



**UNITED NATIONS EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON
“FERTILITY, CHANGING POPULATION TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENT:
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE”**

United Nations Secretariat
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Population Division
New York, 21-22 October 2013

PROVISIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Monday, 21 October

9:00 – 10:15 (Joint with Expert Group Meeting on Priorities for Improving Survival: ICPD Beyond 2014)

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING: John Wilmoth, Director, Population Division

2. OVERVIEWS OF TRENDS IN MORTALITY AND FERTILITY SINCE ICPD:

Cheryl Sawyer, Mortality Section, Population Division

Vladimira Kantorova, Fertility and Family Planning Section, Population Division

10:15 – 10:25 Break

10:25 – 11:40

3. Fertility trends in high- and intermediate-fertility countries

- How exceptional is the pattern of fertility decline in sub-Saharan Africa and what makes it likely to continue or change?

Expert: John Bongaarts (Population Council)

- What challenges and opportunities are faced by high- and intermediate-fertility countries in reaping a “demographic dividend” from fertility decline?

Expert: Parfait Eloundou-Enyegue (Cornell University)

- Moderator: Amson Sibanda (Division for Social Policy and Development/DESA)

11:40 – 11:50 Break

11:50 – 13:30

4. Different pathways to low fertility and effective policy approaches to address low fertility

- Perspective from Europe

Expert: Tomáš Sobotka (Vienna Institute of Demography)

- Perspective from Asia
Expert: Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi (University of Tehran and Australian National University)
- Perspective from Latin America
Expert: Suzana Cavenaghi (National School of Statistics, Brazilian Bureau of Census)
- Moderator: Ralph Hakkert (UNFPA)

13:30 – 14:45 Lunch

14:45 – 16:00

5. Young people and the transition to adulthood

What are current challenges to young people's transitions to adulthood (family formation, human capital and sexual and reproductive health) and policy prospects to address them?

- Perspective from a high-fertility context
Expert: Caroline Kabiru (African Population and Health Research Center)
- Perspective from a low-fertility context
Expert: Francesco Billari (Oxford University)
- Moderator: Sajeda Amin (Population Council)

16:00 – 16:15 Break

16:15 – 17:30

6. Links between fertility, reproductive rights, women's empowerment and gender equality

- What are the key policy-relevant ways that women's empowerment and gender equality have influenced fertility trends and vice versa? What should we expect for the future?
Expert: Monica Das Gupta (University of Maryland)
- What are the population-level impacts of enabling people to exercise their reproductive rights, and the new opportunities and challenges for further progress in the full exercise of reproductive rights?
Expert: Zoe Matthews (University of Southampton)
- Moderator: Patience Stephens (UN-Women)

17:30 – 18:00

7. CLOSING OF DAY 1 AND GUIDANCE FOR DAY 2

- Moderator: Francesca Perucci (Population Division)

Tuesday, 22 October (joint with Expert Group Meeting on Priorities for Improving Survival: ICPD Beyond 2014)

9:00 – 11:00

**1. SUMMARIES AND INTERACTIVE DISCUSSIONS:
KEY CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER PROGRESS IN IMPROVING
LIFE EXPECTANCY AND RESPONDING TO IMPLICATIONS OF FERTILITY TRENDS
FOR THE GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA**

Two experts will present their views of the key points arising from the first day of each expert group meeting. Participants will engage in an interactive discussion on the key findings from the meeting, including the prioritization of issues for the global development agenda moving forward and of effective policy responses for shaping future population trends. The discussion will also identify promising future research directions.

Experts: Alberto Palloni (University of Wisconsin, Madison) and Monica Das Gupta (University of Maryland)

Moderator: John Wilmoth (Population Division)

11:00 – 11:15 Break

11:15 – 13:00

**2. INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION:
PERSPECTIVES ON HOW TO IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY AND UTILIZATION OF DATA
AND EVIDENCE BY POLICYMAKERS**

- Is getting health and population data and evidence to be used by policymakers more of a supply or demand issue?
- What are the gaps between policymakers' needs and data availability?
- What innovative strategies are there to get data and evidence to be used by policymakers?

Experts: Kirsty Newman (DFID, by videolink) and Hans Rosling (Gapminder Foundation)

Moderator: Francesca Perucci (Population Division)

13:00 – 13:30

CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS: John Wilmoth, Director, Population Division