

## Population

In 2014, global population neared 7.3 billion people, people since the 1994 adoption of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) [YUN 1994, p. 955]. It was projected to reach 8.4 billion by 2030, with poor families and low-income countries accounting for much of this growth. Population dynamics continued to shape the development landscape, with high mobility and migration expanding population growth in urban areas by 1.3 million people each week. The social and economic development gains achieved in the twenty-first century were at risk from inequality and urban poverty. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) responded to 34 humanitarian crises, including the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. As mandated by the General Assembly, UNFPA also conducted a 20-year review of the Programme of Action of the ICPD, which gathered data from 176 countries including academia and civil society, and analysed progress made in implementing the Programme of Action. The results of the review were summarized in the Framework of Actions for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the ICPD, which was launched by the Secretary-General in February and was considered at a special session of the General Assembly in September.

During the year, the Commission on Population and Development considered the special theme “Assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development”.

In a December resolution, the General Assembly called upon UN entities and other relevant organizations to continue addressing the issue of international migration and development with a view to integrating a gender perspective and cultural diversity, in alignment with internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

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### Population and development

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#### Follow-up to 1994 Conference on Population and Development

**Reports of Secretary-General.** In February [A/69/62], pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/234 [YUN 2010, p. 1053], the Secretary-General submitted a report on the framework of actions for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and

Development (ICPD) beyond 2014. In its resolution, the Assembly had called for an operational review of the implementation of the Programme of Action and its key actions on the basis of the highest-quality data and analysis of the state of population and development. The framework gathered data from 176 countries, including civil society and academia, that pointed to significant achievements from 1994–2014, and was organized around five pillars of development: dignity and human rights, health, place and mobility, governance and accountability, and sustainability.

Evidence from the operational review supported the consensus of the International Conference that respect, protection, promotion and fulfilment of human rights were necessary preconditions for improving the dignity and well-being of women and adolescent girls and for empowering them to exercise their reproductive rights, and that sexual and reproductive health and rights and understanding the implications of population dynamics were foundational to sustainable development. Measures such as safeguarding the rights of young people and investing in their quality education, creating decent employment opportunities and enabling access to sexual and reproductive health had strengthened young people’s individual resilience and created the conditions under which they could achieve their full potential. The path to sustainability, as outlined in the framework, demanded better leadership and greater innovation to address critical needs, including extending human rights and protecting all persons from discrimination and violence; investing in the capabilities and creativity of the world’s young people to assure future growth and innovation; strengthening health systems to provide universal access to sexual and reproductive health; building sustainable cities that enriched urban and rural lives alike; and transforming the global economy to one that would sustain the future of the planet.

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/234, the Secretary-General in July submitted a report [A/69/122] on recurrent themes and key elements identified during the sessions of the Commission on Population and Development. The report drew on statements delivered during the forty-seventh session of the Commission (see p. 000), which was devoted to assessing the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD [YUN 1994, p. 955]. Recurrent themes and key elements identified by States during the interactive debate of the session were related to dignity and human rights; health;

place and mobility; governance and accountability; sustainability; and the success of ICPD beyond 2014.

Throughout the discussions, States expressed support for the continued centrality of the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation, in the period beyond 2014, taking into account the findings and recommendations of the 20-year review, including for the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals.

**Regional review process.** Regional meetings that contributed to the review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD beyond 2014 included the seventh Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights (Manila, Philippines, 21–24 January) and the Sixth International Parliamentarians' Conference on the Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action (Stockholm, Sweden, 23–25 April).

**Special session.** In response to its resolutions 65/234 and 67/250 [YUN 2013, p. 1020], the General Assembly held a special session on the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 (New York, 22 September) [A/S-29/PV.1] to assess the status of implementation of the Programme of Action and renew political support for actions required for achieving its goals and objectives. The special session, which brought together heads of state and government, ministers, and other high-level government officials, was a culmination of the operational review processes launched by resolution 65/234. The session had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on the framework of actions for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the ICPD beyond 2014 (see p. 000) and on recurrent themes and key elements identified during the sessions of the Commission on Population and Development (see p. 000). Member States emphasized the centrality of the ICPD agenda to global development; reaffirmed their commitment to the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action beyond 2014; and called for integrating population issues in the post-2015 development agenda. There was widespread recognition that the successful implementation of the ICPD beyond 2014 was a precondition for achieving the three pillars of sustainable development. Participants stated that the two reports of the Secretary-General formed the basis for guiding future actions on full implementation of the ICPD beyond 2014; however, they found that gaps identified in the reports required urgent attention, and called on the global community to build further on the findings and conclusions as documented in the two reports including the knowledge about the state of sexual and reproductive health globally. Member States committed to work hand-in-hand to achieve ICPD goals and objectives beyond 2014; called for further strengthening of cooperation with regional and international development agencies,

such as UNFPA, and between subregional entities and groups; and encouraged the promotion of North-South, South-South and Triangular, regional and extraregional cooperation.

### Commission on Population and Development

The Commission on Population and Development, at its forty-seventh session (New York, 26 April 2013 and 7–11 April 2014) [E/2014/25], considered as its special theme the assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) [YUN 1994, p. 955] and adopted a resolution [res. 2014/1] on that theme.

The Commission considered the report of its Bureau on its three intersessional meetings [E/CN.9/2014/2 & Add.1] (New York, 12 September 2013, 22 November 2013 and 15 January 2014) and took note [E/2014/25 (dec. 2014/102)] of the report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2013; Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs [E/CN.9/2014/5] and a note by the Secretary General on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016–2017 [E/CN.9/2014/CRP.1]. The Commission had before it three reports of the Secretary-General [E/CN.9/2014/3–5] (see below); a Secretariat note on non-governmental organizations considered for accreditation to the Commission's forty-seventh session [E/CN.9/2014/6]; and 20 statements submitted by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council [E/CN.9/2014/NGO/1–20]. The Commission held general debates on national experience in population matters: assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD; and on the contribution of population and development issues to the theme of the annual ministerial review in 2014 (see p. 000). The Commission also postponed [E/2014/25 (dec. 2014/101)] the decision on the special theme for its forty-ninth (2016) session until its forty-eighth session in 2015.

**Reports of Secretary-General.** In a January report [E/CN.9/2014/3] submitted in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/2 [YUN 1996, p. 977], the Secretary-General provided an overview of demographic trends for the world, its major areas, development groups and selected countries, focusing on major changes that had occurred over the preceding 20 years since the adoption of the Programme of Action of the ICPD [YUN 1994, p. 955]. Topics covered included population size and growth, fertility, marriage and union formation, family planning, mortality, international migration, adolescents and youth, population ageing and urbanization. The report indicated that the world's population sur-

passed 7.2 billion in 2014 and was expected to increase by more than 2 billion by 2050. Most of the population growth was projected to occur in the less developed regions. While the populations of Africa and Asia were projected to increase greatly in the decades to follow, a number of countries were expected to experience population decline. Despite significant improvements in life expectancy, many countries were failing to meet the ICPD Programme of Action targets for life expectancy, infant and child mortality and maternal mortality. More than half of the world's population was living in urban areas. The number of young people had grown rapidly and was expected to remain stable over the next 35 years. In contrast, the number and proportion of older persons were expected to continue rising well into the foreseeable future. The report concluded that the state of the world's population was one of unprecedented diversity and change, reflected in new patterns of fertility, mortality, migration, urbanization and ageing. The continuation and consequences of those population trends would present opportunities and challenges for the formulation and implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and for the achievement of all internationally agreed development goals.

In January [E/CN.9/2014/4 & Corr.1], in response to General Assembly resolution 65/234 [YUN 2010, p. 1053], the Secretary-General submitted a report on the framework of action for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the ICPD beyond 2014 (see p. 000).

Also in January [E/CN.9/2014/5], the Secretary-General issued a report reviewing progress made by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in implementing its programme of work in the field of population in 2013. It detailed the activities of the Division on the analysis of fertility, mortality and international migration; the preparation of world population estimates and projections; the monitoring of population policies; the analysis of the interrelations between population and development; and the monitoring and dissemination of population information. It also covered other major activities carried out by the Division, including the substantive servicing of intergovernmental bodies, the preparation of parliamentary documentation and technical publications, the organization of expert meetings and the dissemination of results, including through the Internet.

In order to inform preparations for the Commission's forty-seventh session, the Population Division organized expert group meetings on the themes "Fertility, changing population trends and development: challenges and opportunities for the future" (New York, 21–22 October 2013) and "Mortality: Priorities for improved survival: the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014" (New York, 21–22 October 2013). It provided substan-

tive support to the preparation and organization of the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development [YUN 2013, p. 1025], organized the Eleventh Coordination Meeting on International Migration (New York, 21–22 February 2013), and provided technical support to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on the operational review of the Programme of Action of the ICPD.

Major publications issued by the Population Division included the *World Mortality Report 2013*, the *International Migration Report 2013*, *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, World Population Policies 2013*, and *World Population Ageing 2013*.

**Commission action.** The Commission adopted and brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council a resolution on the assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD [E/2014/25 (res. 2014/1)], by which it called upon Governments to recognize the important linkages between the priorities of the Programme of Action and sustainable development and to build on the progress made and experiences gained from its implementation over the previous 20 years in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda. It urged them to develop, strengthen and implement effective strategies aimed at eradicating poverty and promoting inclusive growth and sustainable development; and to address existing gaps in the implementation of the Programme of Action. The Commission also called upon States to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants; address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation; and intensify efforts to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support without stigma and discrimination. The Commission requested the Secretary-General to continue his substantive work on population and development, and in collaboration with the UN system and relevant organizations to continue assessing and reporting on progress towards the full implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD and the key actions for its further implementation.

By **decision 2014/239** of 16 July, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on its forty-seventh session and approved the provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session.

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## International migration and development

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By **resolution 69/167** of 18 December (see p. 000), the General Assembly called upon States to promote and protect the human rights of all migrants, especially those of women and children; and to address

international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue. It further encouraged giving appropriate consideration to the issue of migration and development in the preparation of the post-2015 development agenda through integrating a human rights perspective and mainstreaming a gender perspective; and requested Governments and international organizations to take appropriate measures to give due consideration to the declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development [YUN 2013, p. 1025].

Also on 18 December, by **resolution 69/187** (see p. 000), the Assembly urged all States to intensify cooperation with relevant stakeholders in order to jointly identify alternatives to reduce, mitigate and eliminate the causes and structural factors that led to irregular migration, so as to prevent minors from feeling compelled to migrate from their communities.

**Twelfth Meeting on International Migration and Development.** In response to Assembly resolution 58/208 [YUN 2003, p. 1087], the UN Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs organized the Twelfth Coordination Meeting on International Migration (New York, 20–21 February) [ESA/P/WP/237]. The meeting was attended by more than 150 participants, including representatives of Member States, observers, agencies, funds and programmes of the UN system, offices of the UN Secretariat, and the regional commissions as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) active in the field of international migration. It focused on activities to follow up on and implement the Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development [YUN 2013, p. 1025] and the eight-point agenda for action of the Secretary-General presented in his report to that High-level Dialogue [ibid., p. 1024]; and considered how migration could be integrated into the implementation framework of the post-2015 development agenda.

**Global Forum on Migration and Development.** The seventh meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (Stockholm, 14–16 May) discussed the implementation of the commitments made at the 2013 High-level Dialogue and the integration of migration into the post-2015 development agenda. The meeting identified themes for future collaboration, including reducing the costs of labour migration, improving the protection of migrant domestic workers, and assisting migrants in countries facing crises.

**Report of Secretary-General.** In July [A/69/207], in response to resolution 67/219 [YUN 2012, p. 1029], the Secretary-General submitted a report on international migration and development, summarizing the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (New York, 3–4 October 2013), including its preparatory events and deliberations.

In accordance with resolution 67/219, the President of the Assembly organized a panel discussion (New York, 25 June 2013) on the overall theme, which briefed Member States on the latest evidence regarding the linkages between migration and development and on the means of addressing key migration challenges. Panellists observed that the discourse on international migration and development had moved significantly beyond the narrow realm of economic impact to also include social, cultural and environmental aspects; encouraged countries to leverage the benefits of migration for development by recognizing the skills acquired by their citizens while abroad and capitalize on the potential contributions of diaspora groups; and drew attention to the progress made in fostering dialogue and cooperation on migration, including through the Global Forum on Migration and Development. The informal interactive hearings (New York, 15 July 2013), which were attended by over 300 representatives of NGOs in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, worker organizations, other civil society organizations and private sector representatives, offered an opportunity for civil society to express its views and voice its expectations for the 2013 High-level Dialogue and to interact with Member States. Civil society presented an eight-point five-year agenda focusing on tangible action and called for the adoption of an accountability framework to be followed up through appropriate intergovernmental processes. The High-level Dialogue, which sought to identify concrete measures for strengthening coherence and cooperation at all levels, enhancing the benefits of international migration and its important links to development and reducing its negative impact, included a plenary debate and four round tables. At the plenary debate, Member States highlighted the importance of protecting the human rights of migrants, especially women, children and other vulnerable groups, during every step of the migration process; the centrality of developing partnerships and strengthening cooperation on migration at all levels; the role of the Global Forum on Migration and Development in promoting informal dialogue and cooperation on migration; and the need to integrate migration into national development strategies as well as the post-2015 development agenda. The round tables reviewed the effects of international migration on sustainable development; identified measures to ensure respect for, and protection of, the human rights of all migrants; discussed partnerships and cooperation on international migration, reviewed mechanisms for integrating migration into development policies and highlighted the need for coherence at all levels; and discussed labour mobility and its impact on development.

The report further outlined the main initiatives of the Global Migration Group to implement the eight-point agenda for action, as proposed by the Secretary-General in his report prepared for the

High-level Dialogue. The report found that, with respect to the protection of the human rights of all migrants, there had been only a few new ratifications of most international instruments concerned with international migrants and migration, and significant challenges persisted. Although some progress had been made in reducing the costs of labour migration, the average cost of transmitting remittances and recruitment costs for migrant workers remained high. In the field of migrant exploitation, responses to human trafficking and migrant smuggling had intensified. The plight of stranded migrants had received increasing attention, including through an initiative aimed at developing a set of voluntary guidelines for all stakeholders regarding emergency preparedness, institutional capacities, humanitarian assistance, protection responses and post-crisis support. In order to improve public perceptions of migrants, efforts had been undertaken to create greater public awareness of the contributions that migrants made to countries of origin and destination, and to combat discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance towards migrants and their families. The international community had begun to advocate for including migration-related goals and targets in the post-2015 development agenda. With regard to the migration evidence base, an April seminar found that the lack of consistent and complete migration data and the inherent challenges in forecasting migration continued to be an impediment to producing standardized approaches and reliable migration projections. During the year, the Global Migration Group organized briefings and side events to improve coordination with the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

The role of civil society in the follow-up to the High-level Dialogue was to include migration-related targets in the sustainable development goals of the post-2015 development agenda; provide protection and assistance to migrants in situations of crisis and transit; support reform of the migrant labour recruitment industry; and work with Member States to promote effective institutions and good governance in the context of international migration and development.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 75], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee [A/69/470/Add.1], adopted **resolution 69/229** without vote [agenda item 21 (a)].

#### International migration and development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 61/208 of 20 December 2006, 63/225 of 19 December 2008, 65/170 of 20 December 2010 and 67/219 of 21 December 2012 on international migration and development, as well as its resolution 68/4 of 3 October 2013, by which it adopted the Declaration of the High-level

Dialogue on International Migration and Development, its resolution 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions 62/156 of 18 December 2007, 64/166 of 18 December 2009, 66/172 of 19 December 2011 and 68/179 of 18 December 2013 on the protection of migrants and its resolution 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and recalling also chapter X of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and Commission on Population and Development resolutions 2006/2 of 10 May 2006, 2008/1 of 11 April 2008, 2013/1 of 26 April 2013 and 2014/1 of 11 April 2014,

*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and recalling further the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held from 20 to 22 September 2010, and its outcome document and the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, convened by the President of the General Assembly on 25 September 2013, and its outcome document,

*Recalling further* the Second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York on 3 and 4 October 2013, which provided a useful opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and explore the opportunities and the challenges that international migration presents, including the protection of the human rights of migrants and the contribution of migrants to development, as reflected in the summary of its four round tables,

*Recalling* the regional events organized in 2013 in Bangkok from 29 to 31 May, in Cairo on 4 and 5 June, in Addis Ababa on 3 and 4 July and in Santiago on 10 and 11 July, during the preparatory process for the Second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, as well as the preparatory events on international migration and development organized by the President of the General Assembly,

*Recalling also* its resolution 68/309 of 10 September 2014, in which it welcomed the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and decided that the proposal of the Open Working Group contained in the report shall be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda, while recognizing that other inputs will also be considered, in the intergovernmental negotiation process at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

*Recalling* the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth

session as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

*Taking note* of the Secretary-General's eight-point agenda for action, which is aligned with the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, and noting the contribution of civil society,

*Recognizing* the contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to addressing the multidimensional nature of international migration and promoting balanced and comprehensive approaches, and noting the seventh meeting of the Forum, held in Stockholm in May 2014, on the theme "Unlocking the potential of migration for inclusive development",

*Acknowledging* that the Global Forum on Migration and Development has proved to be a valuable forum for holding frank and open discussions and that it has helped to build trust among participating stakeholders through the exchange of experiences and good practices and by virtue of its voluntary, informal State-led character,

*Acknowledging also* the important and complex interrelationship between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the international level, including at the United Nations, in relation to development,

*Recognizing* that remittance flows constitute sources of private capital, complement domestic savings and are instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients, bearing in mind that remittances cannot be considered a substitute for foreign direct investment, official development assistance, debt relief or other public sources of financing for development,

*Reaffirming* that there is a need to further address and promote conditions for cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances in both source and recipient countries and, as appropriate, to encourage opportunities for development-oriented investment in recipient countries by beneficiaries that are willing and able to take such action,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. *Recognizes* that international migration is a multi-dimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, and in this regard recognizes that international migration is a cross-cutting phenomenon that should be addressed in a coherent, comprehensive and balanced manner, integrating development with due regard for social, economic and environmental dimensions and respecting human rights;
3. *Also recognizes* the need to strengthen synergies between international migration and development at all levels, including the global, regional, national and local levels, as appropriate;
4. *Acknowledges* the complexity of migratory flows and that international migration movements also occur within the same geographical regions, and in this context calls for a better understanding of migration patterns across and within regions, regardless of the level of development;
5. *Reaffirms* the need to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all

migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

6. *Expresses concern* about legislation adopted by some States that results in measures and practices that may restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants;

7. *Recognizes* the need for international cooperation to address, in a holistic and comprehensive manner, the challenges of irregular migration to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, with full respect for human rights;

8. *Expresses concern* about the large and growing number of migrants, especially women and children, including those unaccompanied or separated from their parents, who place themselves in a vulnerable situation by attempting to cross international borders without the required travel documents, and recognizes the obligation of States to respect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, especially those of women and children, regardless of their migration status;

9. *Emphasizes* the need to respect and promote international labour standards, as appropriate, and to respect the rights of migrants in their workplaces, including appropriate measures for the protection of women migrant workers in all sectors, including those involved in domestic work;

10. *Notes* the contribution of applicable international conventions, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, to the international system for the protection of migrants;

11. *Recognizes* that it is necessary to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons, especially in the health, social and engineering sectors, affects the development efforts of developing countries, and emphasizes the need to consider circular migration in this regard;

12. *Also recognizes* the importance of enhancing the capacities of low-skilled migrants in order to increase their access to employment opportunities in countries of destination;

13. *Underlines* the important role that migrants play as contributors in the development of origin, transit and destination countries and the need to respect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, and encourages Member States to consider reducing the costs related to migration, such as the fees paid to recruiters, where applicable, lowering the transfer costs of remittances, enhancing the portability of social security entitlements and other acquired rights and promoting the mutual recognition of the educational and professional qualifications and competencies of migrants;

14. *Takes note* of the references to migration and development contained in the report of the Open Working

Group on Sustainable Development Goals, including target 10.c, which reads: “By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent”;

15. *Expresses its concern* about the impact of financial and economic crises and natural disasters on international migration and migrants, and in this regard urges Governments to combat unfair and discriminatory treatment of all migrants, in particular migrant workers and their families;

16. *Recognizes* that women and girls account for almost half of all international migrants at the global level, and also recognizes the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant women and girls by, inter alia, incorporating a gender perspective into policies and strengthening national laws, institutions and programmes to combat gender-based violence, including trafficking in persons and discrimination against women and girls;

17. *Reiterates its commitment* to preventing and combating trafficking in persons, protecting victims of trafficking, preventing and combating migrant smuggling, as well as the activities of transnational and national organized crime entities, and protecting migrants from exploitation and other abuses, stresses the need to establish or upgrade, as appropriate, national and regional anti-human-trafficking policies and to reinforce cooperation on prevention, the prosecution of traffickers and the protection of victims of trafficking, and encourages Member States to ratify, accede to and implement relevant international instruments on preventing and combating trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants;

18. *Recognizes* that the implementation at the national level of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, all of which were adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, remains a challenge, and therefore stresses that it is important for States parties thereto to continue their efforts in this regard;

19. *Encourages* Member States to cooperate on mobility programmes that facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration, including through labour mobility, as well as programmes that allow migrants to integrate fully into society and that facilitate family reunification in accordance with the laws and specific criteria of each Member State;

20. *Recognizes* the need to consider the role that environmental factors may play in migration;

21. *Also recognizes* the need to improve public perceptions of migrants and migration, and in this regard welcomes the efforts undertaken to create greater public awareness of their contributions;

22. *Strongly condemns* the acts, manifestations and expressions of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of religion or belief, and urges States to apply and, where needed, reinforce the existing laws when xenophobic or intolerant acts, manifestations or expressions against migrants occur, in order to eradicate impunity for those who commit those acts;

23. *Acknowledges* the important contribution of migration in realizing the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizes that human mobility is a key factor

for sustainable development which should be adequately considered in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

24. *Recognizes* the importance of coordinated efforts of the international community to assist and support migrants stranded in vulnerable situations and to facilitate, and cooperate on when appropriate, their voluntary return to their country of origin, and calls for practical and action-oriented initiatives aimed at identifying and closing protection gaps;

25. *Underlines* the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship, and recalls that States must ensure that their returning nationals are duly received;

26. *Requests* the 18 members of the Global Migration Group to continue to take steps to strengthen their cooperation, enhance their engagement with Member States and civil society and engage jointly in work at the country level that is in the service of migrants and their families in societies of origin, transit and destination;

27. *Emphasizes* the need for reliable, accurate, disaggregated, nationally relevant and internationally comparable statistical data and indicators on international migration, including, when possible, on the contributions of migrants to development in both countries of origin and countries of destination in order to facilitate the design of evidence-based policymaking and decision-making in all relevant aspects of sustainable development, and in this regard invites the entities of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions, in accordance with their mandates and as appropriate, to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this matter;

28. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, including the International Organization for Migration and other members of the Global Migration Group, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, within their respective mandates, to strengthen their collaboration and cooperation to better and more fully address the issue of international migration and development, in order to adopt a coherent, comprehensive and coordinated approach, and to consider migration issues in their contributions to the preparatory process that will establish the post-2015 development agenda;

29. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the international community in addressing relevant aspects of international migration and development, through different initiatives, both within the United Nations system and in other processes, particularly the Global Forum on Migration and Development and regional processes, as well as in drawing on the expertise of the International Organization for Migration and other member agencies of the Global Migration Group;

30. *Stresses* the need to deepen the interaction between Governments and civil society in order to find responses to the challenges and the opportunities posed by international migration, to recognize the contribution of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to promoting the well-being of migrants and their integration into society, especially at times of conditions of extreme vulnerability, and to strengthen the support of the international community to the efforts of such organizations;

31. *Requests* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development to continue to facilitate the linkages between the United Nations and the Global Forum on Migration and Development, promote collaboration between the Global Forum process and the Global Migration Group, including the International Organization for Migration, and continue to advocate for the principles reflected in the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development;

32. *Decides* to hold the Third High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development by no later than 2019, at United Nations Headquarters, in New York, to review the follow-up to the outcome of the Second High-level Dialogue and to advance the discussion on the multidimensional aspects of international migration, with the date and modalities of the dialogue to be decided upon at its seventy-first session, and also decides to hold such dialogues to continue reviewing the follow-up to previous High-level Dialogues at regular intervals and to determine the periodicity thereof at its seventy-first session, taking into account alignment with all relevant United Nations development review processes;

33. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, including the Global Migration Group, within their respective mandates, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including a gender perspective and cultural diversity, in a more coherent way in the context of the follow-up to the Second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and with respect for human rights;

34. *Decides* to work towards an effective and inclusive agenda on international migration that integrates development and respects human rights by improving the performance of existing institutions and frameworks, as well as partnering more effectively with all stakeholders involved in international migration and development at the regional and global levels;

35. *Invites* the regional commissions, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system and the International Organization for Migration and in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to examine the regional aspects of international migration and development and to provide inputs to the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development to be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution that also looks further into the integration of the migration perspective at the national, regional and international levels, including information on best practices and recommendations to address the difficulties that migrants face and to bolster their contribution to development;

37. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "International migration and development".

## United Nations Population Fund

### Activities

**Executive Board.** The Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) held its first regular session (27–31 January), annual session (23–27 June) and second regular session (2–5 September) [E/2014/35] in New York.

On 27 June [E/2014/35 (dec. 2014/15)], the Executive Board took note of the documents contained in the UNFPA Executive Director's 2013 report [DP/FPA/2014/5 (Part I & Add.1, Part II)] [YUN 2013, pp. 1027–1028]. It requested UNFPA to present to the Board at its second regular session in 2014 an outline of the format and information that would be provided in the annual report 2015, based on the integrated results and resources framework of the strategic plan, including those from the global and regional interventions, which would allow for appropriate tracking of results achieved against expenditures.

**Reports of Executive Director.** In a report [DP/FPA/2015/5 (Part I)] to the Executive Board, the UNFPA Executive Director reviewed progress towards the 2014 results of the UNFPA strategic plan 2014–2017; outlined the progress achieved in implementing General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the UN system [YUN 2012, p. 859], as requested by Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/5 [YUN 2013, p. 837]; and summarized the contribution of the global and regional interventions to the strategic plan results.

In 2014, the focus of UNFPA activities was on adolescents and youth, particularly adolescent girls, including in humanitarian settings, which underscored the importance of maintaining the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) agenda as a global development priority beyond 2014. UNFPA responded to 34 humanitarian crises, including the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and five Level 3 emergencies, in the Central African Republic, Iraq, the Philippines, South Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic. The Fund achieved the results that it set out to deliver in the first year of the strategic plan 2014–2017. Eighty per cent of the outcome indicators were positive compared to baselines and on track towards the 2015 targets. Target achievement was satisfactory for 89 per cent of the indicator targets; for only 3 per cent was the achievement unsatisfactory. The performance of the global and regional interventions, through which global and regional offices contributed to the strategic plan results, was also strong, with satisfactory target achievement for 79 per cent of the output indicator targets. It was not, however,

satisfactory for 21 per cent of the targets. In 2014, the Fund spent \$959.7 million of the integrated budget, including \$61.6 million of the global and regional interventions. In line with the integrated budget, the largest expenditure, 52.3 per cent, went to increasing access to sexual and reproductive health services and reproductive rights. UNFPA addressed the two leading challenges—weakness in programme planning, monitoring and reporting, and limited implementing partner capacity—through implementing programmes in an inclusive, rights-based and culturally sensitive manner, engaging relevant stakeholders including religious parties and civil society actors; applying harmonized approaches with other UN agencies, development partners and civil society organizations; conducting proper environmental scanning; and applying the human rights-based approach to programming and proper advocacy strategies.

An addendum [DP/FPA/2015/5 (Part I/Add.1)] provided a statistical and financial review for 2014. The total UNFPA revenue was \$1,025.1 million, including \$523.3 million in regular resources. Total revenue increased by five per cent to \$48.4 million, which was attributable to an increase in regular resource and other resource revenue of \$27.7 and \$20.7 million, respectively. Gross regular resource contribution revenue increased by \$17.4 million, or 3.8 per cent, from 2013 to 2014.

**JIU recommendations.** The Executive Director reported [DP/FPA/2015/5 (Part II)], on UNFPA management responses to the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU). JIU issued six reports and one note in 2014 that were relevant to UNFPA: analysis of the resource mobilization function in the UN system [JIU/REP/2014/1]; capital/refurbishment/construction projects across the UN system [JIU/REP/2014/3]; Post-Rio+20 review of environmental governance within the UN system [JIU/REP/2014/4]; analysis of the evaluation function in the UN system [JIU/REP/2014/6]; use of non-staff personnel and related contractual modalities in the UN system organizations [JIU/REP/2014/8]; contract management and administration in the UN system [JIU/REP/2014/9]; and use of retirees and staff retained beyond the mandatory age of separation at UN organizations [JIU/NOTE/2014/1]. Out of 61 recommendations made in 2014, 41 were relevant to UNFPA, of which 34 recommendations were addressed to UNFPA management and 7 to the legislative organs. Recommendations relevant to UNFPA issued by JIU in 2013 had been implemented or were being pursued, however, one recommendation was not accepted by UNFPA.

**State of World Population report.** The Fund's *State of World Population 2014* report [Sales No. E.14.III.H.1], entitled "The Power of 1.8 Billion", focused on adolescents, youth and the transformation of the future. It framed investments in youth not solely as responding to the needs of young people, but also as an imperative for sustainable development. Investments

were needed to build institutional capacity, strengthen human capital, pursue economic models that improved employment prospects, and promote inclusive governance and the enjoyment of human rights.

## Development results

**Access to integrated SRH services.** Overall, steady progress was made in increasing the availability and use of integrated sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, including family planning, maternal health and HIV. The proportion of countries in which 95 per cent of service delivery points had the seven life-saving maternal/reproductive health medicines increased from 32 per cent to 44 per cent; and the estimated proportion of countries in which at least 80 per cent of live births were attended by skilled health personnel increased from 53 per cent to 59 per cent. Exceeding the 2015 target of 21, 43 countries increased their annual SRH budget by at least 5 per cent. Through its global and regional interventions, the Fund advocated for expanded access to integrated SRH services. UNFPA co-chaired the Family Planning 2020 Reference Group; backed **resolution 69/148** (see p. 000) on intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula; and provided 42 technical inputs for promoting SRH in the ICPD agenda beyond 2014 and the post-2015 development agenda. At country level, UNFPA strengthened capacity for delivering integrated SRH services by providing financial and technical support, tools and guidance to advocate for and strengthen systems. The Fund continued to lead and scale up the global Campaign to End Fistula, which comprised over 90 international partner agencies and supported over 50 countries to strengthen their national programming and policies. More than 10,175 fistula repair surgeries were conducted in 2014 with UNFPA support.

**Development policies for adolescents.** Adolescents, especially very young adolescent girls, were increasingly prioritized in development policies and programmes in 2014. The number of countries with laws allowing adolescents to access SRH services increased from 74 to 86, surpassing the 2015 target of 78. The proportion of young women aged 15–24 who had correct knowledge about HIV prevention increased from 22 per cent to 23 per cent. For young men, it remained at 32 per cent. At national level, particularly through the UNFPA-led Action for Adolescent Girls initiative, countries were provided with evidence, technical know-how and capacity in evidence-based programming on adolescents and youth. UNFPA advocated in 42 countries to allow adolescents and youth to have legal access to quality SRH counselling and HIV services, surpassing the target of 36 countries. With regard to comprehensive sexuality education, 24 countries aligned their curricula with international standards, bringing to 63 the number of programme countries with such curricula.

**Gender equality and reproductive rights.** The number of countries with a gender action plan covering reproductive rights and supported by a national budget allocation increased from 46 to 64; however, the proportion of countries that took action on all the reproductive rights recommendations accepted by the Universal Periodic Review from the previous cycle dropped from 37 per cent in 2012 to 23 per cent. With a view to the development, dissemination and implementation of multisectoral essential services standards on gender-based violence, the first-ever joint programme between UNFPA and UN-Women was rolled out, and over 23,000 women and girls received prevention, protection and care services related to female genital mutilation. Some 2,021 communities supported by UNFPA declared the abandonment of female genital mutilation, exceeding the target of 1,800. UNFPA supported civil society organizations, including faith-based groups, to engage in promoting reproductive rights and women's empowerment; and led the coordination of gender-based violence services in humanitarian crises. In 2014, 54 per cent of countries affected by humanitarian crises had a functioning inter-agency gender-based violence coordination body, compared to 38 per cent in 2012.

**Population dynamics.** UNFPA made progress in strengthening national policies and international development frameworks through integration of evidence-based analysis. The number of countries that had at least one census whose results were analysed and disseminated according to internationally agreed standards increased from 66 to 104; the number of countries that conducted a national household survey allowing estimation of key population and reproductive health indicators increased from 69 to 101; and the number of countries that completed evaluations on strategic interventions addressing SRH and adolescents and youth increased from 26 to 66. Additionally, 130 national development plans in UNFPA programme countries addressed population dynamics in setting development targets based on population trends and projections. At the global and regional level, UNFPA developed 35 tools, exceeding the target of 2, to reflect key findings on UNFPA priority issues in the post-2015 development agenda. The Fund provided technical support for 39 countries to conduct, analyse and disseminate census data; the population situation analysis was conducted in 31 countries.

### Country and intercountry programmes

UNFPA programme expenditures for country, regional and global activities in 2014 from regular resources totalled \$339.2 million according to the Executive Director's statistical and financial review [DP/FPA/2015/5 (Part I/Add.1)]. That figure was complemented by \$481.0 million from other resources, bringing 2014 expenditures to a total of \$820.2 mil-

lion. The 2014 figure from regular resources included \$277.6 million for country programmes and \$61.6 million for global and regional interventions. The figures for country programmes were complemented by \$344.5 million from other sources, bringing the total for country programmes to \$622.1 million.

**Eastern and Southern Africa.** Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in Eastern and Southern Africa totalled \$183.2 million in 2014. The largest share was spent on increased availability and use of integrated SRH services (69.7 per cent), followed by population dynamics (11.5 per cent) and gender equality and reproductive rights (10.9 per cent).

On 31 January [E/2014/35 (dec. 2014/9)], the Executive Board approved the final country programme document for Namibia. The Executive Board [dec. 2014/23], in June, approved the two-year programme extension for Burundi and, on an exceptional basis, the country programme document for Kenya. It further took note of the first one-year programme extension for Uganda; and the draft country programme documents and comments made for Angola and the Comoros. On 5 September [dec. 2014/29], the Executive Board approved the final country programmes of Angola and the Comoros, and approved the two-year programme extension for Botswana.

**Western and Central Africa.** Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in Western and Central Africa totalled \$158.1 million in 2014. The largest share was spent on increased availability and use of integrated SRH services (66.2 per cent), followed by population dynamics (15.9 per cent) and increased priority on adolescents, especially on very young adolescent girls, in national development policies and programmes (8.2 per cent).

On 27 June [dec. 2014/23], the Executive Board approved the second programme extension, for one year, for Guinea-Bissau, and took note of the first one-year programme extension for Algeria and the draft country programme document and comments made for Sierra Leone. In September [dec. 2014/29], the Executive Board approved the final country programmes of Sierra Leone and Tunisia.

**Arab States.** Provisional data for UNFPA expenditures on programmes in Arab states totalled \$83.4 million in 2014. The largest share was spent on increased availability and use of integrated SRH services (55.2 per cent), followed by gender equality and reproductive rights (26.4 per cent) and population dynamics (10.6 per cent).

In June [dec. 2014/23], the Executive Board took note of the first one-year programme extension for Lebanon and the draft country programme document and comments made for Tunisia. On 5 September [dec. 2014/29], the Executive Board approved the final country programme for Afghanistan and the country programme document for the State of Palestine.

**Asia and the Pacific.** Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in Asia and the Pacific totalled \$160.2 million in 2014. The largest share was spent on increased availability and use of integrated SRH services (39.2 per cent), followed by population dynamics (39.0 per cent) and gender equality and reproductive rights (12.3 per cent).

On 27 June [dec. 2014/23], the Executive Board took note of the draft country programme documents and comments made for Afghanistan and Timor-Leste. On 5 September [dec. 2014/29], the Executive Board approved the final country programme of Timor-Leste.

**Latin America and the Caribbean.** Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes amounted to \$55.0 million in 2014. The largest share was spent on increased availability and use of integrated SRH services (45.5 per cent), followed by increased priority on adolescents, especially on very young adolescent girls, in national development policies and programmes (20.5 per cent) and population dynamics (16.0 per cent).

On 31 January [dec. 2014/9], the Executive Board approved the final country programme document for Mexico. In June [dec. 2014/23], the Executive Board took note of the draft country programme document and comments made for Venezuela. On 5 September, the Executive Board [dec. 2014/29] approved the final country programme for Venezuela and the country programme documents for Ecuador, Guatemala and Paraguay.

**Eastern Europe and Central Asia.** Provisional expenditures for UNFPA programmes in Eastern Europe and Central Asia totalled \$28.0 million in 2014. The largest share was spent on increased availability and use of integrated SRH services (41.1 per cent), followed by population dynamics (22.5 per cent) and gender equality and reproductive rights (17.9 per cent).

On 5 September, the Executive Board approved [dec. 2014/29] the country programme document for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Global programme.** Provisional expenditures for UNFPA global activities totalled \$152.3 million in 2014. Most of that amount was spent on increased availability and use of integrated SRH services (81.2 per cent), followed by gender equality and reproductive rights (6.2 per cent) and population dynamics (5.1 per cent).

## Financial and management questions

### Financing

UNFPA total revenue was \$1,025.1 million in 2014, a \$48.4 million (5.0 per cent) increase over the 2013 figure of \$976.7 million. The revenue from regular resources was \$477.4 million and the gross contribution of other resources was \$529.2 million, summing up total gross contributions of \$1,006.6 million. Total expenses were \$995.6 million.

On 5 September [E/2014/35 (dec. 2014/29)], the Executive Board took note of the updated integrated resource plan for 2014–2017.

### Audit and oversight

On 30 January [dec. 2014/8], the Executive Board took note of the UNFPA report on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the UN Board of Auditors for 2012 [YUN 2013, p. 1030]. It welcomed the progress made by UNDP and UNFPA in addressing the top audit-related priorities in 2012–2013 and requested them to continue to strengthen internal controls and improve oversight and monitoring of country offices, including the timely implementation of outstanding recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and to continue to ensure compliance with policies and procedures for procurement, inventory tracking and bank reconciliation. The Board further encouraged UNDP and UNFPA to prioritize the finalization of the revised framework for the harmonized approach to cash transfers, in coordination with other members of the United Nations Development Group, and to ensure improved oversight when the revised framework was implemented.

In April [DP/FPA/2014/6], the Director of the UNFPA Division for Oversight Services (DOS) reported on internal audit and oversight activities in 2013. During the year, DOS worked on 24 internal audit engagements; and issued 14 internal audit reports and 10 country office internal audit reports. The annual report of the UNFPA Audit Advisory Committee and the management response thereto were contained in an addendum [DP/FPA/2014/6/Add.1]. A separate comprehensive management response was made available on the UNFPA website. On 27 June [dec. 2014/21], the Executive Board took note of the reports and the corresponding management response; and encouraged UNFPA to develop and implement effective risk management policies to ensure effective delivery of the strategic plan.

On 27 June [dec. 2014/18], the Executive requested UNFPA to review and update its oversight policy, and to present, for consideration and approval by the Executive Board, that revised oversight policy at the Board's first regular session in 2015. It further requested the Executive Director of UNFPA to keep the Board informed on progress made.

**Other reports.** Other documents issued in 2014 included a report of the UN Board of Auditors on UNFPA financial statements for 2013 [A/69/5/Add.8] and UNFPA follow up to that report of the Board of Auditors [DP/FPA/2015/3].

### Evaluation

The UNFPA transitional biennial budgeted evaluation plan, 2014–2015 [DP/FPA/2014/2], which was aligned with the revised UNFPA evaluation policy

approved by the Executive Board in decision 2013/21 [YUN 2013, p. 1031], and with General Assembly resolution 67/226 [YUN 2012, p. 859], encompassed both corporate evaluations, which included thematic and independent country programme evaluations, and programme-level evaluations. It also presented the resources allocated to evaluation that were incorporated in the UNFPA integrated budget estimates, 2014–2017, which the Executive Board approved in decision 2013/32 [YUN 2013, p. 1030]. The report further proposed topics for consideration in the evaluation plan, 2016–2017, including evaluation of the contribution of regionalization to UNFPA corporate and development results, 2009–2014; and evaluation of the Global Programme to Enhance Reproductive Health Commodity Security, 2013–2020.

On 30 January [dec. 2014/5], the Executive Board approved the UNFPA transitional biennial budgeted evaluation plan, 2014–2015, and invited UNFPA to hold discussions with the Executive Board on areas to be evaluated in 2016–2017, taking into account the topics as set out in the report.

In response to Executive Board decision 2013/31, in May UNFPA submitted the strategic framework for UNFPA global and regional interventions, 2014–2017 [DP/FPA/2014/8]. It presented the accountability mechanism, governance structure and strategic vision; outlined the linkages with the integrated results framework of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2014–2017; and included projected resources by outcome, disaggregated at the global and regional levels. An addendum [DP/FPA/2014/8/Add.1] provided results and resources frameworks for UNFPA global and regional interventions, 2014–2017.

On 27 June [dec. 2014/16], the Executive Board approved the strategic framework and endorsed the results and resources framework. It endorsed the proposal of UNFPA to conduct in 2016 an independent evaluation of the global and regional interventions; encouraged UNFPA to coordinate the evaluation; and requested that UNFPA ensure an appropriate and timely follow-up to relevant findings. It further requested that UNFPA report annually on the global and regional interventions as part of the annual report of the Executive Director, summarizing the contributions of the results and resources of the global and regional interventions to the achievements under the strategic plan, 2014–2017.

In April, the Director of the Evaluation Office [DP/FPA/2014/7] presented the annual report of evaluation, reviewing the evaluation function at UNFPA for the 2012–2013 biennium. The report contained information on human and financial resources dedicated to evaluation at UNFPA; progress made to build evaluation capacity within the organization; key findings and lessons learned from corporate evaluations finalized in 2012–2013; and actions undertaken to facilitate the use of evaluation at UNFPA.

On 27 June [dec. 2014/17], the Executive Board took note of the report on evaluation and requested the UNFPA Evaluation Office to include in the report information on the implementation of the evaluation policy and the biennial budgeted evaluation plan, 2014–2015. It requested UNFPA to report on progress in addressing key issues and challenges in evaluation in the report, and on follow-up to management responses to corporate and programme-level evaluations. The Executive Board further urged UNFPA to ensure that management responses addressed evaluation findings and recommendations in a timely manner, with a view to improving programme performance, effectiveness and efficiency.

### *Ethics Office*

A March report [DP/FPA/2014/4] of the UNFPA Ethics Office reviewed the Office's activities in 2013, described trends in the mandated areas of its work, and assessed actions taken and progress made in addressing the key recommendations that were made to management in the 2012 annual report [YUN 2013, p. 1031].

On 27 June [dec. 2014/22], the Executive Board welcomed the report of the UNFPA Ethics Office and urged UNFPA management to continue its efforts to allocate sufficient resources to the ethics function.

### *Other financial and administrative issues*

In a May report [DP/FPA/2014/9], UNFPA submitted to the Executive Board the proposed revisions to the financial regulations and rules to become effective 1 July 2014. In addition to a robust internal review by UNFPA management, the proposed revisions had been thoroughly reviewed and discussed with the UNFPA Legal Office and UNFPA Office of Audit and Investigation Services. The Executive Board also had before it the report of the Advisory Committee on Administration and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) on the proposed revisions to the UNFPA financial regulations and rules.

On 27 June [dec. 2014/19], the Executive Board endorsed the recommendations contained in the ACABQ report; approved the revisions of the financial regulations subject to the provisions listed in that decision, and took note of the changes to the financial rules and that the revised financial regulations and rules would become effective 1 July 2014.

The UNFPA Executive Director in July [DP/FPA/2014/15] reported on contributions by Member States and others to UNFPA and revenue projections for 2014 and future years. In 2013, UNFPA contribution revenue for regular and co-financing resources was \$957.9 million, a decrease of 0.6 per cent over 2012. The breakdown of that total revenue was \$460.0 million in voluntary contributions to regular resources and \$497.8 million to co-financing resources. Compared with 2012, the increase in contributions for

regular resources in 2013 was \$22.5 million, or 5.1 per cent, and for co-financing, there was a decrease in contributions of \$27.8 million, or 5.3 per cent.

On 5 September [dec. 2014/25], the Executive Board took note of the report; requested UNFPA to continue to improve its effectiveness and efficiency, including through the reduction of management costs; and encouraged all Member States to increase their contributions to regular resources. It further requested UNFPA to continue to explore incentives, mechanisms and funding windows to broaden the donor base and to support donors to increase their core contributions; and to present a resource mobilization strategy toward that end at the second regular session of the Executive Board in 2015. It encouraged UNFPA, in the context of the planned review of the new cost-recovery methodology and the related rates in 2016, to propose adjustments that might strengthen incentives for providing more predictable and less restricted/earmarked core and non-core funding; and decided to organize a structured dialogue with Member States to monitor and follow up on the predictability, flexibility and alignment of resources provided for implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2014–2017, including information on funding gaps.

A July report [DP-FPA-OPS/2014/1] of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on joint procurement activities presented key findings and outcomes from common procurement work conducted in 2013 and set out the initiatives under way in 2014.

On 5 September [dec. 2014/27]), the Executive Board welcomed the report; requested UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to further improve the monitoring of joint procurement activities; to report on the implementation of the UN model framework for vendor sanctions; and to enhance the analysis in future reports, including quantified information on efficiency gains, lessons learned, challenges in pursuing a collaborative approach and how they were being addressed.

#### *Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS*

A July report [DP/2014/24-DP/FPA/2014/16 & Corr.1] prepared jointly by UNDP and UNFPA addressed the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). Issues of particular relevance to UNDP and UNFPA included the AIDS response in the post-2015 development agenda; a thematic segment on HIV, adolescents and youth; and the Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework and 2014–2015 budget of UNAIDS. The report stated that, despite considerable progress, AIDS was far from vanquished, and gains were reversible. Accelerated efforts were needed to achieve Millennium Development Goal 6 of halting and reversing the spread of HIV and reaching the targets of the UN Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS

[YUN 2011, p. 1135]. UNDP, UNFPA and partners needed to step up the pace and sharpen the focus of HIV response. Continued dedicated action was required on the strategic vision of UNAIDS, concentrating on high-impact countries, and within countries, on key populations and underserved groups.

On 5 September [dec. 2014/29], the Executive Board took note of the report.

#### **United Nations Population Award**

The 2014 United Nations Population Award was presented to Father Aldo Marchesini of Italy in the individual category and the non-governmental organization Jhpiego (originally known as the Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Gynaecology and Obstetrics) of the United States of America in the institutional category.

The Award was established by General Assembly resolution 36/201 [YUN 1981, p. 792], to be presented annually to individuals and institutions, or any combination thereof, for the most outstanding contributions to increasing awareness of population questions and to their solutions. In July [A/69/129], the Secretary-General transmitted to the Assembly the report of the UNFPA Executive Director on the Population Award.

#### **Other population activities**

##### **UN Population Division**

The Secretary-General's report [E/CN.9/2015/6] on programme implementation and progress of work of the United Nations Population Division in 2014 described the Division's activities on the analysis of fertility, population policies and international migration; preparation of world population estimates and projections; analysis of mortality; interrelations between population and development; and the monitoring and dissemination of population information. The report also covered other major activities carried out by the Division, including the substantive servicing of intergovernmental bodies, preparation of parliamentary documentation and technical publications, organization of expert meetings and dissemination of results, mainly through the Internet.

In the area of fertility and family planning, the Population Division issued *World Contraceptive Use 2014*, a comprehensive data set on family planning indicators for 194 countries or areas. The data set filled some of the gaps in empirical data on family planning, including on the prevalence of specific methods and on the unmet need for family planning. A concise analysis of fertility was presented in the *World Fertility Report 2013*, which focused on fertility at the

extremes: countries where fertility levels were relatively high (more than 3.2 children per woman) and countries where levels were relatively low (2.0 children per woman or fewer). The report highlighted the different pathways countries had taken that resulted in extreme levels of fertility, how key correlates of fertility had changed over time and the policy approaches of countries with extreme fertility levels.

In the area of population policies, the Population Division launched the United Nations Eleventh Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development, which was to be completed in 2015. It recorded government views and policies on key aspects of population and development; and provided a tool for documenting how such views and policies had changed over time. The Division published a report entitled “Abortion Policies and Reproductive Health around the World”, which provided up-to-date information on government policies on abortion and related reproductive health issues for all Member, Observer and non-member States of the United Nations, and discussed changes between 1996 and 2013 in the legal grounds on which induced abortion was permitted in each country. The Division also published a policy brief on that topic using information from the 2013 revision of the World Population Policies Database [YUN 2013, p. 1033]. Among the key findings was that, although a growing number of countries around the world had expanded the legal grounds for abortion, abortion policies in many countries continued to be restrictive.

In response to General Assembly resolution 67/219 [YUN 2012, p. 1029], the Population Division prepared the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development (see p. 000). It hosted two retreats of the Global Migration Group related to international migration, migrants and mobility for the post-2015 development agenda; and continued to maintain and update the global migration database, which included over 4,800 data tables available for over 91 per cent of all countries and areas of the world.

In the field of world population estimates and projections, the Population Division issued *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 Revision*, which showed that 54 per cent of the world’s population resided in urban areas in 2014. The most urbanized regions included northern America (82 per cent living in urban areas in 2014), Latin America and the Caribbean (80 per cent) and Europe (73 per cent). In contrast, Africa and Asia remained mostly rural, with 40 and 48 per cent of their respective populations living in urban areas.

Regarding health and mortality, the Population Division produced several studies related to adult mortality, including mortality at older ages; contributed to the work of the Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation; continued to collaborate in the

Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group; conducted research on the use of sibling histories from surveys to derive maternal mortality estimates; and produced a technical paper entitled “The impact of including reports from male respondents on estimates of maternal mortality from demographic and health surveys”.

In the field of population and development, the Population Division published a wall chart on population and development in small island developing States, in anticipation of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (see p. 000). In the area of urbanization, the Division produced a new version of the estimates of the *Urban and Rural Population by Age and Sex* for the period 1980–2015 for all countries of the world with a population of 300,000 inhabitants or more in 2014, which was available in CD-ROM and as an interactive database online. The Division continued its work in updating its databases and analyses in the area of population ageing. It released a new database entitled “Population ageing and development 2014”, which contained time-series indicators on population ageing and development, including population size and age structure, fertility, health and mortality, socioeconomic indicators and government views and policies related to ageing.

In relation to the interrelations between population and the environment and the international attention to sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda, the Population Division released the “Population and development” database, which included 62 variables dealing with population dynamics, labour force, education, health, economic growth, social development, natural resources and the environment.

Regarding monitoring, coordination and dissemination of population information, the Population Division prepared the reports for the forty-seventh session of the Commission on Population and Development (see p. 000), including the biennial report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends (see p. 000); the report of the Secretary-General on the framework of action for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) beyond 2014 (see p. 000); an index report indicating recurrent themes and key elements identified during the sessions of the Commission, which was transmitted for consideration at the twenty-ninth special session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to ICPD beyond 2014 (see p. 000).

The Population Division organized the Twelfth Coordination Meeting on International Migration (New York, 21–22 February) (see p. 000), which focused on the follow-up to and implementation of the Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue

on International Migration and Development [YUN 2013, p. 1025], and of the eight-point agenda for action of the Secretary-General [ibid., p. 1024]. The Division also participated in the twenty-fourth session of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (see p. 000) and in the meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Millennium Development Goals Indicators (Geneva, 7–9 October) to assess progress towards Goal 5 on improving maternal health, including target 5.B on reproductive health. The Division updated and expanded its website to provide timely access to population information, including through the newly released Population Policy Database; and promoted content via social media channels.

In the area of technical cooperation, the Population Division, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, provided technical support to the Government of Uruguay at the request of the Office of Planning and Budget. In collaboration with the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Economic Commission for Africa, the Population Division convened a workshop on “Strengthening the collection and use of international migration data for development” in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in November, which served to enhance the capacity of 40 participants from 13 countries of sub-Saharan Africa to produce national migration data and use the data for policy purposes.

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