



Expert panel on the programme of work in population¹

Thursday, 13 April 2023, 10:00-11:30 a.m. EDT

Concept Note

(draft, 02 February 2023)

Introduction

The expert panel will examine the following documents prepared for the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on Population and Development:

- Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2022: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/2023/5), and
- Note by the Secretariat on the programme plan for 2023 and programme performance for 2021: subprogramme 5, Population, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs (E/CN.9/2023/CRP.1).

Background

The aim of the subprogramme on population is to improve knowledge of global population trends, advance an evidence-based understanding of interactions between population change and sustainable development among policymakers and the public, and to strengthen the international community's capacity to effectively address current and emerging population issues and integrate population dimensions into the international development agenda.

The report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2022 details the activities of the Division in analyzing global trends in fertility, mortality, international migration and population ageing; the preparation of global population estimates and projections; the analysis of interrelations between population and sustainable development; the dissemination of population data and information; capacity development support provided to Member States; and the support provided to intergovernmental and interagency processes.

As documented in the report, key achievements of the work programme during 2022 included (a) publication of the first megatrends report, which focused on population growth and sustainable development (February), (b) launch of the 2022 revision of estimates and projections of world

¹ Item 4 of the provisional agenda entitled "Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population" (<https://undocs.org/en/E/CN.9/2023/1>).

population (July), (c) commemoration of the day the world population reached 8 billion (November), and (d) support provided to three intergovernmental processes.

The note by the Secretariat on the programme plan for 2023 and programme performance for 2021: subprogramme 5, Population, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, provides the programme of work in 2023 and an overview of key deliverables in 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Format

- The moderator will introduce the panelists and highlight key findings from the report of the Secretary-General and the Note by the Secretariat.
- The moderator will invite the panelists to address the guiding questions in an interactive manner.
- The moderator will encourage participants to ask questions in response to the interventions.
- The panelists and the moderator will make brief closing remarks.
- **Reading from prepared statements is discouraged.**

Guiding questions for the panelists

- From your perspective, what were some of the highlights of the subprogramme on population during 2022?
- Has the work on population in 2022 resulted in enhanced accessibility and relevance of data and analysis on population trends to guide Member States in elaborating development policies? How does the work on population support Member States in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals?
- From your national and regional perspective, what were some of the most salient activities of the 2022 work programme on population?
- Which key global, regional and national demographic trends should receive greater attention in the future work programme on population?
- How can we encourage Member States to consider population dynamics and policies in preparing National Voluntary Reviews in the context of the High-Level Political Forum?
- How can we encourage the consideration of population dynamics during the Sustainable Development Goals Summit, to be convened by the General Assembly in September 2023?
- What are the needs at country level that could be addressed by the capacity development activities undertaken by the Population Division?

Outcome

The deliberations and outcomes of the panel will assist the Population Division in shaping its future work programme.