

STATEMENT

**by Mr. Andrei Nicolenco, Head of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies
Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the
Republic of Moldova**

**at the General Debate on agenda item 3
of the 56**

Access to quality education for all, adjusted to the labor market requirements, are critical to prevent people from falling into poverty and ensure a future at home.

The Moldovan Government is working to refocus its education system towards this goal through training qualified staff in line with the needs of the private sector, improving the educational policies and institutional framework to support the implementation of demand-driven technical vocational system (VET) and developing partnerships between the labor market and the VET institutions.

As education is fundamental to human development and social progress, our commitment after the pandemics is two-fold: first to recover the educational losses caused by Covid-19 and, second, to build a better system based on the valuable lessons that we all learned.

Consistent with the commitments announced at the Transforming Education Summit in

The elderly population constitutes about 23% of the total population of the Republic of Moldova, and demographic forecasts show that their share will continue to increase in the coming years. As population ageing impacts all spheres of society, actions are being taken to provide older people greater security and a better quality of life.

In line with the Madrid International Action Plan for Aging, the Government has developed the draft Program on Active and Healthy Ageing for 2023-2027. It aims to unlock the potential of active and healthy ageing, including by ensuring an inclusive labour market for all ages, by developing skills through formal and non-formal educational programmes and strengthening the autonomy of the older people.

Considering the dynamic population changes faced by the Republic of Moldova the availability of quality and timely population data is crucial for policy development and implementation. Last year, the Government of the Republic of Moldova, developed and administrative data sources by providing reliable and accurate data for tracking the SDGs and ICPD agenda.

Moreover, the Republic of Moldova made progress in terms of the availability of disaggregated data at the sub-national level. The population number at the sub-national level disaggregated by age, sex, and place of residence was revised and released by the National Bureau of Statistics, generating the revision of the main demographic indicators, which will serve better budgetary planning.

To improve the data availability, in 2024 the population and housing census will be organized in the Republic of Moldova, integrating innovative approaches and build on lessons learned from the last census in 2014.

In closing, Mr. Chairman,