52nd Session of the Commission on Population and Development Side Event:
Policy Options for Low Fertility and Ageing: Choices and Prosperity
3 April 2019
1:15 PM – 2:30 PM
Conference Room E, UN Secretariat

*The **Permanent Missions of Belarus, Bulgaria, Japan and Tunisia to the United Nations**, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, **UNECE** and the United Nations Population Fund, **UNFPA**, are co-hosting the side-event "Policy Options for Low fertility and Ageing: Choices and Prosperity" to further the dialogue on policy options for countries experiencing very low fertility and ageing populations.*

Background

This 52nd Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) is an opportunity to highlight the latest demographic trends and policy responses that will contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

According to the UN Population Division's World Population Policies database, an increasing number of countries harbor "major concerns" with respect to population ageing, and a growing share of these countries seek to halt or reverse fertility decline.[1] As the UN's lead agency on population issues and sexual and reproductive health, UNFPA is increasingly requested by Member States to provide technical and policy support to address these population trends. With the generous support of Statistics Korea (KOSTAT), UNFPA has launched a Global Programme on Ageing and Low Fertility. In accordance with the ICPD Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UNFPA provides support to countries to address ageing and low fertility in three complementary areas:

- **Demographic intelligence**: Collection and analysis of population data, population estimates and projections, population and development linkages, and the assessment of economic and social implications of population ageing and fertility decline. UNFPA also supports social science research on family dynamics and relationships.
- **Convening and knowledge exchange**: Foster an exchange of knowledge and policy experiences between all stakeholders and countries.
- **Policy guidance**: Support in the formulation of state of the art human rights based population policies, including related policies on ageing, youth, gender equality and family.

At the regional level, UNFPA works closely with the United Nations Regional Commissions to extend support to countries in the areas of population ageing and low fertility.

[1] For details see UN (2015). World Population Policies, online: https://esa.un.org/poppolicy/about_database.aspx

Draft Agenda

13:15 - 13:20 Welcoming Remarks by Mr. Dereje Wordofa , Deputy Executive Director (Programme) of UNFPA

13:20 - 13:25 Opening Remarks by H.E. Mr. Andrei Dapkiunas, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Belarus

13:25 – 14:10 Interactive panel on policy responses to low fertility and ageing - moderated by Ms. Alanna Armitage, Regional Director for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, UNFPA and Ms. Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich, Chief of Population unit, UNECE:

- **Japan**: Dr. Reiko Hayashi, Director, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (IPSS)
- **Mexico**: Dr. Carlos Echarri, Secretary General, National Population Council (CONAPO)
- **Bulgaria**: Ms. Anina Chileva, PETRI Executive
- **Tunisia**: Dr. Rafla Tej, President and Director General of the National Office for Family and Population.
- **Cabo Verde**: H.E. Mr. Jose Luis Fialho Rocha, Permanent Representative of Cabo Verde to the UN
- **Mauritius**: Mr. Jumoondar Sunkur, Chief Demographer and UNFPA Focal Point, Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
- **UNFPA Technical Division**, Dr. Rachel Snow, Chief Population and Development Branch, Technical Division

14:15 - 14:30 **Closing reflections:**
H.E. Ambassador Georgi Panayotov, Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the UN
H.E. Ambassador Koro Bessho, Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN
Mr. Esteban Caballero, UNFPA Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Nairobi Summit on ICPD25