

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



KENYA'S STATEMENT

PRESENTED BY

HONOURABLE (Ambassador) UKUR YATANI, EGH

CABINET SECRETARY

THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND PLANNING

**TO THE 54TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT**

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

19TH TO 23RD APRIL 2021

Chair,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates

The Kenyan delegation is honored to participate in the 54th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (54th UNCPD) whose theme is “**Population, Food Security, Nutrition and Sustainable Development**”. Kenya aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group.

This theme fits well within the Kenya’s Development Agenda notably the **Big Four Agenda**. One of the **Big Four Agenda** priority initiatives is to achieve food and nutrition security for the Kenyan population by 2022 as well as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Chair,

Kenya was privileged to host the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 from 12th -14th November 2019, Nairobi, in which the global community renewed their commitments to accelerate **The Promise** made in Cairo, Egypt in 1994.

I urge all Nations to live up to the Nairobi Commitments that we made to the World.

Chair,

Kenya’s Population has over the years tremendously increased from 10.9 million 1969 to 47.6 million in year 2019. Consequently, Kenya’s annual staple foods deficit is estimated at between 20- 30%, a situation likely to worsen due to projected increase in population size expected in the coming years.

Chair,

In Kenya, 26% of children less than five years are stunted, 4% are wasted and 11% are underweight, depicting chronic undernourishment which contributes to morbidity and poor cognitive development among children under five years.

Emergences of diet-related non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, heart diseases, hypertension, obesity among others are also being recorded. About 28% of Kenyans aged 18-69 years are estimated to be either overweight or obese with the percentage being significantly higher in women at 38.5% and men at 17.5%.

Chair,

Kenya's efforts to meet targets for food security, nutrition and sustainable development have over the years negatively been affected by climate change and currently the COVID-19 Pandemic.

However, efforts to tackle these challenges have been made through the development, implementation and operationalization of *Sessional Paper Number 1 of 2012* on National Food and Nutrition Security Policy, **the green climate fund**, the **Big Four Agenda** for development and **the Post COVID-19 Economic Recovery Strategy 2020** among others.

In addition, Kenya is implementing the *Population, Health and Environment* (PHE) integrated community development approaches to promote expansion of households' access to reproductive and other healthcare services, improved livelihoods, sustainable management of natural resources, and protection of the environment in selected project sites in the Lake Victoria Basin and some parts of the Rift Valley region.

In conclusion, despite challenges currently being faced in the Country, Kenya has made **great progress** in her efforts to ensure achievements of the targets set for population, food security and nutrition and sustainable development. It is our desire that this session will come up with new strategies to facilitate the effective and efficient food production systems that will ensure food security, nutrition and sustainable development for our current and future generations.

THANK YOU