



**STATEMENT BY
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HEAD OF UGANDA DELEGATION
AT THE
UN COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT**

**THEME: “STRENGTHENING THE DEMOGRAPHIC
EVIDENCE BASE FOR THE POST-2015
DEVELOPMENT AGENDA”**

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The Chairperson

Excellencies

Distinguished Delegates

On behalf of my delegation, I congratulate you and Members of the bureau for guiding this session of CPD which sets us on the path of Agenda 2030.

Uganda aligns its statement with the statements delivered by the PR of Uganda on behalf of the African Group and PR of Thailand of behalf of the G77 and China.

Uganda joined the international community that agreed to the Programme of Action, adopted the United Nations International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in 1994 in Cairo and the ICPD beyond 2014 Agenda and, is a signatory to the recently approved SDGs which were globally adopted by the Heads of States and Governments committing to social and economic transformation and ending poverty and leaving no one behind.

Chairperson,

The population of Uganda has increased fourfold from 9.5 million in 1969 to 34.6 million in 2014. This means that the country's population doubles every 20 years. This has also been accompanied by rapid urbanization from 10.5 percent in 1991 to 20% in 2014. The country has a young age structure, with children less than 15 years comprising 56% per cent of the population, and a dependency ratio of 109 per 100 working population. This has a lot of implications in terms of planning.

Some of the components of this very high population growth rate are a high fertility of 5.8 children per woman; early child-bearing with 24% of the girls giving birth while still teenagers.

Uganda has just published its 2014 Census final results which indicate a steady decline in infant mortality rate to 53 per 1,000 and life expectancy has risen to 63 years. However, there is still unacceptably high levels of maternal mortality at 435/100,000 live births; and a high rate of HIV/AIDS (7.2%).

Chairperson,

Uganda's VISION 2040 aspires to have a transformed society from a peasant to a prosperous country within 30 years. This is being implemented through six 5-year National Development Plans. To domesticate the SDGs, the NDPII has incorporated at least 76 percent of the SDG targets. This will ensure budget allocation, implementation, monitoring and reporting on the SDGs. Uganda has put in place a Technical Working Committees with clear Terms of Reference including a Data and Monitoring technical team to operationalize the Data Revolution Initiative and establish a vibrant data ecosystem.

The Government of Uganda is committed to strengthening the Uganda Bureau of Statistics, the National Statistical Office as embedded in the 2030 Agenda target 17.18 and 17.19 of the SDGs. This is demonstrated through the recently concluded National Housing Census where the Government of Uganda contributed over 90 percent of the funds and H. E. Yoweri Kaguta

Museveni, the President of Uganda launched the final Census report on 24th of March 2016.

In addition, the Government of Uganda has established the National Identification Registration Services Authority to conduct comprehensive registration of Births and Deaths. To-date over 17 million people above 16 years have been registered and issued with National Identity Cards and their bio-metric data recorded.

The Government of Uganda has also established a USD 88m Youth Livelihood Programme and USD 78m Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme to provide access to funds by the women and young people for job creation/empowerment.

These will go a long way to provide benchmarks to strengthen the demographic evidence base for the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development and the ICPD beyond 2014.

In conclusion, Chairperson, Uganda reiterate its continued commitment to strengthening the demographic evidence base to generate the required disaggregated data up to the lowest possible level and set up a monitoring system for the SDGs and continue to advocate and popularize the Agenda 2030 and the ICPD Programme of Action and endeavor to mobilize the necessary recourses, domestic and internationally, to address these remaining challenges so that Uganda benefits from the Demographic Dividend.

Thank you.