

National Statement of Bangladesh  
58th Session of the Commission on Population and Development  
United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA  
Theme: Ensuring Healthy Lives and Promoting Well-being for All  
at All Ages

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**Madam Chair,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,**

I congratulate you and other members of the Bureau for conducting this session.

Bangladesh continues to strongly support the ICPD Programme of Action (PoA) and was pleased to host the “ICPD30 Global Dialogue on Demographic Diversity and Sustainable Development” in Dhaka last year.

Since adopting the ICPD PoA in 1994, Bangladesh has made significant progress prioritizing maternal and child health, family planning, reproductive rights, and universal health coverage (UHC) in population and health policies. Consequently, maternal mortality rate which was 479 in 1994 has dropped to 136 per 100,000 live births in 2023. Under-five mortality was 133 per 100,000 live births in 1993, has been reduced to 55 now. Notable reduction has been achieved in neonatal mortality as well, from 52 to 20 per 100,000 live births within a span of three decades. These achievements happened due to expanded immunization, skilled birth attendance, and nutrition programs. Expanded reproductive health services have enhanced women's empowerment and overall health.

Over 14,000 community clinics now serve rural areas, with digital health initiatives improving telemedicine access. We adopted the “*National Population Policy 2012*” to effectively implement the 15 core principles of the ICPD Programme of Action (PoA).

Bangladesh faces a growing burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), causing 70% of deaths. Targeted interventions address diabetes, hypertension, cancer, and mental health, while climate-

resilient health infrastructure combats climate-induced health risks.

Despite progress, challenges remain in ensuring equitable healthcare, managing demographic shifts, and strengthening health financing. Global cooperation in technology transfer, capacity-building, and financial support is crucial for reinforcing health systems. Leveraging social business models can drive sustainable solutions by engaging enterprises that reinvest profits into expanding healthcare access, innovative service delivery, and community empowerment.

Bangladesh calls for increased investment in sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), including universal access to family planning, maternal healthcare, adolescent health services, and youth well-being initiatives. We must ensure that the voices and perspectives of women, youth and older persons are meaningfully heard and integrated into policy and decision-making process. A multisectoral, climate-informed approach is essential to protect vulnerable populations and build resilience against emerging challenges.

We also underscore the importance of the right to development as an essential enabler for realizing the ICPD objectives.

As the former Chair and current member of the UNFPA Executive Board, Bangladesh stands ready to share its experiences and lessons learned, particularly in the areas of maternal health, gender equality and climate-resilient health systems.

Bangladesh supports the commitment in the Pact for the Future to strengthen cooperation among States in responding to evolving demographic trends and realities.

We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to the ICPD PoA and the 2030 Agenda, striving for universal health and well-being, leaving no one behind.

I thank you.

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