

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**



**Chair,**

The Kenyan delegation is honored to participate in the 48<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Population and Development. New and emerging population issues especially in the developing countries pose huge challenges in meeting the MDGs and will affect the implementation of Post 2015 Agenda.

The proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide yet another opportunity to advance the improvement of quality of life for the world population.

**Chair,**

Kenya has made progress in the integration of population issues into its policies, planning and budgeting.

Policies on **Population, sustained economic growth and development** have been developed and programs implemented incorporating population issues into national and county plans. Notable among them

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Kenya has advanced towards demographic transition. The population growth rate declined to 2.9 percent in 2009 from 3.4 percent in 1999. The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) declined from a high of 8.1 births per woman in 1979 to 3.9 in 2014. Mortality, as measured by the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) declined from 88 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1979 to 39 deaths per 1000 live births in 2014. However, Maternal Mortality ratio has over the years remained high and was estimated at 488 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2008/2009.

## **Chair**

In seeking to end preventable maternal and child deaths, Kenya has benefited from the high profile Beyond Zero Campaign led by our First Lady, Her Excellency Mrs. Margaret Kenyatta which seeks to accelerate national and county actions around all health determinants with a view to reducing further the mortality of Kenyan babies and mothers.

## **Chair**

Although fertility and mortality has been declining, Kenya faces a

This enormous size of the youth in Kenya poses both a challenge and opportunities for attainment of sustainable development.

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Kenya has in place legal frameworks to deal with international migration and development. However, the number of refugees entering Kenya has continued to increase posing a challenge to resources, environment and security.

The Constitution of Kenya (2010) affirms reproductive health rights and elaborates on the rights of individuals, family and society. A notable outcome in the health sector is the reduction by half in the national HIV prevalence rate from a high of 13.5 percent in 1998 to 5.6 in 2013. The high pregnancy rate among adolescents remains a major challenge.

The Constitution of Kenya (2010), Kenya Vision 2030, and existing legislation and policies are committed to Gender Equality, Equity and Empowerment of Women. The Government's agenda for women is premised on an unwavering political will and conviction that empowering women is key to the development of the nation. The Government is disbursing essential capital to finance business opportunities for women, youth and persons with disabilities. Further, the Government instituted an affirmative action policy for women, youth and persons with disabilities in public procurement. Under this policy, the Government has set aside at least 30 percent of

to this group translating to a minimum of USD 2.2 Billion per year worth of business from the Government.

Further, the Government is implementing programmes for the prevention and response to Sexual and Gender Based Violence including Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting (FGM/C). The

**In conclusion,** Kenya is still experiencing challenges despite the achievements made in the integrating population into sustainable development. There is need therefore for this session to come up with new strategies which can facilitate this integration especially in the post 2015 development agenda. This will help mitigate continuing, emerging and new demographic challenges to accelerate the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

**THANK YOU**