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**Statement by Dr. Eduardo Rios-Neto,
Delegation of Brazil to the Forty-third session of the Commission on
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Agenda Item 5

Mr. Chairman,

Let me congratulate the Population Division at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs for the report on programme implementation and progress work in the field of population in 2009. I also congratulate for the report on "Health, morbidity, mortality and development".

The Population Division provides a high quality pattern of demographic analysis. Governments and the scientific community got used to appreciate these publications. We expect the updated publications every year. The Population Division data is particularly crucial for the elaboration of comparative analysis among countries and regions.

Mr. Chairman, let me take this opportunity to emphasize the importance of designing alternative scenarios for fertility projections in the world. I highlight the Expert Group Meeting on Recent and Future Trends that took place in New York, last December, specially the sessions on new methodology for projecting fertility based on a Bayesian approach.

While continued high fertility in the least developed countries is to be highlighted, it is also crucial to point for the growing

number of middle income countries reaching replacement fertility levels and even going below that mark.

Mr. Chairman,

I also stress the importance of the Population Division on the production of data on international migration. This is a priority theme and the Population Division plays an active role not only in terms of data, but also in the promotion of meetings that combine scientists and governments.

Mr. Chairman,

I commend the work of the Population Division in population estimates and projections. It is important to stress the current efforts to develop alternative methodologies for the projection of fertility and mortality.

THANK YOU.