



REPUBLIC OF SURINAME

**The 55th Session of the Commission on Population and Development
New York, April 25th, 2022**

Mr. /Madam Chair,

Population and sustainable development are fundamental. The Cairo Programme of Action calls for the integration of population issues in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all policies and programs relating to sustainable development.

This year's theme is both timely and relevant for Suriname, as we are committed to involve everyone in the economic and social development of the country. To this end, the launch of Suriname's National Population Policy in the first half of May will structurally contribute to the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of people centered and evidence based policies taking into account the sustainable development goals.

As we are slowly entering into what we may carefully describe as the post-pandemic era many countries in the world have softened the measures taken to combat further spreading of the Covid-19 virus. For Suriname, which in addition to the Covid-19 pandemic, has also been affected by an economic crisis in which the value of the Surinamese dollar plummeted, those actions of normalization are of great importance.

The Government of Suriname has vigorously embarked on the process of economic recovery. In a context free from restrictive Covid-19 measures, those developments and their progress will accelerate.

We are well aware of the challenges we face, the devastating effects that the Covid-19 pandemic has caused on the various economic and social sectors are worrying. The fragile economic position we are currently in and the limited resources from which we can draw, confront us with the reality that we will not be able to overcome our many challenges in a short time. Therefore a lot of effort

is focused on the restoration of the damages. In doing so the principles of gender equality, inclusiveness and climate change serve as mandatory guidelines.

Mr. /Madam Chair,

Attaining sustainability requires addressing many fundamental issues at local, regional, and global levels, and achieving the goals and objectives of sustainability presents a great challenge for all segments of society.

The government of Suriname expresses its sincere acknowledgement to our partners within the UN system who continuously support us in the process of achieving sustainable development.

Going forward Suriname will continue to work on further implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development paying special attention to our national priorities as laid down in the National Development Plan.

In closing, we would like to reiterate that it is critical that we continue in the spirit of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), and therefore strongly reaffirm our political will to the objectives of the Programme of Action of the ICPD.

I thank you.