



Oral Statement Presented by: Patricia Sayers DNP, RN
The International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medico-Social Assistants (CICIAMS)
Comite International Catholique des Infirmieres et Assistantes Medico-Sociales
55th Session of the Commission on Population and Development
United Nations New York, New York April 25-29, 2022
Theme: Population and Sustainable Development, in Particular, Sustained and Inclusive Economic Growth
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Commission Chair / Distinguished Panel / National Representatives / Guests

A. Population/Economic Growth/ Poverty

Nearly 3M deaths in 2020 related to COVID 19¹. World Bank reported COVID-19 drove 97M people into extreme poverty². International Monetary Fund predicts COVID-19 costs will reach \$12.5 trillion through 2024³. Early detection / rapid response readiness are lacking. Global nurse shortage estimated 5.9M nurses⁴.

Action: Implement Wellness Model

Invest in nursing education, jobs, and leadership focused on health promotion / illness prevention. Nursing science / nursing delivery are health security keys to avoid infirmity, unnecessary deaths, waste of vital resources, and rising costs of disease management.

B. Population/Aging/ Sustainable Quality of Life

Global population is aging⁵. Developed, high income countries exhibit low to negative population growth⁵. Under-developed/ developing low-income country populations are expanding⁶. Both population patterns lead to production/consumption imbalances.

Action: Promote Quality Life Competences

Provide educational pathways to families that cross multi-generational / cultural barriers empowering family members including women and girls⁷. Fertility health education is paramount. Endeavors must adhere to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Article 3 and Article 18 stating “Everyone has the right to life, liberty, security of person ... freedom of thought, conscience, and religion”⁸.

C. Population / Poverty / Environmental Stewardship

Societies are moving toward greater urbanizations⁸. Historically, urban centers become pockets of low paying service jobs and concentrated poverty which increase disease risk and environmental harm. Pope St. John Paul II stated “...earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship. We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it...”⁹.

Action: Technology Supported Job Decentralization and Family Stabilization

Jobs need decentralization to prevent impoverish communities with little opportunity for quality education and upward mobility. Pope Paul VI stated “man is not really himself...except within the framework of society... there the family plays the basic and most important role...The natural family... monogamous... fashioned by God... in which different generations live together, helping each other acquire...wisdom... and harmonize personal rights with other social needs... of society”¹⁰.

Thank you:
International Catholic Committee of Nurses & Medico-Social Assistants
Africa / Asia / Europe / Americas

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