



Chairperson

Excellencies

Distinguished Delegates

I congratulate the Chairperson and other Bureau Members of the Commission for organizing the 54th Session of the Commission on Population and Development. Uganda remains committed to the ICPD Programme of Action, and the key actions for its further implementation.

Chairperson,

This session avails us with the opportunity to reflect on the quality of life of people in respect to access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food as we recover from the COVID-19 global pandemic. Good nutrition is critical in realizing improvements in infant, child and maternal health, stronger immune systems, safer pregnancy and childbirth, and lower risk of non-communicable diseases.

Chairperson,

Uganda has continued to implement targeted interventions aimed at achieving the goals and objectives of the ICPD Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda

for Sustainable Development to increase food production, improve post-harvest handling, enhance agro-processing, and increase market access and competitiveness of agro-industry products.

I am glad to report that because of these good value adding programmes, the quality of life of Ugandans has improved and remarkable progress has been registered, particularly on the health of women and children as follows:

Maternal Mortality Ratio declined from 506 per 100,000 live births in 1991 to 336 in 2016;

In spite of this progress made, a number of challenges remain. Uganda still has a high fertility rate of 5.4 children per woman and high teenage pregnancies. To address these challenges, the Government of Uganda has undertaken the following key actions:

Developed the third National Development Plan, which aims at increasing household incomes especially those in subsistence farming and improving the quality of life of the population in line with the aspirations of Uganda Vision 2040, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Africa Agenda 2063. Through this Plan, Government is scaling up efforts to accelerate a fertility decline and mitigate the effects of climate change;

Developed the new 2020 National Population Policy with a goal of transforming the population age structure; reducing child dependency and harnessing the demographic dividend;

Chairperson,

In conclusion, Uganda will continue to accelerate its efforts to ensure the full implementation of the ICPD with support from development partners and other relevant stakeholders. It is through these partnerships that we will be able to adequately improve the quality of life of our population.

God bless you all.