

**Statement by Vice Minister JIN Xiaotao
National Health and Family Planning Commission of
China (“NHFPC”) for Agenda Item 4 at the 48th Session of
the UN Commission on Population and Development**

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Respected Mr. Chairman,

Today, we find ourselves in a world of ever more complex demographic dynamics. Population growth will continue; population migration will be more frequent; the family will take on increasingly diversified forms; the ratio of urbanization will rise rapidly; and population ageing will constitute an unprecedented challenge.

As the most populous developing country in the world, China honors its commitments to ICPD POA and MDGs, and has made proactive efforts to explore the path of addressing population issues in a comprehensive manner with Chinese characteristics. The Chinese delegation stands ready to share our practices in this regards.

1. Regard population issues as essential to sustainable development and promote transformation of the population development pattern. Through the implementation of the family planning policy, China has effectively mitigated demographic pressure on resources and the

environment, promoted sustained rapid economic development, and greatly reduced poverty. At the moment, China is adjusting and refining its population policy to further facilitate balanced population development.

2. Regard improvement of population quality as fundamental to sustainable development and vigorously promote development of education and health care. At present, education attainment of the population aged 15 and above has reached 9.3 years on average. Overall health status of urban and rural residents enjoys continuous improvement. With average life expectancy reaching 75.3 years, mortality ratio of children under five dropping to 12‰, and maternal mortality ratio declining to 21.7/100,000, China has attained the relevant UN MDGs ahead of schedule. In terms of people's health status, China has further reduced the gap between itself and developed countries.
3. Guide orderly and rational migration of the population and promote full coverage of basic public services. Through industrial restructuring China guides orderly population migration, speeds up urbanization which stands at 53.73% currently, actively promotes equal access to basic public services, and upgrades the social integration of migrants.
4. Uphold the strategy of healthy ageing. At present, China has already

entered the stage of rapid population ageing. In 2014, the population aged 65 and above in China already reached 138 million, 10.1% of the national total. The Chinese government has incorporated proactive response to population ageing into its plan on national economic and social development. Among others, a preliminary urban and rural old-age support system based on ageing at home, supported by community services for seniors, and supplemented by institutional old-age care is already put in place.

5. Promote ICT development of the population sector for continuous quality improvement of demographic data. China has constructed a demographic macroscopic management and decision-making information system that contains information on birth, death, health and migration of the population both at national and provincial level.
6. Boost international communication and cooperation in population and development. The Chinese government actively promotes South-South and South-North-South cooperation in population and development focusing on reproductive health and family planning as well as demographic forecast techniques.

Mr. Chairman,

Despite such remarkable achievements in population and development, China still faces numerous severe challenges. In particular,

the constraint of the population size on resources and the environment remains unchanged; structural problems of the population assume increasing prominence; and ICT development of the population sector needs to find better ways for information sharing and system application.

In response to the above challenges, the Chinese government will make the following efforts:

1. With the concept of sustainable development in mind, understand and handle internal demographic relations and the relationship between population and sustainable development, regard demographic factors as the basic variables for formulation of national plans, develop plans and make decision in a comprehensive manner, and try to be more scientific and predictable in decision making.
2. Enhance urban planning and development, reasonably share the costs of converting migrants to urban residents, orderly push forward full-coverage of the existing population vis-à-vis access to infrastructure and basic public services, and realize new-type human-centered urbanization.
3. Increase input into the health sector, optimize layout of health resources, upgrade efficiency of health services, construct a health service system that is characterized by coverage of the entire human life cycle, rich contents, and reasonable structure, and improve health

quality and status of all people.

4. Enhance the social security and old-age support systems, and implement the healthy ageing strategy. Efforts will be made to drive forward the combination of healthcare with old-age support services, and improve health management and chronic disease prevention and control for senior citizens.
5. Face up to the trend of diversifying family forms, increase support to the family, enhance inter-generation connection, ensure family well-being, and build up overall family capacity for risk response and sustainable development.
6. Speed up ICT development of the population and health sector, and improve capacity in data sharing and application.

The Chinese government will continue to earnestly perform its international commitments, make greater efforts in international exchange and cooperation in the area of population and development. China stands ready to join hands with international community to improve the well-being of human kind!

Thank you, Mr. Chairman!