



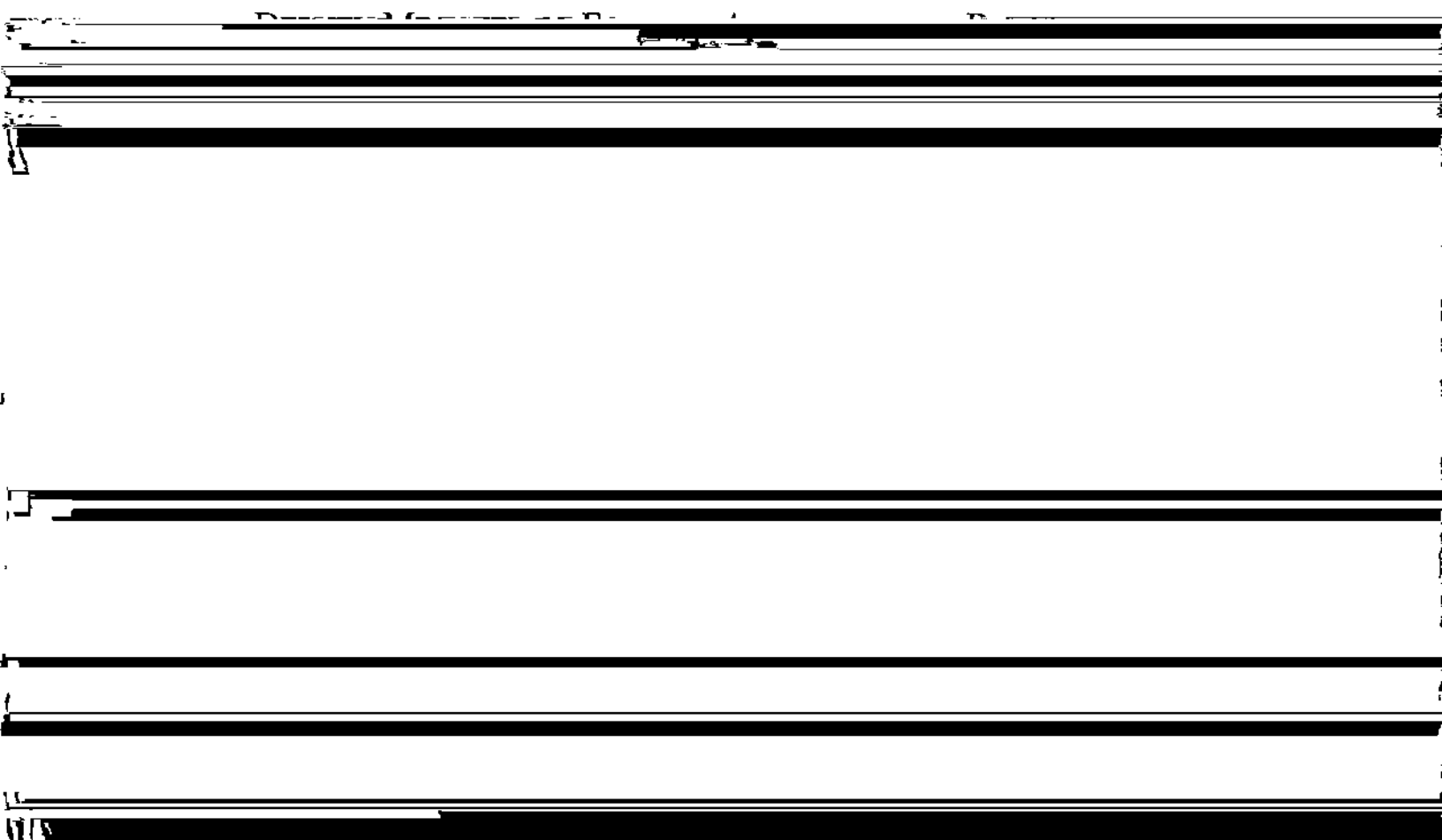
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA



CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY!

STATEMENT

BY MS. EVGENIA KOLDANOVA,



Mr. Chairman,

Allow me at the outset to congratulate you and the other members of the bureau for your election and for the work you have done so far for organizing this session. The theme of the CPD 41st session is important not only because it considers the processes of urbanization, internal migration and distribution of population and their impact on the demographic trends, but also because it gives us the opportunity to discuss the interrelations of these processes with the social and economic developments in the world, the challenges they pose in relation to

As the Secretary-general states in his report "Monitoring of population programmes, focusing on population distribution, urbanization, internal migration and development" the process of urbanization is inevitable. More than half of the world's population live today in the cities and the number of the urban population

Mr. Chairman,

For the last 20 years my country was facing serious demographic problems. The population is constantly decreasing mainly due to the ever lower levels of birth rate, aging of the population and wide migration flows. The low birth rate, the

1990-2004 led to changes in the territorial distribution of the population. The

The effect of the existing migration processes in my country is predominantly negative – the population is concentrated in a small number of settlements while at the end of 2004 144 settlements became depopulated, a lot of them entirely

without inhabitants. This trend results in the country's unbalanced demographic and economic development which will certainly lead to major problems that we would face in the near future.

In order to overcome the territorial imbalance I will present to your attention the tasks we foresee to implement as they are formulated in our national demographic strategy

Mr. Chairman,

As a member of the European Union from 1 January 2007 Bulgaria has taken advantage of the funding opportunities presented by various programs of the

denounce the Program on Design of a ...