



## Statement

By

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Minister of Social Development and Human Security,  
Thailand

at the Fifty-Seventh Session of the Commission on  
Population and Development

New York, United States of America

29<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Madame Chair,

A Very good morning, สวัสดีครับ.

As we are celebrating 30 years of ICPD achievement, it is my pleasure to report that Thailand has made good progress in our commitments.

The rights and options on Sexual and Reproductive Health have been promoted. We have achieved SDG 3.1 on reducing maternal mortality ratio and continue our effort to reduce the ratio to 21.4 per 100,000 live births in 2023. The adolescent birth rate has sharply declined.

The system to prevent Gender-Based Violence, which supported by Universal Health Coverage and One Stop Crisis Center, has been very well established and operated.

However, Thailand has been hit by demographic transition since 2005. Our population is growing at a declining rate, with ultra-low fertility of 1.08 in 2022. Life expectancy is increasing; the number of older persons is mounting, and the number of deaths is surpassing

births. It is projected that our population will be halved within the next 60 years. Thai society will be predominated by older persons, with scarcity of working-age individuals.

Moreover, the situation has been exacerbated by climate change, pollution, disasters, pandemics, and digital transformation, which push us into the critical juncture.

We believe that many countries share the same challenges, especially in terms of shrinking labor force, aging population, and increased international migration. We believe enhanced international cooperation to address these challenges will help our societies to be better prepared for the future, and this is even more relevant this year as the United Nations seeks to convene the important Summit of the Future.

In addressing these challenges, Thailand has collaborated with all stakeholders in formulating the national strategy to tackle our demographic predicaments. On 7<sup>th</sup> March this year, Thailand

conducted a national workshop, in conjunction with World Bank attended by over 500 participants from all stakeholders both domestic and international namely WHO and several UN entities. The workshop, which was conducted, in a world café style, precipitated into a recommended strategy. This strategy entitled “5x5 Let’s Turn the Tide,” which will be distributed to all countries in term of a flash drive, comprises 5 strategies and each strategy contains 5 measures focusing on: strengthening workforce skills, raising the children through quality rather than quantity, empowering the older persons, turning the disabilities to productivity, and reinforcing family ties, which is at the heart of the strategy.

In rising challenge of Climate Change will have a growing impact on population trend and long-term welfared populations. Sore of the impacts from mother nature are currently very evident around the world.

Therefore new additional, predictable and adequate climate finance resources committed by developed countries under UNFCCC is the key to success.

To conclude, Thailand reaffirms our unwavering commitment to the implementation of ICPD Program of Action. We stand ready to collaborate with the international community and stakeholders in moving towards greater equality and solidarity to ensure that our planet can support our needs and those of future generations.

We MUST work together because ONLY together everything is possible.

Thank you. ขอขอบคุณครับ.