population projections also illustrate vividly the unavoidable ageing of the population. According to the medium scenario, world population would increase by 3 billion persons between 2000 and 2100, yet the number of children (0 to 14 years of age) would decline slightly (from 1.8 billion in 2000 to 1.5 billion in 2100), whereas that of persons aged 15 to 59 years would rise by 1.2 billion (from 3.6 billion to 4.8 billion) and that of persons aged 60 years or more would increase by 2.2 billion (from 0.6 billion in 2000 to 2.8 billion in 2100). In terms of the distribution by age, these changes imply that the proportion of children would decline from 30 per cent in 2000 to 16 per cent in 2100, whereas the proportion of persons aged 60 or over would triple, passing from 10 per cent in 2000 to 30 per cent in 2100. The proportion of the population aged 15 to 59 would change moderately, passing from 60 per cent in 2000 to 53 per cent in 2100, but the nature of the economically dependent population would change drastically: by 2150, instead of involving mostly children who depend on their support on parents, it would involve mostly elderly persons

whose support may have to depend either directly or indirectly on younger generations.

Population ageing occurs in all the scenarios except the one with constant fertility. Furthermore, in all of them, the ratio of dependents, defined as children 0 to 14 years of age and the elderly (those aged 60 or over) to the population of working age (15-59) increases steadily (see figure 1), mainly as a result of the rise in the number and proportion of elderly persons. Figure 2 displays the projected increase in the ratio of elderly persons to those of working age in all the scenarios. With the exception of the constant-fertility scenario, that ratio rises in all the others, particularly before 2100 and more markedly in the low scenario than in the others. Between 2000 and 2300, the elderly ratio is projected to rise from 0.17 elderly persons per person of working age to 0.8 elderly persons per person of working age in the medium scenario. The equivalent figures in the high and low scenarios are 0.65 and 0.93, indicating clearly that in the long run population ageing is inevitable.

According to the medium scenario, by 2100 there would be 773 million persons aged 80 years or over, eleven times the number in 2000.

Population ageing in the long term will be characterized by a very marked increase in the number and proportion of the very old population (those aged 80 years or over). According to the medium scenario, by 2100 there would be 773 million persons in that age group, eleven times the number in 2000, and by 2300 the number of persons aged 80 or over would be higher than 1.5 billion. As a proportion of the population, those aged 80 years or over would also become prominent, comprising 17 per cent of the population in 2300 instead of one per cent as today. These changes suggest that the society of the future would have to value more the contributions of its older members so as to ensure that they remain active and engaged for most of their lengthy life spans. If the world population evolves as projected in the medium scenario, society has some time to adapt to the projected changes, especially as savings can be accrued because of the slow growth and eventual reduction of the number of children. However, in historical terms, the time available is short and successful adaptation requires that we embark early in the path of societal change.

Figure 1. Evolution of the dependency ratio for the world according to different scenarios, 2000-2300

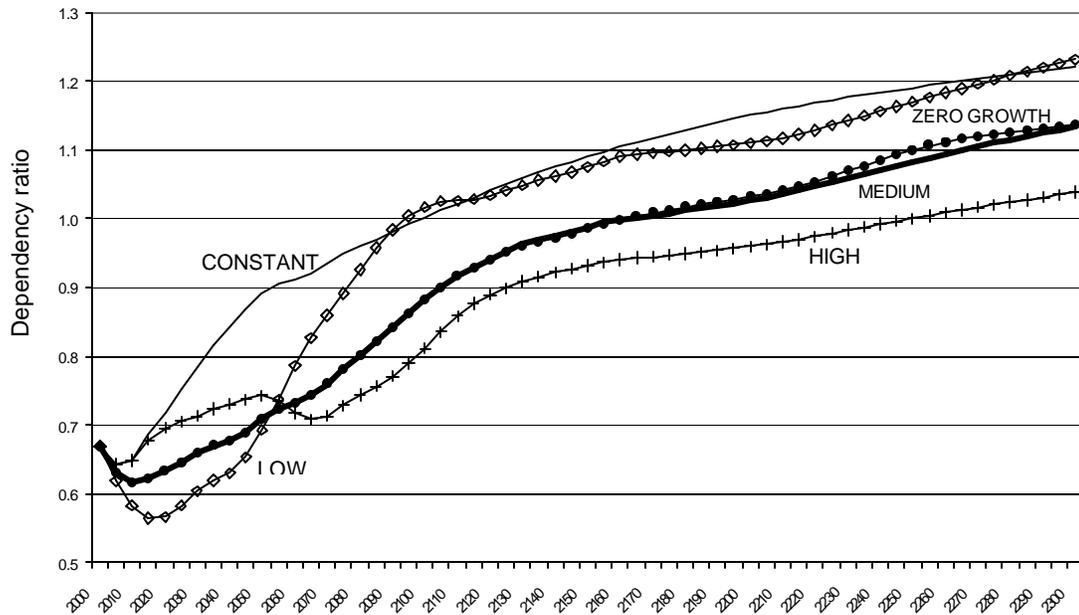
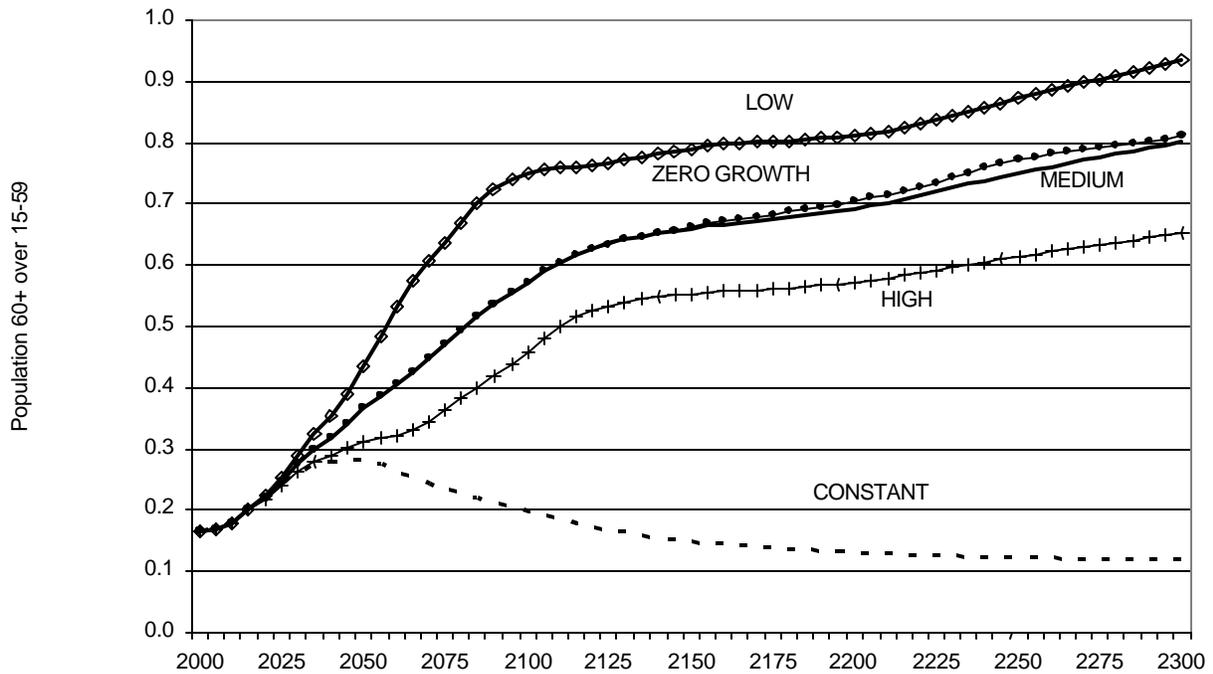


Figure 2. Ratio of population aged 60 or over to the population 15-59 for the world according to different scenarios, 2000-2300



With increasing longevity comes a projected increase in the number and proportion of persons reaching age 100 or over. By 2300 their number is projected to be 162 million and would account for nearly 2 per cent of the world population. Even in the high scenario, where population ageing is slower, the number of centenarians would reach nearly half a billion and they would account for over 1 per cent of the world population in 2300.

Highlights and other findings, including data, from *World Population in 2300* are available on the web site of the Population Division of DESA at www.unpopulation.org.

WORLD FERTILITY REPORT 2003

The twentieth century ushered in profound and continuing changes in childbearing that are driven by and impact on social and economic development. Central to these changes in childbearing are shifts in nuptiality and increases in the use of contraception. Contraceptive use related to reproductive health is an issue of high priority worldwide and the views and policies of Governments in this domain are diverse and evolving.

The *World Fertility Report 2003*, prepared by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, presents a compilation of key estimates and indicators of fertility, nuptiality and contraceptive use for 192 countries, referring mostly to the 1970s and to the 1990s but covering earlier periods when necessary or more recent periods when possible. The set of data presented permit an assessment of the unprecedented changes in nuptiality, contraceptive use and fertility that have occurred since the 1970s. In particular, the report documents the following key findings:

1. **A major worldwide shift in the timing of marriage to older ages has occurred.** The median value of the singulate mean age at marriage for the world rose from 25.4 to 27.2 years among men and from 21.5 to 23.2 years among women. For developed countries, the increase has been even more striking, with the median rising from 25.2 to 28.8 years for men and 22.0 to 26.1 for women.

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2. **Both men and women are spending longer periods of their life being single.** The median of the percentage ever-married among persons aged 25-29 declined from 85 per cent in the 1970s to 76 per cent in the 1990s for women, and from 68 per cent to 56 per cent for men. Again, the reductions in the percentage of ever-married persons aged 25-29 are more substantial for developed countries, whose median values declined from 85 per cent to 62 per cent among women and from 74 per cent to 43 per cent among men.
3. **Delayed marriage among young adults has not yet resulted in noticeable reductions in the percentage of persons marrying at least once over their lifetime.** Marriage or some form of consensual union continues to be nearly universal. In the 1970s, in three out of every four countries, 89 per cent or more of all men and all women aged 45-49 had been married at least once and that figure was still close to 89 per cent by the 1990s.
4. **Divorce rates have increased in most countries with data available.** In developed countries, the median rate of divorce rose from 13 divorces per 100 for men and women in the 1970s to 24 divorces per 100 men and 27 per 100 women in the 1990s. In developing countries, the median rate of divorce increased from 7 to 12 divorces per 100 men and from 5 to 15 divorces per 100 women. That is, not only has there been a tendency for people to marry later, but the instability of marital

unions has been rising. Both trends clearly have significant implications for reproductive behaviour.

A major worldwide shift in the timing of marriage to older ages has occurred and both men and women are spending longer periods of their life being single.

5. **A tremendous increase has taken place in the use of family planning.** Between the 1970s and the 1990s, the use of contraception among women currently married or in union increased in nine out of every ten countries with information available. The median level of contraceptive use at the world level increased from 38 per cent of women currently married or in union in the 1970s to 52 per cent in the 1990s. For developing countries, the median prevalence rose from 27 per cent to 40 per cent between those dates. By the 1990s, contraceptive prevalence in a quarter of all developing countries was 62 per cent or higher.
6. **The use of modern contraceptive methods in developing countries has generally risen** The median use of modern contraception in developing countries increased from 18 to 30 per cent between the 1970s and the 1990s. However, in a quarter of all developing countries the use of modern contraceptive methods remains rare, with levels of use remaining below 12 per cent.
7. **Between 1970 and 2000, the world population experienced a major and unprecedented reduction of fertility levels, driven mostly by the decline in fertility in developing countries.** Average fertility levels in the developing world dropped from over 5.9 children per woman in the 1970s to about 3.9 children per woman in the 1990s. The median fertility reduction in developing countries between the 1970s and the 1990s was of the order of 1.8 children per woman and a quarter of all developing countries appear to have achieved reductions of 2.6 children per woman or more.
8. **Whereas fertility was uniformly high in developing countries in the 1970s, the fertility levels of developing countries today vary over a wide range** (figure 3). Thus,

fertility remains above 5 children per woman in a number of least developed countries but it has reached below-replacement levels in about 20 developing countries.

9. **Fertility levels in developed countries, many of which experienced a “baby boom” during the 1950s and 1960s, have generally declined since 1970.** The median reduction in the total fertility of developed countries was 0.8 children per woman between the 1970s and the 1990s. By the late 1990s only four developed countries? Albania, Iceland, New Zealand and the United States of America? reported a total fertility of 2 children per woman or higher. Furthermore, in 14 developed countries, fertility was lower than 1.3 children per woman, an unprecedented low level of fertility in the recorded history of large populations.

Between 1970 and 2000, the use of family planning increased tremendously and the world population experienced a major and unprecedented reduction of fertility levels, driven mostly by the decline in fertility in developing countries. However, fertility levels in developing countries today still vary over a wide range.

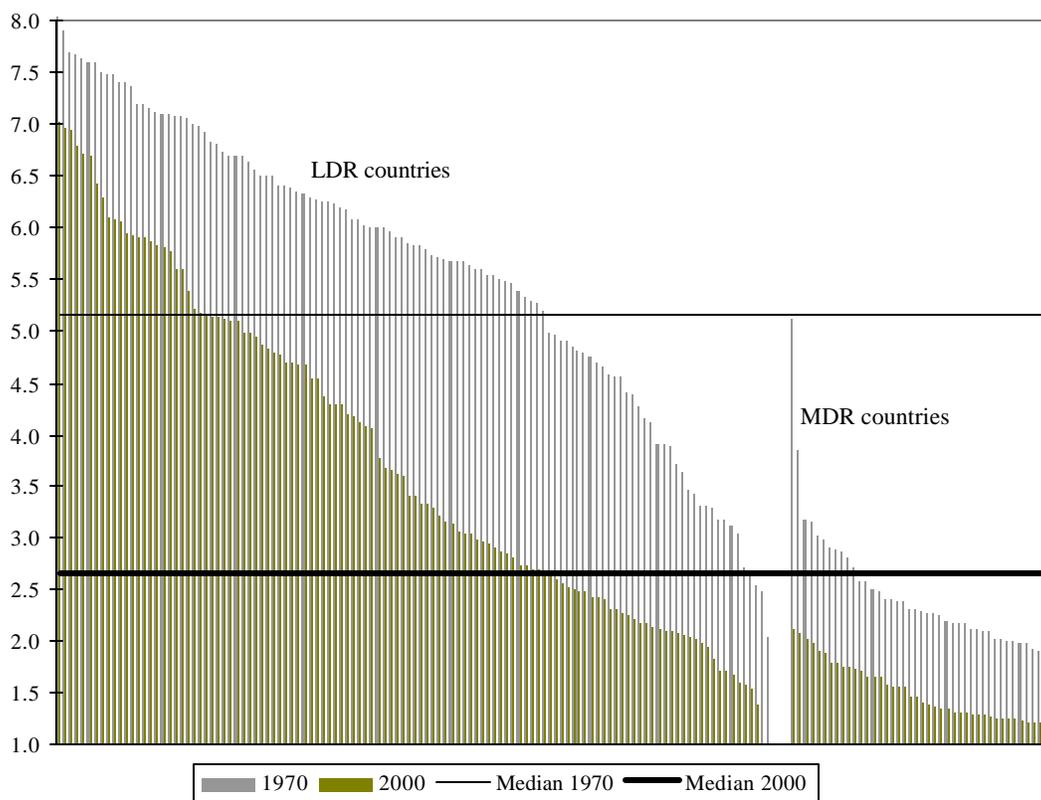
10. **Levels of childlessness vary considerably among major areas.** In the 1990s, the proportions of childless women among those aged 45-49 tended to be high in developed countries and in countries of the Caribbean. At least 7 per cent of women aged 45-49 were childless in four of every five developed countries with data and in nine developed countries the proportion childless surpassed 10 per cent. Levels of childlessness were relatively low in Africa and Asia in the 1990s and moderate in Latin America. Between the 1970s and the 1990s, levels of childlessness declined in Africa, as sterility caused by sexually transmitted diseases decreased during the 1970s and 1980s.
11. **The profound changes in fertility levels occurring since 1970 have been made possible by major behavioural transformations related to union formation, marriage and the use of contraception.** Government policies on access to contraceptives have played an important role in modifying reproductive behaviour. In 1976,

52 per cent of all Governments reported that they had no intervention to modify fertility levels but by 2001 that percentage had dropped to 32 per cent. Government support for family planning has increased steadily since the 1970s. By 2001, 92 per cent of all Governments supported family planning programmes and the distribution of contraceptives either directly (75 per cent), through government facilities, or indirectly (17

per cent), by supporting the activities of non-governmental organizations such as family planning associations.

The profound changes in fertility levels occurring since 1970 have been made possible by major behavioural transformations related to union formation, marriage and the use of contraception.

Figure 3. Distribution of 160 countries by TFR around 1970 and 2000



THE IMPACT OF AIDS

Since the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was first recognized in the 1980s, the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat has studied its demographic impact. A new study, *The Impact of AIDS* (forthcoming), considers the broader impact of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV/AIDS) on development. It provides a review of the evidence regarding the impact of HIV/AIDS on population,

households, firms, agriculture, health, education and the economy.

The study demonstrates that the HIV/AIDS epidemic is having sweeping effects on all sectors of society and will continue to have devastating consequences for decades to come. In many countries, the epidemic is undermining the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2000.

HIV/AIDS is the deadliest epidemic of our time. Over 22 million people have already lost their lives and more than 42 million are currently living with HIV. In many countries, especially in Africa, the epidemic has spread rapidly, leaving illness, death, poverty and misery in its wake. In other countries, the disease is still in its early stages and its destructive effects are only beginning to be felt.

Key report findings:

- HIV/AIDS has a devastating demographic impact. This is especially so in sub-Saharan Africa, where the epidemic began earliest and HIV prevalence is highest. African countries with the highest HIV prevalence are experiencing death rates not seen since the 1950s or 1960s. Recent United Nations projections show even more drastic losses over the coming decades. In the 38 most affected African countries, about 100 million excess deaths are expected by 2025 because of the toll of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Although the demographic impact of HIV/AIDS in most countries outside Africa is less severe in relative terms because prevalence rates are lower, the human suffering and population losses involved are still enormous. By 2025, AIDS is expected to cause 31 million excess deaths in India and 18 million more deaths in China.

In the 38 most affected African countries, about 100 million excess deaths are expected by 2025.

- The burdens associated with HIV/AIDS on families and households are staggering. Typically, a family where the disease is present loses an adult in the prime of life, leaving behind not only a bereft family, but often an HIV-infected spouse and infected children. During the long period of illness, the loss of income and the cost of caring for ill family members may impoverish the household and lead to lower food consumption, which in turn causes malnutrition, especially among young children. Adult deaths, especially of parents, often cause the break-up of households, with children taken in by relatives or left homeless.
- Enterprises are also affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Because the disease affects mostly persons in the working ages, businesses often lose productive human capacity as workers

become too ill to work and die. Skilled workers, in particular, are often hard to replace. Sick workers are less productive, as are those workers who must care for sick family members. The costs of paying health and death benefits and of replacing experienced workers can also have serious financial implications for businesses.

The ten African countries most severely affected by HIV/AIDS will lose between 10 and 26 per cent of their agricultural labour force by 2020.

- The loss of farm workers to HIV/AIDS has serious implications for food security. The ten most severely affected African countries will lose between 10 and 26 per cent of their agricultural labour force by 2020 (table 2). Among the likely consequences of the loss of farm workers are reduction in land under cultivation, decline in crop yields, and a shortage of labour during periods of high labour demand.
- HIV/AIDS seriously threatens the education of children. In households affected by HIV/AIDS, children are often taken out of school to help at home with care-giving or income-generating activities. In addition, teachers are also dying of AIDS, eroding the quality of education.
- HIV/AIDS threatens the viability of health-care systems. Health-care systems were already inadequate in many affected countries even before HIV/AIDS struck. The treatment of AIDS and related opportunistic infections is placing heavy additional burdens on the health systems of a growing number of countries.
- HIV/AIDS weakens the economy and undermines economic development. Where HIV prevalence is high, a higher percentage of workers are afflicted and productivity declines and, in the worst cases, the labour force itself may shrink. Funds for savings and investment—including investment in the next generation—are often diverted to pay for health care and social welfare benefits for afflicted families. The effects of lower investment in the human capital of the younger generation—to improve nutrition, health and education—are likely to affect economic performance over decades to come.

TABLE 2. ESTIMATED AND PROJECTED LOSS OF LABOUR FORCE IN 2000 AND 2020
(Percentage)

Country	2000	2020
Namibia	3.0	26.0
Botswana	6.6	23.2
Zimbabwe	9.6	22.7
Mozambique	2.3	20.0
South Africa	3.9	19.9
Kenya	3.9	16.8
Malawi	5.8	13.8
Uganda	12.8	13.7
United Rep. of Tanzania	5.8	12.7
Central African Rep.	6.3	12.6
Côte d'Ivoire	5.6	11.4
Cameroon	2.9	10.7

Source: FAO, 2001. The impact of HIV/AIDS on food security, twenty-seven session of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome.

The study suggests that immediate and concerted action to prevent new infections and to treat and care for people living with HIV will mitigate the destructive consequences of the epidemic. As stressed at the plenary session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS of 22 September 2003, such actions include:

- Strong and direct political leadership
- Greatly increased resources
- Comprehensive programmes of HIV prevention services
- National strategies for the delivery of treatment and care

The report concludes: “The course of the HIV/AIDS epidemic is by no means pre-determined. The eventual course of the disease depends on how individuals, communities, nations and the world respond to the HIV/AIDS threat today and tomorrow.”

“*The Impact of AIDS*” has been issued as a working paper (ESA/P/WP.185) that may be obtained by writing to the Director, Population Division, Department of Social and Economic Affairs, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, United States of America. The report is also available on the Population Division web site, www.unpopulation.org.

SECOND COORDINATION MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

The Population Division organized the second Coordination Meeting on International Migration on 15 and 16 October at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The objectives of the meeting were: 1) to share and exchange information in the area of international migration and 2) to facilitate the coordination of activities among various offices within the United Nations system and other relevant international and regional organizations as well as national

institutions concerned with international migration. The meeting was the second in a series of Coordination Meetings on International Migration.

The meeting comprised three substantive sessions. In the first session, recent activities on international migration at the United Nations Secretariat were reviewed. A former special adviser to the Secretary General briefed participants about the increasing saliency of

international migration issues at the United Nations and about the proposed creation of an Independent Commission on International Migration. The session also reviewed recent debates on international migration at the United Nations General Assembly.

The second session of the meeting was devoted to the discussion of three current topics of international migration: undocumented migration, with special attention to human trafficking, workers' remittances, and international migration and security. For each topic, presentations by experts and relevant organizations were followed by exchanges of ideas and relevant information among participants. The presentations showed that, despite the growing attention that these issues have drawn, the knowledge base on them remains weak. Difficulty in obtaining the appropriate information and lack of standard concepts were common concerns raised by participants.

In the third session, representatives of participating organizations reported on their recent activities in the field of international migration, based on papers submitted for the meeting. The wide range of activities described by representatives corroborated that international migration has become an issue of central concern for the international community. Many organizations mentioned initiatives in gathering and disseminating data on international migration and efforts to improve the availability of data, especially by increasing collaboration with relevant offices. Participants also noted that efforts

to create or expand networks or initiate dialogue among stakeholders in the field of international migration have grown. Many participating organizations had strengthened their research activities on various aspects of international migration in order to contribute to a better understanding of complex migration issues.

Participants reached the following conclusions: (1) participants stressed the usefulness of coordination meetings and agreed to continue having them at regular intervals; (2) participants underscored the importance of continuing to work toward improving the availability and dissemination of timely, comparable and comprehensive information on international migration; (3) participants expressed their willingness to assist Member States with initiatives to investigate various issues in the area of international migration and development, and to develop and test strategies that maximize the benefits of international migration on development, and (4) participants agreed that collaboration among relevant organizations was crucial to identify and document best practices that could provide guidance for policy development.

The publication *Second Coordination Meeting on International Migration* (forthcoming) may be obtained by writing to the Director, Population Division, Department of Social and Economic Affairs, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, United States of America, and the report of the meeting and the papers presented at the meeting are available on the Population Division's web site, www.unpopulation.org.

WORKSHOP ON HIV/AIDS AND ADULT MORTALITY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

From 8 to 13 September 2003, a Workshop on HIV/AIDS and adult mortality in developing countries was held in New York. It was organized by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat. This Workshop functioned both as a technical meeting of experts and a training activity for 22 government officials working in the area of HIV/AIDS in 15 countries of Africa. A major goal of the Workshop was to provide the African officials with a good understanding of the demographic aspects of the HIV/AIDS epidemic and to assist them in communicating effectively research results on population and HIV/AIDS.

The dialogue and exchanges between technical experts and government officials, most of whom occupy posts of high responsibility in their countries, was valuable. Each group learned from the other on how best to address the challenges posed by HIV/AIDS and the high mortality it induced. In the absence of effective vaccine, behavioural change was considered to be the key to controlling the spread of the epidemic.

Life expectancy has already fallen by more than 20 years in the six most affected countries.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic is taking a devastating toll. According to the most recent estimates, life expectancy has already fallen by more than 20 years in the six most affected countries. AIDS is altering the distribution of deaths by age, dramatically swelling the number of deaths among adults in the reproductive age groups, in which mortality in the absence of AIDS is normally low. AIDS deaths may lead directly to a reduction in the number of available workers, since the deaths occur predominantly among persons aged 15 to 55.

Africa is the region most affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The epidemic has already killed millions of working-age adults in their most productive years and is projected to cause even more deaths over the next decade or so. HIV/AIDS is already slowing down the development of the most affected countries, and its detrimental effects on development will only increase in the future.

The impacts of the disease are felt at many levels: among the individuals and families affected, in the communities where they live, and at the regional and national levels. Beyond the health and demographic implications, the epidemic is threatening the very fabric of society in the most affected countries and is eroding social and economic safety nets.

Several participants noted that poverty exacerbates the problems related to HIV/AIDS and that AIDS exacerbates poverty. Households are feeling the impact of AIDS in terms of loss of earnings and increased expenditure for medical care. The numbers of single-parent families and orphans are growing. The impact of the disease is different for men and women, since women are more vulnerable to infection. Hence, as many participants noted, there is a need for gender-sensitive approaches to prevent, treat and address the consequences of the disease.

Obtaining reliable data on the economic, demographic, and social impact of HIV/AIDS can be an important step in influencing the allocation of resources.

However, to plan effective interventions, adequate information is necessary. Participants have emphasised that the data on adult mortality in Africa are very weak and in many countries simply do not exist. This lack of data poses major

problems to assess the impact of HIV/AIDS. There is broad agreement that efforts should be made to improve the availability of data on adult mortality in the more affected countries. In addition, most of the information on HIV prevalence refers to women, and several participants have noted the need to get more information for men. The inclusion of seroprevalence testing in the DHS is a welcome development in this regard. There was agreement that, within a context of scarce resources and competing priorities, obtaining reliable data on the economic, demographic, and social impact of HIV/AIDS can be an important step in influencing the allocation of resources in countries affected.

It was noted that in regions of the world where data on adult mortality were available, the estimates produced using models of the impact of HIV/AIDS did not always agree with the empirical data. More work was needed to ascertain whether the model, its inputs or the empirical data themselves were deficient. The Workshop indicated that all models used to estimate adult mortality, maternal mortality and child mortality in the context of AIDS were liable to biases because of the complex nature of the inputs needed and the lack of reliable information on some aspects of the epidemic. There was an urgent need to improve the availability of other data on mortality, especially those derived from vital registration, although improving vital registration systems, where they existed, was a long-term process.

In the interim, adding questions on household deaths in the past year to the questionnaires used in population censuses would provide useful information. Hence, participants recommended that the next version of the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses be revised to recommend strongly the inclusion of a question on household deaths by age and sex in the 12 months preceding the census. It was also suggested that two additional items of information be recorded about every reported death: whether it was related to pregnancy (for deaths of women aged 12 to 54) or whether it was due to an accident, homicide or suicide (external causes). By eliminating such deaths from those reported for persons aged 15-54 it would be easier to assess the impact of HIV/AIDS.

It was also considered important to stress the need to produce and disseminate appropriate tabulations of the deaths reported in censuses, classifying them by age and sex, and by cause if

appropriate. Such data should be routinely compiled and published in the United Nations Demographic Yearbook.

Given the likelihood that deaths caused by HIV/AIDS would result in the disintegration of households and therefore lead to an underreporting of deaths when census questions were phrased in terms of households, it was thought necessary to explore alternative reference frames, possibly beyond the household, for use in countries highly affected by HIV/AIDS. Testing the performance of alternative questions would be necessary.

It was suggested that, in countries with HIV prevalence of 5 per cent or higher, indirect estimation techniques for the estimation of child mortality might result in biased estimates and it was therefore better to avoid them.

Participants took note of the methodologies used by the Population Division and the US Bureau of the Census to project populations affected by HIV/AIDS. The Population Division had been producing projections incorporating explicitly the impact of HIV/AIDS since the early 1990s. Although the projections indicated that the impact of the epidemic would be serious, they had tended to project lower levels of HIV prevalence than those actually found in highly affected populations as the epidemic spread. Furthermore, there was no attempt to forecast which countries would be affected next. Since the Population Division began incorporating explicitly the impact of HIV/AIDS in the projections of highly affected countries, the number of such countries had more than tripled, rising from 16 in 1990 to 53 in the *2002 Revision*. Eastern Europe and South-central Asia were thought to have currently the fastest growing epidemics. The continued expansion of the epidemic in countries of those regions, especially in the Russian Federation and Ukraine, would lead to further increases in their already moderately high mortality.

Participants agreed that HIV/AIDS exacerbated the challenges posed by development and that implementing policies and programmes to stop the

spread of the epidemic was urgent. However, it was recognized that Governments did not always translate their commitments into actions, often because of a lack of financial resources. Some participants noted that cultural norms could also play a role in delaying or preventing the adoption of protective behaviour against HIV infection.

Participants emphasized that the course of the HIV/AIDS epidemic depended on how individuals, nations and the world responded to the HIV threat today. Part of that response should involve a better dissemination of facts regarding the epidemic. Governments could use the Internet to disseminate and exchange information related to the disease, its demographic impact, and the interventions that were most effecting in preventing infection or to treating those affected by the disease. An analysis of the contents of selected AIDS web sites developed in Africa helped to identify best practices in web communication and provided participants with novel ideas to develop web sites on AIDS.

One of the most useful aspects of the Workshop was the exchange of information among participants from affected countries about the situation in each of their countries and about the policies and programmes that had been adopted in each. Government officials participating in the meeting would disseminate its findings in their home countries. Participants agreed that it would be important to maintain contact among themselves, exchange information and collaborate in raising awareness about the impact of HIV/AIDS on mortality. A serious effort should be made to share data, publish them and share estimation and projection methodology.

The papers presented at the Workshop are available on the website of the Population Division, at www.unpopulation.org. The proceedings of the Workshop are in preparation.

INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Bureau of the Commission on Population and Development held an inter-sessional meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania, from 13 to 14 November

2003, at the invitation of the Government of Lithuania. The meeting was attended by Mr. Gediminas Šerkšnys, Permanent Representative of

the Republic of Lithuania; Mr. Crispin Grey-Johnson, Permanent Representative of the Gambia; Mr. Marc Bichler, Deputy Permanent Representative of Luxembourg; and Mr. Alfredo Chuquihara, Minister Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations. In addition, representatives of the Population Division of the United Nations, UNFPA, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania and the Institute for Social Research of Lithuania were also present.

Mr. Šarunas Adomavicius, the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania, opened the meeting by noting the great interest that Lithuania took in the activities of the United Nations and the importance of demographic trends and their impact on all aspects of socio-economic development. Mr. Joseph Chamie, Director of the Population Division, welcomed the members of the Bureau to the meeting and thanked Mr. Šerkšnys and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania for the preparations made in its support.

The items discussed at the inter-sessional meeting included the proposed agenda of the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-seventh session in 2004, including the second quinquennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the cross-cutting themes that would guide the debate of that item by the Commission. Also discussed were the proposed themes for the thirty-ninth to forty-first sessions of the Commission scheduled for 2006 to 2008; and the modalities of work of the Commission. On the basis of its deliberations, the Bureau reached a number of conclusions and made several recommendations. They are summarized below.

- The Bureau suggested that the cross-cutting themes for discussion of “Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development” be the following: (a) Population imperatives for sustainable development, and (b) Building partnerships and capacity, and mobilizing human and financial resources for the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action.
- The Bureau recommended that one or two distinguished guest speakers be invited to address the thirty-seventh session, focusing their statements of the lessons learned and the

challenges still facing the international community in implementing the ICPD Programme of Action.

- The Bureau recommended that interventions by delegations during the debate on national experiences address the review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the ICPD Programme of Action at the national level, taking into account the cross-cutting themes identified by the Bureau.
- The Bureau recommended that a working group be established at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission to discuss issues that might result in resolutions or decisions. The Bureau also recommended that the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat prepare initial drafts of resolutions and decisions, in consultation with Member States, to facilitate the deliberations of the working group.
- The Bureau recommended that the Director of the Population Division organize a briefing for delegations before the thirty-seventh session of the Commission on the status of documents, organization of work, and resolutions and decisions that are likely to be considered by the Commission.
- The Bureau stressed the importance of the timely availability of documents for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission in order to facilitate preparations of statements by delegations. The Bureau endorsed the posting of advanced unedited versions of the documents on the Internet.
- The Bureau suggested that the Commission consider the following themes for years 2006 to 2008: (a) internal migration and urbanization; (b) international migration, and (c) changing age structure and population ageing.
- The Bureau took note of the plan to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development by devoting a special commemoration day to it during the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly.
- The Bureau took note of the consolidated report on the work of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/2003/90) and recommended that the Commission on Population and Development take the lead in highlighting the importance of population issues for the work of other functional commissions

and in contributing to set priorities in the social and economic fields.

- The Bureau recommended that the Population Division continue to investigate new and emerging issues in the field of population and development, and to convene technical meetings to shed light on key population concerns of the international community, including those related to the special themes discussed annually by the Commission.
- The Bureau took note of a draft resolution on international migration and development request-

ing a high-level dialogue on international migration. The Bureau recognized that work on international migration was increasing and supported the allocation of more human resources to this activity, including the creation of a section devoted exclusively to migration. The Bureau noted with satisfaction that a Second Coordination Meeting on International Migration had been held in conjunction with the debate on international migration and development at the Second Committee.

2003 RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITH REGARD TO POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Resolution 2003/1

Population, education and development

The Commission on Population and Development,

Reaffirming the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,¹ in particular those recommendations relating to population, education and development,

Reaffirming also the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in particular those relating to population, education and development,²

Reaffirming further the Beijing Platform for Action³ and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration⁴ and the Platform for Action adopted at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, in particular those recommendations relating to population, education and development,⁵

¹ *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

² See General Assembly resolution S-21/2, annex, chap. II, sect. E.

³ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

⁴ *Ibid.*, annex I.

⁵ See General Assembly resolution S-23/3, annex.

Noting the importance of education, especially of young persons and in particular of girls and women, to achieving population and development goals and the contribution, to this end, of the relevant United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, including the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative,

Bearing in mind the objectives relevant to population, education and development of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁶ and the outcome of other major United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews, in particular those relevant to population, education and development,

Bearing in mind also the recommendations relevant to population, education and development of the World Education Forum and the World Conference on Education for All⁷ and the designation of 2003-2012 as the United Nations Literacy Decade,⁸

Noting the critical linkages between population, education and development,

Noting with concern the reported recent decline in resource flows for the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,

1. *Requests* the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat to continue its research and the United Nations Population Fund to continue its programming, in close cooperation with all rele-

⁶ General Assembly resolution 55/2.

⁷ See *Final Report*, World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000 (Paris, UNESCO, 2000).

⁸ See General Assembly resolution 56/116.

vant bodies, funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, on the linkages between population, education and development, including the relationships between population factors and the attainment of the goals of Education for All, giving attention to the way in which education interacts with health, particularly sexual and reproductive health, including HIV/AIDS, and to the way in which education influences the levels, trends and differentials of mortality, fertility, distribution and mobility, and the role of population and development policies, as well as gender inequalities in such levels, trends and differentials;

2. *Also requests* the Population Division to work in close cooperation with all relevant bodies, funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to contribute its research findings to the implementation of the outcomes relevant to population, education and development of the United Nations conferences and summits;

3. *Further requests* that the findings from that and related research on population, education and development should contribute to the next review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development¹ and, as appropriate, to other relevant conferences and reviews, including the World Summit for the Information Society and the regular reviews of the Dakar Declaration and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;⁹

4. *Encourages* the Population Division, in close cooperation with all relevant bodies, funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, to disseminate widely the results of its research, as a contribution to greater understanding and awareness of the interrelationships between population, education and development;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations Population Fund, in close cooperation with relevant partners, to continue its support for population, education and development programmes so as to accelerate the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

⁹ General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

Decision 2003/1

Special theme for the Commission on Population and Development in 2005

The Commission on Population and Development decides that the special theme for its thirty-eight session, in 2005, shall be “Population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty”.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Resolution A/RES/58/208 International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo,¹⁰ in particular chapter X on international migration, and the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, set out in the annex to General Assembly resolution S-21/2 of 2 July 1999, in particular section II.C on international migration, as well as the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development,¹¹ the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,¹² the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women¹³ and the outcome documents of the twenty-fourth¹⁴ and twenty-fifth¹⁵ special sessions of the General Assembly,

Recalling also its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995, 52/189 of 18 December 1997, 54/212 of 22 December 1999 and 56/203 of 21 February 2001 on international migration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council decision 1995/313 of 27 July 1995,

¹⁰ *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. 1, resolution 1, annex.

¹¹ *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

¹² *Ibid.*, annex II.

¹³ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. 1, resolution 1, annex II.

¹⁴ Resolution S-24/2, annex.

¹⁵ Resolution S-25/2, annex.

Recalling further its resolution 52/270-B, on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Reaffirming the obligations of all states to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹⁶, and recalling the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,¹⁷ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,¹⁸ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child¹⁹,

Also recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, which entered into force in July 2003,²⁰

Recalling that heads of State and Government at the United Nations Millennium Summit resolved to take measures, inter alia, to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies,

Reaffirming that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities as entrusted to them in the Charter of the United Nations, and that member states should strive to achieve the goals contained in the relevant United Nations conferences, in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development, including activities on international migration,

Reaffirming the need for the relevant United Nations organizations and other international organizations to enhance their financial and technical support to developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition to foster migration that contributes to development,

Taking note of the views of Member States on the question of convening a United Nations conference on international migration, its scope, form and agenda, and noting the low number of respondents to the survey of the Secretariat, and in this context

inviting the Secretary General to continue considering the issue,

Noting the work undertaken, under the International Migration Policy Programme, by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Population Fund, in partnership with the International Labour Office, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant international and regional institutions, with a view to strengthening the capacity of Governments to manage migration flows at national and regional levels and thus foster greater cooperation among States towards orderly migration,

Aware that, among other important factors, both domestic and international, the widening economic and social gap between and among many countries and the marginalization of some countries in the global economy, due in part to the uneven impact of the benefits of globalization and liberalization, have contributed to large flows of people between and among countries, and to the intensification of the complex phenomenon of international migration,

Aware also that, in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles, there is a need to enhance international cooperation on migration issues and make further efforts, including through appropriate mechanisms, to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all migrants and their families, in particular of women migrant workers, are respected and protected,

Taking note of the rights of all migrants, and their obligation to respect national legislation, including legislation on migration;

Noting that an overall commitment to multiculturalism helps to provide a context for effective integration of migrants, preventing and combating discrimination and promoting solidarity and tolerance in the receiving societies,

Recognizing the need for further studies and analyses of the effects of the movements of highly skilled migrant workers and those with advanced education on economic and social development in developing countries and emphasizing the need for further studies and analysis of its effects on development in the context of globalization,

Noting the importance of remittances by migrant workers which, for many countries are one of the major sources of foreign exchange and can have an important developmental potential, and stressing the need to consider the various dimensions of this issue in a sustainable development perspective,

¹⁶ Resolution 217 A (III).

¹⁷ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

¹⁸ Resolution 34/180, annex.

¹⁹ Resolution 44/25, annex.

²⁰ Resolution 45/158, annex.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;²¹

2. *Urges* Member States and the United Nations system to continue strengthening international cooperation and arrangements at all levels in the area of international migration and development in order to address all aspects of migration and to maximize the benefits of international migration to all those concerned;

3. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including gender perspective and cultural diversity, in a more coherent way within the broader context of the implementation of agreed economic and social development goals, and the respect of all human rights;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organisations, to continue convening meetings as necessary in order to coordinate their activities regarding international migration, and to collect information to assist states to identify critical issues and discuss future steps;

5. *Takes note* of the initiatives undertaken by Member States to continue to identify the many dimensions of international migration and development in order to better understand international migration processes and their linkages with globalization and development, address the issues related to international migration, analyse the gaps and shortcomings in the current approaches, maximize the benefits of international migration and strengthen international, regional and sub regional cooperation;

6. Encourages governments of countries of origin, countries of transit, and countries of destination, to increase co-operation on issues related to migration and notes with appreciation the numerous meetings and conferences convened relating to migration and development²², in particular in the context of regional co-operation;

7. Invites Governments, with the assistance of the international community, where appropriate, to seek to make the option of remaining in one's country viable for all people, in particular through efforts to achieve sustainable development, leading to a better economic balance between developed and developing countries;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report exceptionally to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, instead of its sixtieth session, on the implementation of the present resolution that will, inter alia, provide an update on the results of relevant activities within the United Nations system and the United Nations cooperation with the International Organization for Migration and other relevant intergovernmental organizations concerning international migration and development, including best practices on managed migration and policies to increase understanding and strengthen cooperation in the area of international migration and development among states and other stakeholders, review major initiatives of member states, and suggest action oriented options for the consideration of the General Assembly;

9. *Decides* that in 2006 the High-level Dialogue of the General Assembly will be devoted to international migration and development, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

10. *Requests* the Secretary General to report to the General Assembly, at its *sixtieth* session, on the organizational details of the High-level Dialogue, bearing in mind the following:

which adopted the Bangkok Declaration on Irregular Migration (see A/C.2/54/2, annex); the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States, held at Geneva on 30 and 31 May 1996; the Regional Conference on Migration in North and Central America; regional migration policy capacity-building and cooperation meetings organized and planned by the International Migration Policy Programme; the Mediterranean Conference on Population, Migration and Development, held at Palma de Mallorca, Spain, from 15 to 17 October 1996; the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All, held at The Hague from 29 June to 3 July 1998; and the First and Second Ministerial Regional Conferences on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crimes, held at Bali, Indonesia, from 26 to 30 April 2002, and from 28 to 30 April 2003.

²¹ A/58/98.

²² Including the European Conference on Migration, held at Brussels on 16 and 17 October 2001; the International Symposium on Migration: Towards Regional Cooperation on Irregular/Undocumented Migration, held at Bangkok from 21 to 23 April 1999,

a) the purpose of the High-level Dialogue is to discuss the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize its development benefits and minimize its negative impacts;

b) the High-level Dialogue should have a strong focus on policy issues, including the challenge of achieving the internationally agreed development goals;

c) roundtables and informal exchanges are useful for dialogue;

d) the outcome of the High-level Dialogue will be a Chair's Summary, which will be widely distributed to member states, observers, United Nations agencies and other appropriate organizations;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "International migration and development".

MORTPAK FOR WINDOWS

The United Nations Software Package for Demographic Measurement

The United Nations Population Division is pleased to announce the release of MORTPAK for Windows, version 4.0 of its popular software package for demographic measurement. The MORTPAK software package for demographic measurement has been widely used throughout research institutions in developing and developed countries since its introduction in 1988.

MORTPAK includes 17 applications in the areas of

- population projection
- life-table and stable-population construction
- graduation of mortality data
- indirect mortality estimation
- indirect fertility estimation
- other indirect procedures for evaluating age distributions and the completeness of censuses.

The package incorporates techniques that take advantage of the United Nations model life tables and generalized stable-population equations. MORTPAK for Windows is the first version with a Windows user interface. The package has been constructed with worksheet-style, full screen data entry that takes advantage of the interactive

microcomputer environment and reduces dependence on a manual.

MORTPAK for Windows requires a personal computer with Windows 95 operating system or above and Internet Explorer 4.0 or above. Further description of MORTPAK for Windows can be found on the United Nations Population Division web site, www.unpopulation.org.

The CD-ROM is available for sale for US\$ 300. It can be purchased by sending a cheque or international money order in US dollars drawn on a United States bank, payable to the United Nations Population Division. However, the United Nations Population Division, as part of its technical cooperation programme, would be able to provide one copy of the CD-ROM free of charge to interested institutions in developing countries, upon request on the institution's letterhead paper.

Correspondence should be addressed to Mr. Joseph Chamie, Director, Population Division, Room DC2-1950, United Nations, New York, New York 10017, USA. or faxed to +1-212-963-2147.

TRENDS IN TOTAL MIGRANT STOCK: THE 2003 REVISION

The Population Division has issued a diskette with a database containing new estimates of the number of international migrants in each country or area of the world as of 1 July of 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000. These estimates, available in electronic form for both sexes combined and by sex, are displayed in an Excel spreadsheet that also shows the estimated population in each country or area as of 1 July of each year, the growth rate of the migrant

stock for each period, the percentage of international migrants over the total population, the percentage of female migrants over all international migrants and the percentage distribution of international migrants by major area or region. Although the quality of the estimates, based mostly on information on the number of international migrants enumerated by population censuses, varies from country to country, they are likely to be fairly robust at the regional level.

The 2003 revision indicates that the stock of international migrants increased from an estimated 75 million in 1960 to almost 175 million in 2000. The growth of the migrant stock was particularly high during the 1980s due to the break-up of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and the former Yugoslavia into a number of independent countries. Persons living in one of the newly independent countries born in another such country became international migrants after independence. Their change in status resulted in adding some 27 million persons to the migrant stock in both 1990 and 2000. As a percentage of the world's population, the international migrant stock varied within narrow margins, accounting for 2.5 per cent of the world's population in 1960, 2.2 per cent in 1970, 2.3 per cent in 1980 and for approximately 2.9 per cent in 1990 and 2000. Most

of the total growth in the number of international migrants took place in more developed regions. Europe, Northern America, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the countries of the former USSR in total registered an increase of 78 million migrants between 1960 and 2000, while the migrant population increased by only 27 million in less developed regions.

The diskette can be purchased, at a cost of \$150 United States dollars, by writing to the Director, Population Division, Department of Social and Economic Affairs, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, United States of America. The *Diskette Documentation* (ESA/P/WP.188) may be obtained by writing to the Director of the Population Division.

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

Internal Migration in Less Developed Regions: evidence from DHS

The Population Division is completing a report that describes internal migration patterns and examines selected characteristics of migrant men and women in less developed regions. The analysis is based on data from the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). Despite their focus on reproductive health issues, DHS data contain the information required to identify migrants and study residential transitions. Given their breadth, consistency and comparability across countries, DHS data provide an exceptional opportunity to examine migration patterns from a cross-country perspective. The report presents findings for 53 countries -29 countries in Africa, 13 countries in Asia and 11 in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Preliminary results show that the proportion of migrants tends to be higher in African countries than in Asia or Latin America and the Caribbean. In most countries of all three regions, women appear to be more mobile than men. However, while rural-rural migration is the modal migratory flow for women in most countries, urban-urban migration tends to prevail among men. The report also finds that, while urban-origin migrants of both sexes are more likely than rural-origin migrants to move to other urban areas, rural-origin migrants are more likely to move to other rural areas. Overall, migrants are more often literate, more educated and hold skilled positions more frequently than non-migrants in most African and

Asian countries, but the opposite is observed in Latin America and the Caribbean, particularly among women.

United Nations Ninth Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development

The United Nations Population Division is currently conducting the Ninth Inquiry among Governments on population and development.

These inquiries have assisted the Population Division greatly in its work over the years, especially in the follow-up to the various United Nations population conferences. Moreover, since the first *United Nations Population Inquiry* was conducted in 1963, the Population Division has been requested by the Commission on Population and Development to monitor national population policies; in this monitoring process, the United Nations population inquiries have been a unique and invaluable research tool.

Over the years, the population inquiries have been used extensively for understanding national population policies and how and why they are changing over time. The vast amount of supporting material and the often thoughtful replies to the open ended questions have been mined extensively in the preparation of numerous country-level studies in addition to the *World Population Monitoring Reports*. In addition, beginning in 1987, and continuing on a biennial basis, the Population Division has disseminated the

results of its monitoring activities in an electronic database. The results of these inquiries are thus

available to a large audience of users and will be released in 2005.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Studies

United Nations Long-Range Projections to 2300
ESA/P/WP.184

Impact of AIDS
ESA/P/WP.185

Long-Range Projections. Proceedings of the
Technical Working Group on Long-Range
Population Projections
ESA/P/WP.186

*Levels and Trends of International Migration to
Selected Countries in Asia.*
ST/ESA/SER.A/218. Sales No. E.03.XIII.2

*World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision,
Vol. 1: Comprehensive Tables*
ST/ESA/SER.A/222. Sales No. E.03.XIII.6

*World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision,
CD ROM*
ST.ESA.SER.A/225. Sales No. E.03.XIII.8

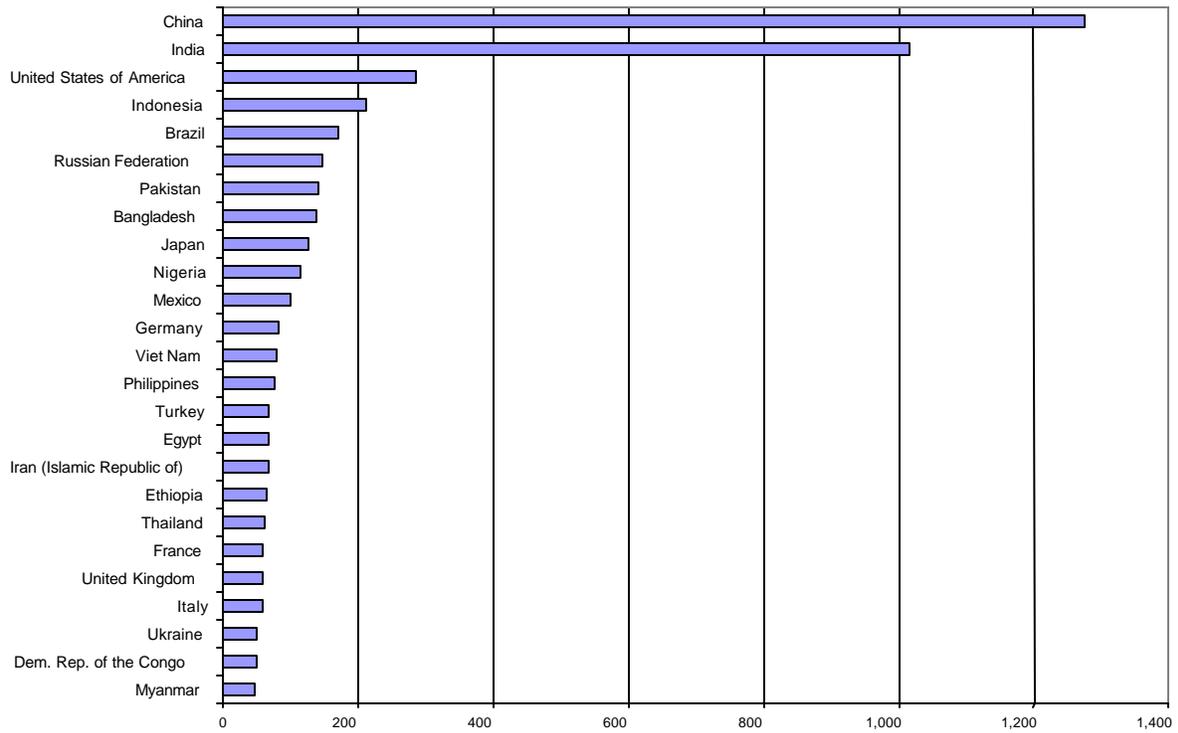
*Population, Education and Development: The
Concise Report*
ST/ESA/SER.A/226. Sales No. E.03.XIII.11

Wall Charts

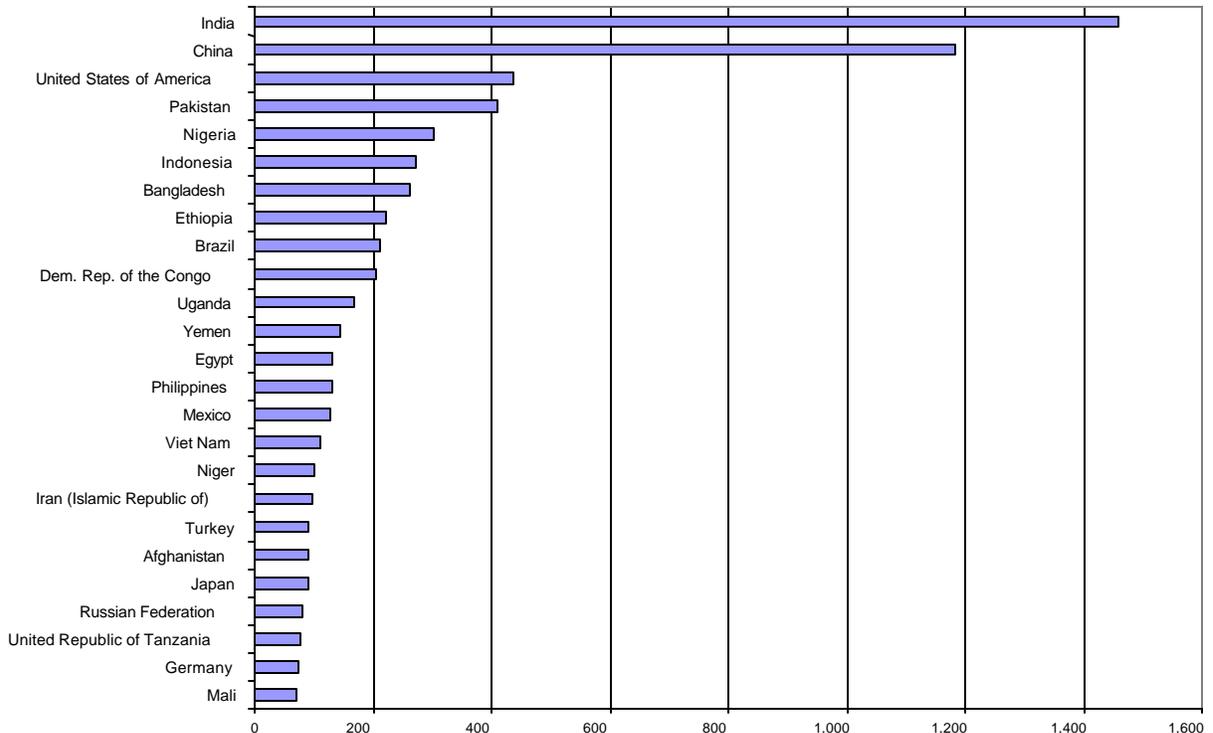
World Population 2002
ST/ESA/SER.A/224. Sales No.E.03.XIII.9

Top 25 countries with the largest population, 2000 and 2100
(millions)

2000



2100



Source: United Nations Population Division, World Population in 2300, ESA/P/WP.187/Rev.1.