

United Nations  Nations Unies

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Dear Madam/Sir,

As Chair of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Population and Development, I have the honour to refer to the organization of the upcoming session of the Commission, which is scheduled to be held from 19 to 23 April 2021.

The Commission, at its fifty-third session, decided to include an agenda item on the future role and organization of the Commission in the provisional agenda for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission ([E/CN.9/2020/L.2/Rev.1](#)), which was subsequently approved by the Economic and Social Council (decision 2020/221).

In preparation of the consideration of this agenda item, the Bureau convened an informal brainstorming meeting on the future role and organization of the Commission on Population and Development with Member States on 28 January 2021.

It is my pleasure to invite you, on behalf of the Bureau, to a dedicated meeting on this topic with NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC. The meeting will be held virtually on Friday, 12 February 2021 from 3 to 5 p.m New York time (EST). The informal meeting will be held in English only. Guidelines for registration and participation will follow shortly.

At the request of the Bureau of the fifty-third session of the Commission, the Secretariat prepared a note with a view to initiating an informal reflection on the future role and organization of the Commission. In the note, Member States were invited to respond to the following three questions:

1. Given that the Commission is the only intergovernmental forum focused on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in the United Nations, how can we improve its work to better assist Member States and the international community at large in advancing the ICPD agenda while contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?
2. Population and development issues and trends, including drivers and impacts, have important implications for the further implementation of the Programme of Action and the achievement of the SDGs. What role can the Commission play in guiding Member States and the international community in responding to these issues and trends?

To: NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC

3. In order to address the above questions and issues, would it be desirable or feasible for the Commission to adjust its methods of work (organizational aspects, substantive elements, outcome)? If so, could the practices and experiences of other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) provide any guidance?

All materials related to this agenda item, including the note prepared by the Secretariat and the inputs received to date, can be found on the following webpage by clicking on the weblink under agenda item 5: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/events/CPD54>.

During next week's meeting, representatives of NGOs in consultative will be invited to respond to the above questions, as well as to share any other relevant observations. Any written inputs should be sent to cpdngo@un.org by Friday, 12 February cob at the latest.

The written inputs as well as inputs received during the meeting will serve as a basis for a conference room paper, which will inform the deliberations on this agenda item during the fifty-fourth session in April.

Please feel free to send an email to cpdngo@un.org should you have any questions on this matter.

I look forward to your contributions.

Respectfully yours,



Yemdaogo Eric Tiare

Permanent Representative of
Burkina Faso to the United Nations
and
Chair of the fifty-fourth session of the
Commission on Population and
Development