



Permanent Mission  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
to the United Nations  
New York

## Statement by Germany

at the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Population and Development

### **Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population (Item 6)**

Delivered by Frank Swiaczny, Federal Institute for Population Research

Thank you, Madame Chair,

On behalf of the German delegation, let me extend our appreciation to the Population Division, together with the members of the secretariat, for their consistent excellence in preparing the CPD and for their support to delegations, which is crucial for the success of the commission's work. This year's commission puts an additional pressure on the staff of the Population Division due to the extended workload of preparing the consultations on two resolutions. We would like to congratulate the Population Division on the thoughtfully prepared questionnaire on the future methods of work of the commission, as well as the expert group meeting on "Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda", which contributed to the commission's knowledge base.

Germany would like to reiterate its support for the full implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the key actions for its further implementation and the outcomes of its reviews. We strongly believe that access to accurate, timely and comprehensive data is crucial to reach this goal. Measuring progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals is a major challenge for the implementation and success of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

that will leave no one behind. A total of 169 targets monitored by statistical indicators impose an unprecedented request on the statistical system at the international, regional and national level. Especially the disaggregation of data by income, age, gender, migratory status, health status, and disability, geographic location, including urban and rural, among others are key to identify those in vulnerable situations who are under threat of being left behind. However, there is still a long way to go in order to achieve the ambitious goals set for quantitative as well as qualitative data sources and to make sure that there is sufficient capacity for adequate analysis. The estimates and projections of the World Population Prospects and the other comprehensive data sets prepared by the Population Division are a fundamental base. We would like to encourage continued efforts towards their further improvement.

Germany has recently further strengthened its focus on using demographic data for the analysis of population dynamics in development cooperation, in order to facilitate sound planning and decision-making.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, we would like to express our commitment to cooperate with the UN Population Division, Member States and other partners, in order to advance the international community's efforts concerning demographic data and population research.

During commission's work this year, we have learned of the multitude of initiatives and collaborations aiming at the collection, analysis and dissemination of already existing population data from a wide range of sources and the efforts to make them comparable and work with each other. The valuable work of many actors in different fields, the UN System, national agencies, academia and civil society is, however, still a patchwork. We would like to see that the UN, especially the Population Division in cooperation with UNFPA, plays a crucial role in steering initiatives to coordinate and support, inter alia, open data standards, data archives and repositories, the development of meta data standards and innovative ways to collect data and disseminate it to all. This will support and promote the use of demographic

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (2014): Population Dynamics in German Development Cooperation. BMZ Strategy Paper 10/2013e. Bonn/Berlin, [http://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type\\_of\\_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier339\\_10\\_2013.pdf](http://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier339_10_2013.pdf)

data for demographic analysis as a basis for informed development planning. Comparative data across countries at the subnational level is still mostly lacking and we would like to encourage all producers of data to combine efforts to improve the availability of spatially disaggregated data. Free and unrestricted access to data is essential to allow academia and civil society to play a crucial role in development.

Let me conclude by expressing our strong belief that the Commission for Population and Development should continue to play an important role in providing evidence and guidance on the nexus between population dynamics, human development and the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainability and the respective implications for achieving the goals of the 2030 development agenda.

Thank you for your attention.