



**Commission on Population and Development
57th Session**

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**Statement agenda item 4 “Programme implementation and future programme of work
of the Secretariat in the field of population”**

**Statement by
Ms. Sabine Henning, Chief, Sustainable Demographic Transition Section,
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Your Excellency, Chair of the 57th session of the Commission on Population and Development
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

Let me begin by expressing ESCAP’s appreciation for the work carried out by the Population Division of DESA, as outlined in the Secretary-General report on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2023, E/CN.9/2024/5.

ESCAP frequently uses the Population Division’s outputs, including databases, such as the population estimates and projections and related demographic indicators. The Division is to be congratulated for having produced for the first time in 2022 this valuable information by single years of age and one-year intervals of time going back to 1950.

We also frequently use other data produced by the Division, such as the migrant stock estimates, data on living arrangements of older persons and household size and composition.

The data are foundational to the work of the Social Development Division and provide the evidence base for ESCAP’s work on population ageing, international migration, and urbanization. For example, our annual ESCAP Population Data Sheet uses data from the World Population Prospects to present up-to-date demographic information for countries in Asia and the Pacific in a visually appealing and comprehensive way. Its online and printed versions are a widely recognised resource used by policymakers and other stakeholders.

As the Secretary-General has emphasized, United Nations entities must come together to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Social Development Division has a history of successful collaborations with the Population Division in this regard. Together with the Economic Commission for Latin America, the Social Development Division and the Population Division are currently working together to implement a project on national transfer accounts to support achieving inclusive and sustainable economic growth in societies of all ages.

Madame Chair,

Regional commissions serve as regional *integrators* on many issues, including capacity-development, bringing together various national, subregional and regional stakeholders, and providing a platform for exchange of views and training on SDGs and related population matters. As the most inclusive intergovernmental platform in the Asia and the Pacific region, ESCAP promotes cooperation among its member States in pursuit of solutions to sustainable development challenges. ESCAP, in partnership with the Population Division and other entities, stands ready to serve its member States in Asia and the Pacific in this regard.

ESCAP, other regional commissions, and the Population Division regularly meet to coordinate our work and ensure that regional perspectives inform global discussions. With regard to this session of the Commission, we are grateful for the opportunity provided to the Chairs of our respective regional population conferences to inform the Commission on the outcomes of these conferences. We hope such opportunities will arise more often in the future, so that the regional commissions can contribute to the work of the Commission, as stipulated in ECOSOC resolution 2016/25.

Looking ahead, we hope for close cooperation with colleagues in other regional commissions and in the Secretariat, enabling us to effectively advance Commission outcomes in support of the ICPD Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda.

We eagerly await the 2024 Revision of the *World Population Prospects* and the *International Migrant Stock*, with data disaggregated in a way that takes into account the membership of regional commissions. The data will inform our ongoing work on population ageing, intergenerational relations, migration and health.

We look forward to continuing and expanding our already fruitful collaboration with the Population Division.

Thank you, Madame Chair.