



Expert panel

Reports of the Secretary-General (Agenda item 3)

Monday, 25 April 2022, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. EDT

Concept Note

(Draft, 30 March 2022)

Introduction

The Commission on Population and Development, at its fifty-fifth session, will consider the special theme of “Population and sustainable development, in particular sustained and inclusive economic growth”.^a

On the afternoon of Monday 25 April, the Commission will organize an expert panel to discuss the three reports of the Secretary-General, prepared for the general debate (item 3 of the agenda).^b The panel will include experts from the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and other UN entities. The panel will be moderated by a Vice-Chair of the Bureau of the fifty-fifth session.

Background

The Commission on Population and Development monitors, reviews and assesses the implementation of the Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). The Programme of Action highlights the interlinkages between population and development with a focus on poverty reduction, health, gender equality, environment and patterns of production and consumption, among other topics. Within that mandate, the Commission also contributes to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In preparation for the fifty-fifth session, the Secretary-General has prepared reports on (a) population and sustainable development, in particular sustained and inclusive economic growth (E/CN.9/2022/2), (b) programmes and interventions for the implementation of the Programme

^a For further information on the annual session, including the reports of the Secretary-General, please refer to <https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/events/CPD55>.

^b In response to General Assembly 72/305, the Bureau of the Commission has substituted the traditional presentation of the three reports of the Secretary-General prepared for the general debate, with an expert panel to be followed by an interactive debate.

of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in the context of population and sustainable development, in particular sustained and inclusive economic growth (E/CN.9/2022/3), and (c) the flow of financial resources for assisting in the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/2022/4).

Format

The moderator will make brief opening remarks, followed by questions posed to representatives from UN DESA and UNFPA about the key messages of the three reports of the Secretary-General. The moderator will then address specific questions to the panelists. Following these interventions, Member States, observers and civil society are encouraged to ask questions or raise issues in response to the interventions made. Reading from prepared statements is discouraged. Following questions and comments from the audience, the panelists and the moderator will make brief closing remarks.

Guiding questions for the panelists

The following are indicative questions which will be addressed by the panelists:

- What are key trends in the interrelations between population dynamics, macroeconomic growth, poverty and inequalities, including recent evidence about the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic?
- What actions should be taken to accelerate investments in human capital, job creation, gender equality and women's empowerment?
- What are the key relationships between population change and climate change, and what policies are needed to mitigate climate change and protect those most vulnerable?
- What additional policies, programmes and interventions are needed to accelerate action to achieve the SDGs related to population and sustained and inclusive economic growth by 2030?
- What financial resources are needed and how well are these needs met by current aid allocations?

Outcome

The discussion will be summarized in the report of the Commission on its fifty-fifth session, which will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council shortly after the session. It will also inform the Commission's contribution to the 2022 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

