

UNITED NATIONS



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STATEMENT TO THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE
COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Agenda Item 6: Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population

Report of the secretary-general on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2013: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/2014/5)

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017: Subprogramme 5, Population, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs (E/CN.9/2014/CRP.1)

Ms. Francesca Perucci, Chief, Demographic Analysis Branch, Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Mr. Chairman

Distinguished delegates

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of introducing document E/CN.9/2014/5, a report of the Secretary-General describing the activities of the Population Division in 2013, and document E/CN.9/2014/CRP.1, on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 for our subprogramme.

Mr. Chairman,

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat is responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme on population, within the economic and social affairs programme. The subprogramme is largely based on the recommendations of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD, and the outcomes of other relevant international conferences and summits, including the United Nations Millennium

Declaration and Outcome of the 2005 World Summit. It also responds to the resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Population and Development, as well as relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

Mr. Chairman,

The first document gives an account of the activities carried out by the Population Division during 2013, grouped by thematic area. I am pleased to report that the Population Division made important progress last year in all of these areas. Given the time constraints, please allow me to highlight just a few of the activities.

In the area of fertility and family planning, a report was produced on *Adolescent Fertility since the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo*. The report presents new estimates of the levels and trends of adolescent fertility worldwide over the past 20 years and highlights related trends in early marriage, the timing and context of first sex, contraceptive use and dimensions of education. Also, the methodological work on family planning data was expanded to produce long-term estimates and projections of contraceptive prevalence, unmet need for family planning, total demand for family planning and percentage of demand for family planning that is satisfied among married or in-union women from 1970 to 2030. This methodological work informed assessments in 2013 of progress in international initiatives to improve women's reproductive health, such as Every Woman, Every Child and Family Planning 2020. New long-term estimates and projections of marital status were also produced.

In the area of mortality and health, the division released the *World Mortality Report 2013*. In connection with the theme of this Commission and the upcoming 2014 special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Programme of Action of ICPD beyond 2014, the report examines the progress of countries and regions since 1994, towards the survival targets set out in the Programme of Action.

In the area of migration, the Division provided substantive support to the President of the General Assembly in the preparation and organization of the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. It also supported the President of the General Assembly in organizing informal interactive hearings with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, which were held in New York on 15 July 2013. In 2013, the Population Division issued a new set of estimates of the global migrant stock disaggregated by age and sex and by country of origin. The report, *Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision*, provides updated estimates of the international migrant stock for 230 countries and areas for 1990, 2000, 2010 and 2013.

Concerning the work on population estimates and projections, the Division issued in June 2013, the *World Population Prospects: 2012 Revision*, which presents population estimates and projections for all countries and areas of the world. It has also continued its work to develop probabilistic projections initiated for the preparation of the *2010 Revision*. Aside from updating the methods used to produce the future trajectories of fertility, the *2012 Revision* incorporates for the first time probabilistic projections of mortality. The preparation of the official United Nations population estimates and projections for all countries and areas of the world is a key part of the work of the Population Division and developing the probabilistic projections is part of the Division's ongoing efforts to ensure that the highest professional standards of demography are maintained.

Mr. Chairman,

In the area of population policies, in 2013, the Division carried out the biennial revision of the *World Population Policies Database*, updating information on Government views and policies on population-related topics for all Member States, and launched an interactive, online interface of the database. In addition, preparations were made for the *United Nations Eleventh Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development*, which will be launched later this year.

In the area of population and development, the report, *World Population Ageing 2013*, was released following the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of

Action on Ageing at the Second World Assembly on Ageing. The report presents, for different regions of the world, demographic patterns and trends on ageing, the economic support ratio, the demographic dividend, independent living among older persons, causes of death among older people, health expenditures, intergenerational transfers, sources of financial support in old-age and the prevalence of poverty among older people.

As I indicated earlier, Mr. Chairman, these are just a few highlights of the Population Division's diverse portfolio of activities.

Finally, the second document under consideration, E/CN.9/2014/CRP.1, contains the objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement, and strategy of the population subprogramme for the biennium 2016-17. The proposed programme plan, modified as appropriate, will be submitted to the Committee for Programme and Coordination, whose recommendations will subsequently be transmitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session. The Commission is invited to review and provide comments on the programme plan, and to take note of the document.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.