



**United
Nations**

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

MEDIA ADVISORY

As global population trends shift, inclusive economic growth key to achieving Sustainable Development Goals

Countries to discuss the way forward at UN Commission

- WHAT:** **Press briefing on the Fifty-fifth session of the United Nations Commission on Population and Development (25-29 April 2022)**
Under the theme, ‘Population and sustainable development, in particular sustained and inclusive economic growth,’ the Commission on Population and Development will discuss how to build inclusive and sustainable societies in the wake of the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, taking into account long-term demographic, economic and climate forecasts. In particular, the Commission will assess how both youthful and older populations can contribute to economic growth, as well as the impact of human activity on the environment and climate change.
- WHY:** When the growth of a population slows down due to a sustained drop in fertility, the resulting changes in the population age distribution can become a positive force for economic growth, if the labour market successfully absorbs the growing number of people of working age. This “first demographic dividend” can give way to a “second demographic dividend” once the population grows older, if individuals increase their savings and asset accumulation in anticipation of living longer lives.
- A decline in fertility also facilitates increased investments in human capital. Smaller families often invest more per child in health and education, and these investments can contribute to higher worker productivity, faster economic growth and improved living conditions.
- However, higher standards of living often bring increased risks of environmental degradation, including climate change. Population growth adds to such pressures by increasing the total economic demand.
- WHO:** **His Excellency Ambassador Enrique A. Manalo**, Chair of the 55th session of the Commission on Population and Development and Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines

Mr. Arthur Erken, Director, Policy and Strategy Division, [UNFPA](#)

Mr. John Wilmoth, Director, [Population Division, UN DESA](#)

Professor Jayati Ghosh, Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts at Amherst

WHEN: Tuesday 26 April 2022, 1:30 pm EDT

WHERE: UN Press Briefing Room, S-237
(Live on <http://webtv.un.org>)

More information on the 55th session of the Commission on Population and Development is available at <https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/events/CPD55>

Background on the Commission on Population and Development

The primary role of the Commission on Population and Development, established by the [UN Economic and Social Council](#), is to monitor and review the implementation of the [Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development](#) at the national, regional and international levels.

At the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, countries adopted a Programme of Action that set out a bold new vision about linkages between population, development and individual well-being, and that continues to serve as a roadmap for people-centred development.

Social media hashtags: #UNPopulation #CPD55 #PeopleOfTomorrow

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