

REPUBLIC OF POLAND
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



9 EAST 66th STREET NEW YORK N.Y. 10021

TEL (212) 744-2506

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to congratulate you on organizing the 41st session of the Commission on Population and Development devoted to population growth and distribution, urbanization, internal migration and

development.

Poland is a European country of a substantial demographic potential. Dynamics of natural and real population growth, however diminishing over the last decades, has always been high. Family formation patterns, reproductive attitudes and behaviours have changed, life span has extended, a decline in fertility has resulted in an accelerated ageing of the society. The nature of these changes confirms that the

agglomerations, c) depopulation of peripheral rural areas. The phenomenon of urban sprawl should also be included among these features.

A spatial differentiation of the urban population growth, as well as a decline of the rural population was not taking place at the same time. The results of our research revealed 3 types of population change: active areas (increase in population), stable areas (stagnation of population), and relatively depopulating ones (decrease in population). A considerable decrease in population was observed in rural areas with the old

demographic structure of population

Mr Chairman,

Urbanization is one of the most characteristic social and economic processes in Poland. After World War