



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
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Statement

by

**H.E. Mr. Vathayudh Vichankaiyakij,
Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Thailand
to the United Nations**

**at the General Discussion of the Fifty-Sixth Session of the
Commission on Population and Development**

New York, 10 April 2023

Mr. Chair,

1. Thailand wishes to congratulate you and other members of the Bureau on your election. My delegation is confident that the **56th session of the Commission of Population and Development** will be successful under your able leadership.

2. As we reflect on the implementation of the **Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)**, Thailand continues to stress that **people are the most important and valuable resource** of any country and should be given the opportunity to make the most of their potential. In this regard, allow me to share **three points**.

3. First, Thailand's **changing demographic structure** have added complexity to our efforts to achieving sustainable development. Thailand is an _____ with more than 20 per cent of our population aged 60 years and over. This poses a major challenge for the country, both economically and socially.

4. Thailand is focusing on maintaining a **healthy and productive workforce**, enhancing social protection, and improving the fiscal system to ensure the population's well-being. Our priority is to equip people of all ages with skills necessary for them to _____

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also given particular attention and assistance to disadvantaged populations, especially those that experienced **learning loss** as a result of the **COVID-19 pandemic**.g loss