

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



KENYA'S STATEMENT

PRESENTED BY

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**NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR POPULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT**

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**Chairperson,
Members of the Commission,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The Kenyan delegation is honored to participate in the 49th UN Session of the Commission of Population and Development. It is gratifying to note that this session is taking place when member states of the United Nations have commenced implementation of the post 2015 development agenda, whose emphasis is on inclusiveness and the need to leave no one behind.

The theme of the 49th CPD, "Strengthening the Demographic Evidence base for Post 2015 Development Agenda" calls for special attention on strengthening national statistical systems to ensure reliability, timeliness and accessibility of demographic data needs for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Kenya has already taken measures towards this end by enacting a law, the Statistics Act 2006, legally establishing a state agency, the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics; bestowing it with powers of collection, compilation, analysis, publication and dissemination

of statistical information, and the co-ordination of the national statistical system.

Chair,

Kenya has made progress in the generation of demographic and other data for monitoring the implementation of International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Plan of Action and MDGs over the years. The data has been generated through Population and Housing Censuses, Civil and Vital Registration Systems, Household Surveys and facility based surveys.

Chair,

Kenya has successfully conducted five national Population and Housing Censuses, on a ten year interval since 1969. The latest was conducted in 2009 and the country has started preparations for the upcoming census in 2019. These censuses have provided the country with overall population figures by age and sex, marital status, educational attainment, occupation, ethnicity, migrant status, household composition, housing characteristics and other socio-demographic characteristics. Data is available for all segments of the population including the smallest

administrative and geographical units, hence providing an opportunity for inclusive development in the country.

In addition, the Kenya Open Data Initiative launched in July 2011 and re-launched in July 2015, has made Government development, demographic, statistical and expenditure data available in a digital format for researchers, policymakers, ICT developers and the general public.

Chair,

Since independence, Kenya civil and vital statistics registration system governed by the Births and Deaths Registration Act Chapter 149 of the Laws of Kenya, has implemented a compulsory and immediate registration of all births and deaths that occur in Kenya without regard to nationality. Civil Registration Service (CRS) is the government agency responsible for registration of births and deaths that occur in Kenya and of Kenyan citizens that occur abroad. Over the years, Kenya has compiled statistics on births and deaths and causes of deaths among the Kenyan population. The Kenya constitution 2010 recognizes the civil registration function as a primary basis of establishing Kenyan citizenship by recording the occurrence of a

birth to give a child his or her conclusive identity, which includes name, parentage and nationality.

Chair,

Six Demographic and Health Surveys have been carried out on a five year interval since 1989, with the latest conducted in 2014. These surveys have provided a source of data for monitoring and evaluating the population and health situation in Kenya, which is critical in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Kenya Demographic and Health Surveys (KDHS) also collects substantial data which is relevant for monitoring some Sustainable Development Goals indicators.

In conclusion, I wish to state that although Kenya has made remarkable progress in generating demographic data and information to guide her development aspirations, challenges still remain. There is need therefore for this session to come up with innovative strategies which can facilitate the strengthening of demographic evidence base for the post 2015 development agenda. This will help mitigate continuing, emerging and new demographic challenges to accelerate the attainment of the targets set for Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

I thank you for your attention