



International Federation for Family Development

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT 2022

ORAL STATEMENT

Distinguished chair,

The International Federation for Family Development is present in 70 countries of all continents and is a General Consultative Status non-governmental organization. Our main activity at a local level is centered at parenting education with skill-building programmes to help societies to face the tremendous changes that have affected families in many ways.

In this regard, our Federation has been fully involved with the Preparations of the 30th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family. [1] The commitment aims to turn the 30th Anniversary into a substantial and enriching discussion to bring the role of the family unit and policies towards social development into reality.

In order to make every effort count, an alliance of non-governmental organizations has been working on a Civil Society Declaration. The Civil Society Declaration tries to integrate family needs into the various Megatrends proposed by the United Nations' Secretary General. [2]

The Megatrend that we are focusing on this year is Urbanization. We have promoted a focus group with various global experts to design and implement services and interventions for a sustained and inclusive economic growth that helps to reduce the effects of poverty and social exclusion on children in need of support and protection.

To put urban families at the center of interrelated public policies for a sustained and inclusive economic growth we could find, here are some experts' recommendations,

- Implement industrial relations policies for active employment policies including adequate minimum wages
- Design family policies at the national level but implemented at regional and local settlements
- Aim at demographic policies focused on the decision of individuals to become parents
- Define population policies as a set of measures to modify the way a national population is changing
- Provide education aimed at helping families be good educators and link the labor market needs to education opportunities for the unemployed, including tackling inequality of access for women to educational opportunities.
- Social integration must be context-specific in addressing demographic challenges including a policy design to combat both extreme and relative income poverty of families.
- Avoid neighborhoods with a high concentration of poverty and guarantee social services such as schools, meeting places, sports facilities, and cultural places
- Prepare policies and programs that address family risks related to children's costs, particularly through tax credits, family benefits or family grants, both for low-income families and middle-income families
- Support credits and tax policies aimed at professional training and long-life learning with the goal of a more sustainable and balanced future
- Put families at the center of the community by rewriting the idea of cities as a social space, including testing each plan for city design and city planning on how it will influence family living and people contemplating on starting a family in the city

- Introduce local active inclusive ecosystems to combat and prevent poverty, social exclusion, and other social risks connected to market failure
- Measure the support for social participation for people in disadvantage of entering the labor market, as of persons with a disability, single-parent and older people.

Thank you chair.