

Fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Population and Development

Opening Remarks (5 min) by

Dr. Natalia Kanem

Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund

Monday 25 April 2022 | 10:00-10:45

Conference Room 1 | UNHQ | New York

The Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 reiterated the importance of rights and choices for all as critical for achieving sustainable development and inclusive economic growth. Yet the recent report of the High-Level Commission on the Nairobi Summit follow-up, *and "No Exceptions, No*

Yet {qw'ecpø'ej cpi g'y j cv"{qw'ecpø"see. To locate and reach those furthest behind, all governments need to be able to collect and use timely, high-quality, disaggregated population and development data. Unfortunately, the resources devoted to data systems overall, including population data, are woefully inadequate.

Member States should be supported to ensure the timely completion of the 2020 census round; improve civil registration and vital statistics; and encourage development planning that responds to national and local population trends and needs.

The decline in funding for population-related matters, especially sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, undermines the development of human capital when it is desperately needed. Adequate investment is required urgently to enable every girl and woman to complete her education, pursue her dreams, and make a living that protects her from poverty, vulnerability and abuse.

Distinguished delegates,

We must do more where it counts.

Ngwu'y qtnlf kki gpvq "cpf 'vqi gy gt'vq'tgxgtug"qwt"ewttgpv'tclgevqtkgu"cpf "tgeqo o k'vq"geqpqo le" growth that includes everyone ó women and girls, indigenous populations, people of African descent, migrants, people with disabilities, LGBTQI+ persons.

Some 28 years after the Cairo ICPD, UNFPA again declares the immense wisdom of putting women and girls at the centre of economic and social development and at the centre of efforts towards peace. That is the path to sustainable and equitable development. That is how we will achieve a world where every pregnancy is intended, every childbirth is safe, and every young rgtuqpø'u'r qvppvkn'is fulfilled.

It is time for the world to show greater ambition and urgency around the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and the outcomes of its reviews, which are an accelerator for the Sustainable Development Goals.

I call on you to recognize those critical linkages and ensure that the resolution adopted by the Commission contains meaningful, action-oriented recommendations that advance progress towards the achievement of the ICPD and 2030 agendas.

I look forward to your presentations and wish you every success in your important deliberations.

Thank you.
