



BRAZIL

STATEMENT BY H.E. MAURO VIEIRA
COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
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(check against delivery)

Madam Chair,

It is an honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Brazilian delegation, which includes representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Secretariat of Policies for Women, National Statistical Office and Institute for Applied Economic Research.

Changes in population age structures affect all aspects of sustainable development, including urbanization processes, migration flows, environmental impacts and access to health as well as sexual and reproductive health and rights. In this sense, the full implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action are crucial to achieve the SDGs and to leave no one behind.

Madam Chair,

As stated by the report of the Secretary-General, population ageing reflects one of the major achievements of humanity, resulting from reduction in child and maternal mortality and increased access to health and education. It is important to recall that the promotion of reproductive and sexual health were major objectives of the Programme of Action of the ICPD.

These demographic changes bring about the need to implement specific policies for older persons, with the objective of fostering healthy and autonomous ageing. Multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence affect older persons and should be considered when designing policies.

According to the Madrid Plan of Action on Ageing, “a society for all ages encompasses the goal of providing older persons with the opportunity to continue contributing to society”. This is the basis of the Brazilian “*Statute for Older Persons*”, which was established in 2003 and encompasses a set of policies and regulation that protect older people and reinforce their fundamental rights, in particular with regard to their health, dignity and well-being.

Nevertheless, any discussion on changing population age structure should look holistically at our societies, and policies for older persons should go hand in hand with policies that promote and empower youth.

In the 2030 Agenda, we recognized the importance of age structure for sustainable development. We have committed to reap the benefits of the demographic dividend, with special emphasis on providing children and youth with a nurturing environment for the full realization of their rights and capabilities.

Young people are rights bearers and should not be considered as mere resources for the promotion of economic development. Our discussions should be guided by seeking to value, empower, protect and promote the rights of young people, taking into account the barriers they face to enter and to remain in the labor market as well as the need to ensure their right to education and access to health and leisure.

Madam Chair,

Target 17.18 of the Sustainable Development Goals calls for all relevant population-based indicators to be disaggregated as a means of ensuring that the impact of development policies on persons of all ages will be monitored.

Due to historical, social, cultural and economic factors, groups in situation of vulnerability face specific hurdles for the full realization of their human rights. This is why demographic data should be disaggregated by gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location, as well as by socioeconomic condition, with special attention to those furthest left behind.

Madam Chair,

Population and development issues are an integral part of the sustainable development agenda. UNFPA is well positioned to continue to provide assistance through its expertise, given its experience in working with population and development from a global perspective.

International cooperation is key for countries reaping the benefits of the demographic dividend and for those preparing or experiencing the challenges of population ageing, in particular in regards to access to decent work, health and social protection.

Madam Chair,

In order to meet these challenges, Brazil has established a human rights-based policy for social inclusion and participation of young and older people, with the aim of addressing discrimination. In this context, Brazil reaffirms its commitment to the Programme of Action of the ICPD, the regional Consensus of Montevideo and to the full realization of sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Thank you.
