

UNITED NATIONS

NATIONS UNIES

MS. MARIA -FRANCESCA SPATOLISANO
ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR POLICY COORDINATION
AND INTER -AGENCY AFFAIRS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

REMARKS FOR THE CLOSING OF THE 56TH SESSION OF THE
COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

14 APRIL 2023

Your Excellency Ambassador * K H R U J, Chair of the 56th session of the Commission on
Population and Development,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

I am delivering the following remarks on behalf of Mr. LI Junhua, Under Secretary
General for Economic and Social Affairs, who unfortunately is unable to join us here today.

First, allow me to thank the Chair of the 56th session Ambassador / H X of the Republic
of Moldova Mr. Chair, we commend you for your exemplary leadership throughout the session,
and for your tireless efforts to build consensus. Allow me also to thank you and the four vice-
Chairs for the excellent collaboration with the Bureau over the past year

While the absence of a consensus outcome on this year's special theme is regrettable, the
session has been rich in content and substantively engaging, with many insightful presentations
and frank and thoughtful discussions.

Throughout the week, we heard from experts, Member States, and civil society

The multi-stakeholder panel on Tuesday morning will identify complementarities with other functional commissions of ECOSOC, as well as contributions that the Commission can make to the discussions of the main theme of the 2023 ECOSOC and the High Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), “Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels”.

We will reflect on the lessons learned from this year’s session to prepare next year, when the Commission will commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Programme of Action of the ICPD and will assess