

**Asian and African Parliamentarians' Capacity Development
on the Integration of Population Issues
into National Development Frameworks - Part II**

10-13 February 2014
Uganda



The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OPENING CEREMONY	11
<i>Master of Ceremony</i>	
Hon. Kasamba Mathias Member of Parliament, Uganda	13
<i>Remarks</i>	
Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi President of APF; Chair of UPPFSP&D, Uganda	15
<i>Remarks</i>	
Hon. Emiko Takagai Representative of JPFP, Japan	17
<i>Official Opening</i>	
Rt. H.E. Rebecca Kadaga Alitwaala Speaker of the Parliament, Uganda.....	19
<i>Remarks</i>	
Ms. Esperance Fundira Representative of UNFPA Uganda	
<i>Read by Mr. Tapiwa Jhamba</i> UN Joint Programme on Population at UNFPA, Uganda.....	21
SESSION 1 <i>Assessment of the Global Population Trends: Continental Perspectives in Addressing Population Issues.</i>	23
<i>“Population of Europe: dynamics and prospects”</i>	
Hon. Florian Bodog Senator, Romania.....	25
<i>“Assessment of the Global Population Trends: Continental Perspectives in Addressing Population Issues”</i>	
Hon. Dr. Ram Prakash Member of Parliament, India	29
<i>“Working with Members of Parliament”</i>	
Mr. Peter Ibembe Director of Programmes, Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU), Uganda	33
<i>Discussion</i>	
Chair: H.E. Gabriel Ntisezerana Speaker of the Parliament, Brundi.....	35
SESSION 2 Best Practice/Lessons Learned for Population Programme Implementation.....	43
<i>“The Population Programme in the context of Champions in Uganda”</i>	
Dr. Betty Kyaddondo Head of Family Health Department, Population Secretariat, Uganda	45
<i>“Assessment of the Global Population Trends: Continental Perspectives in Addressing Population Issues”</i>	
Dr. Jotham Musinguzi Regional Director, Partners in Population and Development- Africa Regional Office (PPD-ARO), Uganda.....	49
<i>“Best Practice for Population Programme Implementation by UNFPA” Uganda</i>	
Ms. Florence Tagoola Team Leader - Population and Development of UNFPA, Uganda	55
<i>Discussion</i>	
Chair: Hon. Kwasi Agyemang Gyan-Tutu Member of Parliament, Ghana	57
SESSION 3 Legislation and Policies for Population Programme	61
<i>“Legislation and Policies for Population Programme in Lao PDR”</i>	
Hon. Vonekham Phethavong Member of Parliament, Lao PDR	63
<i>“Population: Legislation and policies in Zambia”</i>	
Hon. Boniface Mutale Member of Parliament, Zambia	65
<i>Discussion</i>	
Chair: Hon. Helen Kuyembah Member of Parliament, Sierra Leone.....	69

SESSION 4 Impact of IT, Technology, Accountability, Transparency, and Good Governance.....	73
Mr. Arindam Chackrabarte Project Manager of Airtel Uganda.....	75
<i>Discussion</i>	
Chair: Hon. Kasamba Mathias Member of Parliament, Uganda.....	81
SESSION 5 Field Visit Observation and Integration of Population Issues into the Post-2015	
Development Agenda.....	87
Hon. Tissa Karalliyadde Minister of Child Development and Women’s Affairs, Sri Lanka.....	89
Hon. Antonio Tinio Member of Parliament, Philippines.....	93
Hon. Paul Chibingu MP; Chair of Parliamentary Committee on Health and Population, Malawi	97
.....	97
Hon. Nyakikongoro Rosemary Member of Parliament, Uganda.....	101
<i>Discussion</i>	
Chair: Hon. Fidelis Molao Member of Parliament, Botswana.....	105
SESSION 6 Discussion for the Adoption of the Draft Statement.....	109
<i>Discussion for the Adoption of the Draft Statement</i>	
Chair: Hon. Fredrick Outa Member of Parliament, Kenya.....	111
CLOSING CEREMONY.....	113
<i>Address</i>	
Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi President of APF; Chair of UPFFSP&D, Uganda.....	115
<i>Address</i>	
Ms. Junko Sasaki Director of the UNFPA Tokyo Office, Japan.....	117
<i>Address</i>	
Mr. Sam Ntelamo Resident Representative to the African Union & ECA IPPF Liaison Office ..	119
<i>On behalf of Mr. Tewodros Melesse</i>	
Director-General of IPPF.....	119
<i>Address</i>	
Hon. Teruhiko Mashiko Member of Parliament; Executive Director of JPFP, Japan.....	121
<i>Official Closing Address</i>	
Hon. Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye Minister of State for Health, Uganda.....	123
“Asian and African Parliamentarians’ Capacity Development on the Integration of Population Issues	
into National Development Frameworks”-Part II Statement.....	127
List of Participants.....	129

Notice:

*This provides a summary of the “Asian and African Parliamentarians’ Capacity Development on the Integration of Population Issues into the National Development Frameworks - Part II”.
APDA is fully responsible for the text and contents.*



UPFFSP&D

Asian and African Parliamentarians' Capacity Development on the Integration of Population Issues into National Development Frameworks - Part II

PROGRAMME

10-13 February 2014
Uganda

9 February 2014	
	Arrival of Delegates
Day 1 : 10 February 2014 Study Visit	
07:50	Meet at the Lobby of Hotel
08:00	Depart from Hotel & Travel
09:00-11:00	Site Visit to Uganda Industrial Research Institute- Nakawa (Industrialization component-JICA)
11:00-12:00	Depart from Venue & Travel
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13:00-15:00	Site Visit to the source of the Nile
15:00-15:30	Depart from Venue & Travel
15:30-16:00	Site Visit to Nile Vocational Institute (Skills Development for the Young Population) Jinja
16:00	Depart from Venue & Travel
17:30	Arrive at the Hotel
	Dinner (Location: "The Citadel", Ground Floor)
Day 2 : 11 February 2014 Meeting Venue: Kalangala Hall, 1 st Floor, Hotel Lake Victoria Serena Resort	
Opening Ceremony	
07:45-8:00	Registration (In front of Kalangala Hall, 1 st Floor)
08:00-09:30	<p>Remarks</p> <p>Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, MP; President of African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (APFPD); Chair of UPFFSP&D, Uganda</p> <p>Hon. Emiko Takagai, Representative of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JFPF), Japan</p>

	<p>Mr. Tapiwa Jhamba, Coordinator of UN Joint Programme on Population at UNFPA, Uganda</p> <p>Official Opening Rt. H.E. Rebecca Kadaga Alitwaala, Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda</p>
09:30-10:30	Group Photo & Coffee Break (Location: 1st Floor)
Session 1: Assessment of the Global Population Trends: Continental Perspectives in Addressing Population Issues	
10:30-11:30	<p>Hon. Florian Bodog, MP, Romania <i>"Population of Europe: dynamics and prospects"</i></p> <p>Hon. Ram Prakash, MP, India <i>"Assessment of the Global Population Trends: Continental Perspectives in Addressing Population Issues"</i></p> <p>Dr. Peter J. Ibembe, Director of Programmes, Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU), Uganda <i>"Working with Members of Parliament"</i></p>
11:30-12:00	Discussion Session Chair: H.E. Gabriel Ntizezerana , Speaker, Senate of Burundi
12:00-13:00	Lunch (Location: "The Citadel", Ground Floor)
Session 2: Best Practice/Lessons Learned for Population Programme Implementation	
13:00-13:40	<p>Dr. Betty Kyaddondo, Head of Family Health Department, Population Secretariat, Uganda <i>"The Population Programme in the context of Champions in Uganda"</i></p> <p>Dr. Jotham Musinguzi, Regional Director, Partners in Population and Development- Africa Regional Office (PPD-ARO) <i>"Assessment of the Global Population Trends: Continental Perspectives in Addressing Population Issues"</i></p> <p>Ms. Florence Tagoola, Team Leader - Population and Development of UNFPA, Uganda <i>"Best Practice for Population Programme Implementation by UNFPA Uganda"</i></p>
13:40-14:30	Discussion Session Chair: Hon. Kwasi Agyemang Gyan-Tutu , MP, Ghana
Session 3: Legislation and Policies for Population Programme	
14:30-15:30	<p>Hon. Vonekham Phethavong, MP, LAPPD <i>"Legislation and Policies for Population Programme in Lao PDR"</i></p> <p>Hon. Boniface Mutale, MP, Zambia <i>"Population: Legislation and Policies in Zambia"</i></p>
15:30-16:00	Discussion Session Chair: Hon. Helen Kuyembeh , MP, Sierra Leone
16:00-16:20	Coffee Break (Location: 1 st Floor)

Session 4: Impact of IT Technology: Accountability, Transparency and Good Governance	
16:20-16:50	Mr. Arindam Chakrabarty , Project Manager of Airtel Uganda
16:50-17:20	Discussion Session Chair: Hon. Kasamba Mathias , MP, Uganda
19:00-	Dinner Reception hosted by Airtel Uganda (Venue: "South-East Asian Fusion Restaurant" 1 st Floor)
Day 3 : 12 February 2014 Study Visit	
07:50	Meet at the Lobby
08:00	Depart from Hotel & Travel
08:30-10:00	Site Visit to Mulago Hospital (Fistula Unit)
10:00-10:15	Depart from Venue & Travel
10:15-11:20	Site Visit to Reproductive Health Uganda
11:20-11:30	Depart from Venue & Travel
11:30-12:30	Site Visit to Naguru Teenage Centre
12:30-13:00	Depart from Venue and Travel
13:00-14:20	Visit to the Parliament of Uganda and Lunch
14:20-14:40	Depart from Venue & Travel
14:40-15:40	Site Visit to NERICA Project, NARO Namulonge
15:40-17:30	Depart from Venue & Travel
17:30	Arrive at the Hotel
19:00-	Dinner Reception hosted by UNFPA Uganda (Venue: "South-East Asian Fusion Restaurant", Hotel Lake Victoria Serena Resort)
Day 4 : 13 February 2014 Meeting Venue: Kalangala Hall, 1 st Floor, Hotel Lake Victoria Serena Resort	
Session 5: Field Visit Observation and Integration of Population Issues into the Post-2015 Development Agenda	
09:00-10:00	Hon. Tissa Karalliyadde , Minister of Child Development and Women Affairs, Sri Lanka Hon. Dante Antonio Tinio , MP, Philippines Hon. Paul Chibingu , MP; Chair for Parliamentary Health and Population Committee, Malawi Hon. Nyakikongoro Rosemary , MP, Uganda

10:00-10:30	Discussion Session Chair: Hon. Fidelis Molao , MP, Botswana
Session 6: Discussion for the Adoption of the Draft Statement	
10:30-11:30	Discussion for the adoption of the Statement Chair: Hon. Fredrick Outa , MP, Kenya
11:30-11:45	Conference Evaluation Form
11:45-12:15	Coffee Break and formatting of the Statement (Location: 1 st Floor)
Closing Ceremony	
12:15-13:00	Address Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi , MP, President of African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (APFPD); Chair of UPPFSP&D, Uganda Ms. Junko Sasaki , Director of UNFPA Tokyo Office Mr. Sam Ntelamo , Resident Representative to the African Union & ECA IPPF Liaison Office On behalf of Mr. Tewodros Melesse , IPPF Director-General Hon. Teruhiko Mashiko , MP; Executive Director of JFPF, Japan Official Closing by Hon. Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye , Minister of State for Health
13:00-	Lunch (Location: "The Citadel", Ground Floor)
19:00	Dinner Reception hosted by Hon. Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye, Minister of State for Health (Venue: Hotel Africana)
14 February 2014	
	Departure of Delegates

Co-host by:
Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)
Ugandan Parliamentarians Forum of Food Security, Population and Development (UPPFSP&D)

Supporting Organizations:
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)
Airtel Uganda

Supported by:
Japan Trust Fund (JTF)

OPENING CEREMONY

Master of Ceremony

Hon. Kasamba Mathias

Member of Parliament, Uganda

Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen. We now open the Asian and African Parliamentarians' Capacity Development on the Integration of Population Issues into National Development Frameworks - Part II.

We are very much honoured for your presence on this occasion, and we express our appreciation to the support extended from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and Japan Trust Fund (JTF). We would like to call upon Honourable Chris Baryomunsi, Chair of Ugandan Parliamentarians Forum of Food Security,

Population and Development (UPFSP&D). He happens also to be President of the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (APF) and he has been behind as parliamentarians in organizing this project, in partnership with the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), in hosting this conference. We thank the entire team for their support which they offered.

I would like to invite Honourable Dr. Baryomunsi to give his opening remarks. Thank you.

Remarks

Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi

President of APF; Chair of UPPFSP&D, Uganda

The Right Honourable Rebecca Kadaga, the Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda, the Right Honourable Gabriel Ntisezerana, the President of the Senate of Burundi, Honourable Tissa Karalliyadde, Minister in charge of Child Development and Women Affairs of Sri Lanka, distinguished colleagues, Members of Parliament from the various countries represented here, the representatives of UNFPA, IPPF, APDA, the technical staff with us here, ladies and gentlemen.

I would like to welcome the Chief Guest this morning, and want to thank her sincerely for finding time, especially after we adjusted the programme, instead of opening this meeting. Yesterday we had to push the opening to today, and she has told me she has very little time, and because of that, I will cut short my remarks in order to enable her to give her remarks with time, to catch up with the other programmes, which were already set. But I want to thank you, Madame Speaker for finding time but also for having a passion for population and development issues.

I would like on behalf of the Members of Parliament of Uganda, particularly the Uganda Parliamentarians Forum on Food Security, Population and Development (UPPFSP&D) to welcome all of you, distinguished delegates from our various countries, those from Asia, Africa and we also have a friend from Romania who is representing the European Parliamentary Forum. I want to welcome you and ask you to feel at home and feel free while in Uganda. I know that some of you have come to Africa, to Uganda for the first time. I hope that you are having the right impressions. Yesterday we had a long day where we visited some of the institutions in Kampala and in Jinja. I want to say welcome and feel at home.

I want to thank the Government of Japan, who supports this project and the presence of Japanese Ambassador to Uganda. And I want to thank and appreciate APDA, UNFPA, IPPF, the Ugandan Parliament and all of you who have contributed towards the success of this meeting.

Our Chief Guest this meeting brings together Members of Parliament from some African countries, and also some Asian countries. We always meet every year to discuss and reflect on issues of population and development. The last meeting was held in Cambodia, and the decision was taken that Uganda would host the next meeting. That is why we are here to discuss issues of population and development, to learn from each other, to see how far we have gone.

I know countries in Asia have made a lot of progress in terms of addressing issues of population. Countries in Africa are also making lots of strides and making a lot of progress. I think countries share a lot in common, and we have a lot to learn from each other. I hope the Honourable members of Parliament who were on the team yesterday that visited some of the institutions in Uganda to see what we are doing particularly to give skills to young people. I am sure there was something to learn from what we are doing.

The purpose of this meeting is, as Members of Parliament, to meet and reflect on the question of population and draw a nexus between population growth and sustainable development, and see how we can learn from each other. I am sure that Africa and Asia have a lot in common. It is very important that, as Members of Parliament, we meet at this time, especially when we are about to evaluate the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and when we also come to the end of the ICPD Programme of Action, and most important, when we are reflecting on the Post-2015 agenda. I think as Members of Parliament that we participate in all these processes and see how they shape the future of our countries.

Population growth and development remain key issues, and we have a duty as Members of Parliament to influence what happens in our countries. We do hope that the discussions which we are having will help initiate the future of our countries in the various continents.

I want to once again to thank you very much, and

say that in Uganda, we have UPFFSP&D, which was formed immediately after ICPD. We have achieved a lot of progress, some of which we shall be discussed in the course of our meeting. But also I want to thank the Right Honourable Speaker, as our patron of the Forum, for giving us a lot of support.

If you check the activities of parliamentary networks at the Fora of the various countries, I think that Uganda is trying our best to pass private member's bills, to scrutinize the legislations, to ensure that adequate resources allocated in maternal health, sexual and reproductive health (SRH) issues and other population and development programmes, but also to oversee the work of government in the issues of reproductive health (RH), family planning, gender issues and other population issues, on behalf of the people whom we represent.

I also want to say that as Members of Parliament from Africa, we have formed the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (AFP) and I was elected as President of this forum. One of the tasks which we are heading for sure is that every country in Africa has a forum.

We shall be having a global meeting on population and development in Sweden in May this year, and we do hope that all the countries shall be represented, that we can have a common position as parliamentarians, that will be fed into the Post-2015 agenda. All of you are invited and you are welcome.

With those few remarks, I want to say thank you

once again, welcome you to Uganda. I hope that the delegates coming from outside Uganda will have time to explore our sights outside of Kampala. There are very many things that will interest you, and so that this will not be the first time and the last time for you in Kampala. I hope that you will find the time to come back. In a few states we have mountain gorillas and for your information I am the one who represents the gorillas in the parliament of Uganda. So it would be very important for you to see some of these tourist attractions in Uganda.

Thank you very much, and you are welcome to Uganda.

MC:

Thank you very much, Dr. Chris, for those good opening remarks. I would like at this juncture to welcome most sincerely and appreciate the presence of Honourable Emiko Takagai, Representative of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP). Japan has been behind population issues for quite a long time. We very much sympathize for the long delays you had in your coming to Uganda because of the snow which affected your flight and travels to Uganda. We apologize for those climatic situations which affected your coming to Uganda, but we look forward that your stay here will be most comfortable and you are most welcome, we greatly appreciate your coming to Uganda. I invite you to address and offer your opening remarks. Madame, Emiko Takagai, you are most welcome.

Remarks

Hon. Emiko Takagai
Representative of JPPF, Japan

I am truly grateful for your participation at the Asian and African Parliamentarians' Capacity Development on the Integration of Population Issues into National Development Frameworks – Part II, co-organized by JPPF-APDA and UPFFSP&D. I have the honour to address you as a representative of JPPF.

As many of you must know, the activities of parliamentarians on population and sustainable development were initiated in Japan in 1974 with the establishment of JPPF, the world's first all-party parliamentary federation addressing the issues of population. Through its activities, the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) and the Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (IAPG) were established in 1982.

The International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ICPPD), which was held in Cairo, Egypt in 1994 in conjunction with the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), was instrumental, as many of you will recall, in the establishment of the Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAAPPD) in 1997. It was a great achievement when through the activities of FAAPPD, the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (APF) was in turn established to grapple with population issues in the African region.

In its official name our host, UPFFSP&D, the Ugandan Parliamentarians Forum of Food Security, Population and Development, includes the words "Food Security". Needless to say, population and food security are deeply related because the most basic need in every community is to prevent hunger. "No child should be born just to die of hunger" - these were the words of the late Honourable Takashi Sato, who established and served as the first Chair of AFPPD, the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, and who also founded APDA. In this regard, the activities of parliamentarians in Uganda share a sense of urgency with us on these issues.

The involvement of parliamentarians in population and development began with the strong conviction that the mission of elected representatives of the people must be to build a society in which all children can live decent lives with dignity as human beings. It is most heartening that we share the same vision.

As elected representative of our people, we are committed to ensuring their welfare by enacting necessary laws. As their representatives, we have the duty to communicate their wishes to our governments and international organizations, as well as to inform them in turn of various matters and developments.

Resolving population issues is a necessary condition for sustainable development, which of course includes food security. The issue of population, however, is not something that can be forced on people. This gives parliamentarians a special duty to be involved. Resolution of the population issue requires the understanding of its significance by the people themselves and their own voluntary involvement. This underscores the importance of the special role that parliamentarians, as elected representatives of the people, are required to play.

The funding for this conference comes from the Japan Trust Fund (JTF) accredited to UNFPA, a contribution of the Government of Japan to address global population challenges through networking of parliamentarians.

What then are the roles expected of us? And what does parliamentary cooperation mean for us? Some of the concrete activities parliamentarians should be involved in with regard to population include such important matters as follows:

- 1) Communicating the importance of promoting reproductive health including family planning in order to create healthy and happy families
- 2) Communicating to governments and international organizations measures that are acceptable to their citizens

- 3) Earmarking national budgets for this purpose, and
- 4) Passing necessary acts and laws.

As legislators, in addition to the above, we have a role in monitoring the activities of our governments and executive bodies, through our engagement in setting budgets and ensuring accountability. In that sense, it is extremely important to know what sort of programmes are conducted in the field of population and health, and what accomplishments have been made, just as is the purpose of the current programme.

Unless we have such knowledge we will not be able to explain the results to our constituents, nor live up to our obligation of accountability. Our meeting on this occasion is collaboration between African, Asian European countries and Japan. What does this mean?

Networking among parliamentarians helps us to understand the circumstances in other regions beyond our own. Sharing such information enables parliamentarians in donor countries to understand the circumstances in recipient communities and to communicate this knowledge in turn to our voters. These exchanges will help parliamentarians in receiving countries to understand how developed countries are providing assistance out of their tight budgets.

The sharing of information and experience enables mutual understanding of the issues we should be tackling together and helps us in the development of common objectives. These things are absolutely necessary in building a foundation for the further promotion of international

cooperation. For a start, we can begin to see a response to the current population problems of the world if we can prevent unwanted pregnancies. No one would oppose this.

Through these activities we will make ourselves more accountable and as a result win the support of our voters both in the developing and developed countries, and convince our governments and international organizations of the importance of the population issue, thereby improving the health and welfare of all our citizens and realizing a responsible choice for our common future.

I am confident that this 4-day programme will mark a sure step forward in achieving concrete results of our activities as parliamentarians.

MC:

Thank you so much, Honourable Emiko Takagai, for that very enriching submission, we thank Japan for the historical push and support in this matter.

Due to the time constraint the Right Honourable Speaker has, we have agreed that the UNFPA representative will make his submission at a later stage and as I recognize the Speaker of Burundi with us and he will be chairing this session, immediately after break. Right Honourable Speaker, these people before you are so anxious to hear from you words of wisdom, and we are very proud as Ugandans, as our Speaker for the struggles you have championed as far as issues in population are concerned. I hereby invite you to address and officially open this congregation. I thank you.

Official Opening

Rt. H.E. Rebecca Kadaga Alitwaala

Speaker of the Parliament, Uganda

It is my pleasure to address you all and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Uganda. I thank all the organizations of this very important and high level meeting. Most thanks go to APDA, JPPF, UPPFSP&D, UNFPA, IPPF, the Japanese Government and all Development Partners who have cooperated making this conference a reality.

I am glad that this initiative by APDA under the 2009-2011 Japan Trust Fund (JTF) projects entitled "Parliamentarians' Capacity Building Project on Accountability and Aid implementation for Population and Development issues" formed a basis that has built initiatives for parliamentarians from Asia and African countries to share, engage and work out mechanisms on how to address their population and development concerns.

It is a well laid fact that parliamentarians hold the trusteeship of the people they represent in their capacities. Therefore as people representatives, we are supposed to carry out critical roles and functions through legislation, budget appropriation, representation and oversight in order to ensure resources, policies, laws and regulations are put in place to meet the needs of our people in health, reproductive health, income enhancement, education, skilling the young people and sustainable development.

It is very important that as we deliberate on population and development issues, matters of gender balance, women's empowerment, persons with disability, and the youth are well considered. Given the fact that Asia and Africa have a lot in common as far as population matters are concerned, we must streamline and put the issues of the disadvantaged sections in our communities to the forefront.

Under this South-South cooperation, a lot of

experience sharing can be concretized in order to enhance management of the very fast-growing populations in our countries. We are expecting very high and unprecedented population growth rates. The total fertility rate (TFR) for Ugandan women is 6 to 7. This couples with high maternal and child mortality rates. Sub Saharan Africa is grappling with very high unemployment rates, with very young dependent population.

In the case of Uganda where the biggest proportion (over 70%) of the population is of young people, the majority of them are unemployed. Let us not underestimate the high level of rural-urban migration and the effects of urbanization. These go along with urban settlement challenges, slum dwelling and general human suffering.

Your coming to Uganda gives us hope that we can share good practices from each country and also learn from each other as we try to improve the status of our population. As parliamentarians, we should execute our roles diligently by engaging the executives, development agencies, private sector players in generating consensus on how best we can work together to improve our people's lives.

I thank you very much and urge you to continue with the high-level advocacy work you have been doing I wish you all the best in the deliberations For God and My Country.

MC:

Thank you very much, Right Honourable Speaker, for those very good welcome remarks, another loud clap for her. And the timeline she has spared for us, it was not very easy, but we thank you Right Honourable Speaker, for sparing that time.

Remarks

Ms. Esperance Fundira

Representative of UNFPA Uganda

Read by

Mr. Tapiwa Jhamba

UN Joint Programme on Population at UNFPA, Uganda

I am going to give remarks on behalf of the UNFPA representative, Ms. Esperance Fundira, she has not been able to be with us today because of other committee commitments. She had actually delayed her travel, expecting that this particular opening would be yesterday, so when the opening was moved to today, she could not delay any longer. So she had to leave. She gives her apologies that she would like to be here with you. My name is Tapiwa Jhamba, I am with the UNFPA office here in Kampala. Programme Director. Allow me to proceed and give the remarks by the UNFPA representative.

It is my pleasure to address this parliamentary forum on population and development with representatives from across Africa, and from Asia. First, I would like to thank UPFFSP&D, which have accorded such a wonderful welcome to the visiting delegations from other African countries as well as from Asia. To UNFPA, this is an assurance that population and development, sexual and reproductive and youth rights are high on the agenda of parliamentarians.

It is also good practice to see that the Parliament of Uganda is reaching out to such great collaborations internationally. As Members of Parliament, you are our great allies on the mission to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every child birth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled. If I could recall, in August 2013, the Pacific Sub-Regional Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development was held in Fiji. It was organized by UNFPA in collaboration with the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) to provide input to the region's contribution to the new development agenda beyond 2015.

In the case of Uganda, parliamentarians of this forum have done commendable work lobbying

other committees in forums, to advocate for population and reproductive health issues. UNFPA's partnership with the forum has been growing stronger, and this has led to a number of achievements, among which is the passing of the National Population Council Bill that had been stalled for over 18 years.

Now that the bill has been passed into an act of the parliament, it mandates the establishment of a National Population Council which will ensure proper coordination and implementation of population policies and programmes in Uganda. As UNFPA, we appreciate the role of parliamentarians as champions in mobilizing and guiding the Parliament to advocate for and allocate resources for advancing the reproductive health agenda. Parliamentarians successfully negotiated and obtained the first ever World Bank loan focusing on maternal health. I recall that last year, Ugandan parliamentarians delayed the passing of the 2013/2014 health budget until the government allocated more resources to maternal health. Such advocacy demonstrates your commitment to ensure that no woman dies in child birth.

We also commend efforts by members of this forum in advocating for increased budget allocation to family planning. In July 2013, during the Family Planning Summit, in London, President Museveni pledged that the government of Uganda would spend five million dollars annually on family planning services for the next five years. This pledge has led to more than 30% increase in budget allocation for procuring family planning commodities, bringing us closer to reaching the breakthrough that will dramatically bring down the high number of maternal and unnatural deaths.

From what we know, access to family planning alone can lead to a 30% reduction in maternal mortality. Today, at least one in three women and

couples in Uganda are unable to access modern contraception. The increase in government resources and the expecting aid of \$5 mln. to come from donors, means that the country is well on its way to securing a 20+ million needed every year to cover today's family planning requirements in Uganda. If we continue with this kind of commitment and even more, it will take us a long way on the attainment of MDG 4 and 5 targets.

Since last year, the Uganda forum has taken on with full energy the campaign against teenage pregnancy. I am particularly concerned about the vulnerability of the young people in Uganda. According to the demographic and health survey for Uganda, the 2011, one out of four girls between the ages 15 and 19 are pregnant with their first child or already mothers. Most times, becoming a mother at an early age forces a girl to drop out of school. This limits the possibilities of exploring their full potential. I commend the job of parliamentarians of this forum who have engaged their constituencies across the country in dialogues to prevent teenage pregnancy.

This commitment led to the "Teso Leaders Declaration", which was signed by district political, religious, and cultural leaders and representatives of law enforcement agencies, pledging to enforce the law and free the modernized communities to address factors such as elements that lead to teenage pregnancy. We are looking forward to the national launch of the campaign against teenage pregnancy this year, the UNFPA pledges to support parliamentarians' work to this cause, including outreaches by parliamentarians to mobilize communities and their constituencies to prevent teenage pregnancies.

Every young person should get a chance to fulfill their potential. Yet as we celebrate these achievements, there are other risks and realities that must also be reflected on. For example, as we approach the deadline of the ICPD Programme of Action, there are still serious gaps in the funding required to fully implement them. As we prepare for the international parliamentary conference on ICPD beyond 2014 in Sweden and the Post-2015 agenda, it is important that Members of Parliament prepare great positions that will provide clear recommendations for member states, to commit to provide sustained predictable financing for integrated sexual and reproductive health and rights, especially for young people.

By working with UNFPA at the global level, it will be ensured that these recommendations are put into the United Nations Secretary General's index reports, to further the implementation of ICPD beyond 2014. That will be discussed at the UN General Assembly Special Session on ICPD at Post-2015 in September 2014 in New York. And beyond this, increased advocacy, especially at the national level, should benefit from regional and global level processes by ensuring that what is committed at the global level translates into policy and action at the national level. This is particularly important if we are to create and nurture an enabling environment in the domestic context for sexual and reproductive health and rights.

I hope that this meeting will come up with a clear plan of action that will spell out concrete actions to be taken by parliamentarians to further mobilize resources to create an enabling environment for the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action. As I conclude, I would like to thank you again for your advocacy on ICPD issues, including maternal and reproductive health, family planning, and young people, particularly on policy formation, budget lobbying, and also supervision of government programmes.

I particularly thank to Chair of UPPFSP&D, Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, as well as the Chair of APDA for ensuring that this conference happens. I also thank the Japanese government for their contribution to the conference. I am informed that in the next few days, you will be visiting some of the UNFPA-funded projects. This will give you an impression of how we are working with parliamentarians and other partners to address issues of young people and other reproductive health issues. I thank our partners, Reproductive Health Uganda, Naguru Teenage Centre, Mulago Fistula Unit, and Minister of Health for accepting to host field activities for the visiting delegation, and to all of you, for dedicating time to participate in this conference.

UNFPA remains committed to working with parliamentarians in ensuring that every pregnancy is wanted, every child birth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled. Thank you.

MC: Thank you very much, our country UNFPA representative, for those very good, enriching submission, as far as Uganda's parliamentarians' involvement in the struggle to improve the quality of life of our people in Uganda.

SESSION 1

***Assessment of the Global Population Trends:
Continental Perspectives in
Addressing Population Issues.***

“Population of Europe: dynamics and prospects”

Hon. Florian Bodog

Senator, Romania

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Bodog has two Ph.D. Degrees – one in medicine and another in Economy and Health Management. Senator since 2012; Secretary of Health Commission in the Parliament of Romania; Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of Oradea University

I am very much honoured to be here in front of you. I know some of you as we met in Japan and Australia. It is nice to meet you and I would like to thank the invitation from the Government of Japan and from APDA). Now I think we are ready to start.

My presentation is *Population of Europe: Dynamics and Perspective*. You can see the partition of the world’s population at country level with highlighting the world’s most populated nations: China, India, Pakistan and Indonesia in Asia, the United States, Brazil, and Mexico in the Americas, Nigeria in Africa, and also Russia.

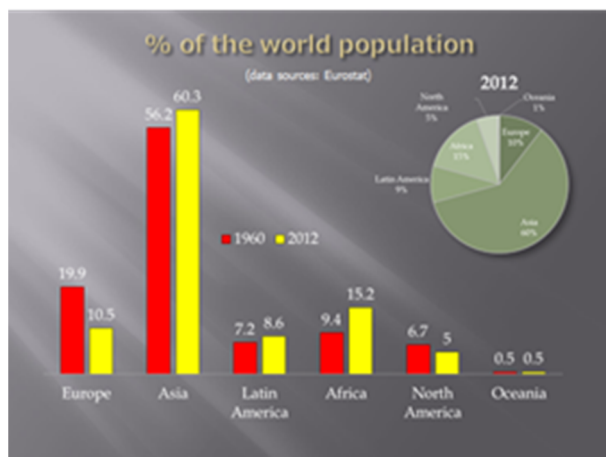
It is also important to highlight the European States in comparison to the present worldwide situation. The diagram shows the proportion each continent has in the world population. We can clearly see Europe in 2010 represents about 10.5% of the total, based on the United Nation account, and it is the smallest continent, omitting Australia. The population concentration places third, after Asia and Africa.

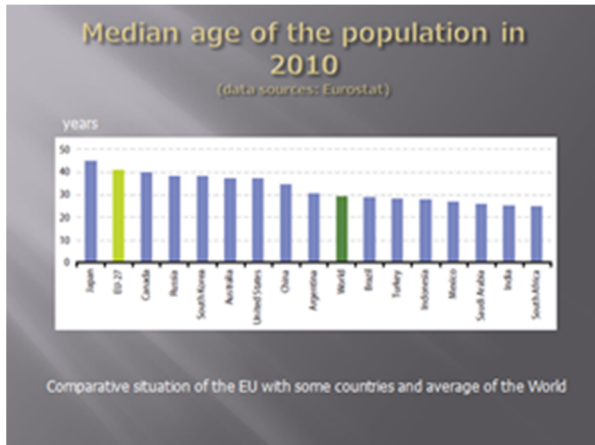
With regard to the numerical evolution of the population based on each continent for the

1960-2012 interval, Asia has the largest growth rate, showing continuous future improvement, circa three billion in the last 50 years, while second place goes to Africa with its population growing four times in the last 15 years. Numbers in North and Latin Americas are also growing, still with a slightly slower pace. The North Europe is the only continent with a decreasing trend, beginning in the 1980s, and this situation is generated by the decrease of natural increment and strong demographic aging.

Comparing the situation in 2012 and the one in 1960 in regards to the proportion of each continent in the world population, by 1960 Europe had reached 20% coming second after Asia, but by 2012 the numbers were halved from 19.5% to 10.5%. This decrease is highlighted against an upwards growing world trend. In 2012 Europe places third. As such based on the worldwide growing trend, the most populated continent is Asia reached 60%, followed by Africa, 15%, and Latin America 8.6%. North America has also lost about 2% as a proportion while it is still increasing in the population number.

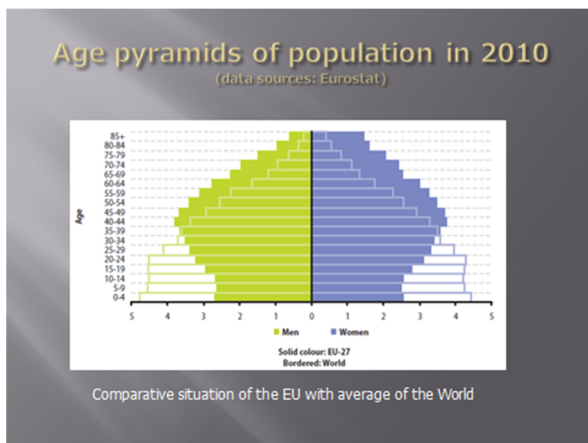
The average age of the population within the most populated states in the world are presented in comparison to the one of the European Union and the worldwide median age of 29. The European Union is among the top runners in the graph with the age of 41, overtaken only by Japan with the age of 45. Other countries with value over the worldwide average are: Canada, 40, Russia, South Korea, and Australia, 38, and the United States and China. In Africa only South Africa is highlighted with an average age of 25, under the worldwide number. Health conditions of the countries, the level of development, genetic particularities and traditions are among the factors which influence those numbers.





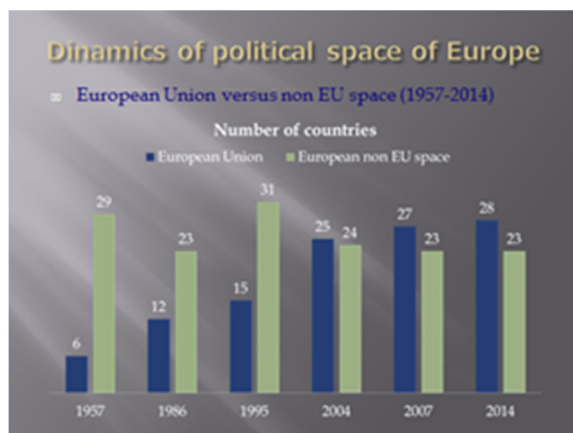
The fertility rate is presented comparatively between 1990 and 2009 in the table form representing TFR, the number of live-born babies per each woman. None of the European states individually is among the first 16 and at the European Union level, the value is 1.59, which it is way under the world-wide average of 2.52. In parallel, the life expectancy at birth of the worldwide level has increased from 64.4 to 67.9 with significant differences at the country level. The European Union has a value of about 80, while it is overtaken by the Asian states like Japan, 82.7, South Korea, 80, Australia, 81.4. South Africa has a value of 51.2, and it is among the weakest value, but it is the best place in Africa.

This age pyramid shows the structure based on age groups and genders of the European Union population. In the worldwide level we encounter a growing trend as to the base of the pyramid, or the young age group. In the case of the European Union, the base of the pyramid is small, with a decreased birth rate. But there is a high number of adults and older population. This is not an optimistic perspective for the European states, characterized by the rapid population aging. Increased immigration in people over the age of



20 is explained this way. An important part of the young and adult European Union population resulted from the eastern expansion of the Union, and there was an intake of 13 new countries after 2004.

At the European Union levels, we can see a growth from 12 to 28 states post 1990. The last two are Montenegro, independent in 2006, and Kosovo, which is under international administration, but recognizes by most of European states. Until the anti-integration wave of 1995, the number of non-European states was larger than the number of member states, but after the 2004 wave, the balance shifted towards European states with the integration of 10 new states.



In this slide, you will see the dynamics of European political space. The first image presents the initial situation of the European Committee of 1957, which is the basis of today's European Union. We can see the territorial political structure of socialist and central European states. The second image represents the situation in 1986, when there were 12 member states of the European Community. The third image presents the situation in 1995 when the European Union reached 15 states after Sweden, Finland, and Austria joined. For the first time, the European West gets in contact with all socialist states through a common border - Finland, Germany, Austria, and Italy.

The fourth image presents the situation after the 10-state integration of 2004, reaching a grand total of 25 member-states. Many ex-Soviet or ex-Yugoslav states had not been integrated. The fifth image presents the European Union after 2007, with Romania and Bulgaria joining. Croatia joined in 2013, with the European Union holding 28 states, 55% of the 51 states of Europe.

In this slide, we present the dynamic of the population comparison of the European Union and non-European Union states in direct correlation to the expansion waves of 1995, 2004, 2007, and 2013. The slide has shifted following the 2004 wave, after 10 states, the most importantly, Poland with 38 million people joined. We also note an increase in the European demographic rate to over 60% by 2014.

Let me present the proportion of European Union versus non-European Union states through comparison. The left diagram presents with the population level of 64%, 570 million, from a total of 800 million attributed to the European Union states, while the right diagram presents with the level based on the number of countries which is 55%, 28 from the total of 51 states being in the European Union.

The situation of the European countries based on the number of inhabitants is presented graphically and on the map. The most populous are Germany, France, Italy, Great Britain and Spain, from the West, and the Ukraine, Poland, Romania, Russia, and Turkey from the East.

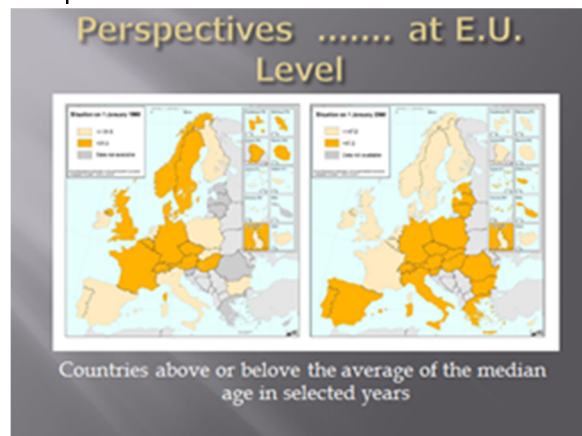
The infantile mortality rate is presented, the number of deceased per 1,000 newborns, on one hand through a comparison of the level of European countries, and on the other hand, between the years 1996 and 2011. Within 1996, the high rates were registered in Turkey, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Poland, Latvia and Bulgaria, by 2011, the value are much lower, but involved some countries.

Life expectancy based on gender and also its evolution between 1980 and 2011 based on the total country population in 2011: the high values are in the west of Europe, Switzerland 82.8, Iceland 82.4 and Spain 82.5. And the Baltic states of Lithuania 73.8 and Latvia 73.9. The situation can be observed based on the male or the female gender, as well with women reaching the super-value of 82.6, versus 76.7 of men at the European Union level.

This represents the life expectancy from an evolutionary perspective between 2002 and 2009 through comparison of male and female genders at European Union level. This shows the life expectancy of people over the age of 65 at the

level of the year 2011 based on country and genders. The super-value of female over male is highlighted in the 36 analyzed countries. Switzerland, Italy, France and Spain hold the highest value among females, with Iceland and the same countries being the leaders in males.

In this slide, we have a comparative situation in a 100-year time is presented between 1960 and 2060 in regards to the average age of the population. If in 1960, the old industrialized Europe had an average age of 31.5 years compared to Southern or Eastern Europe. The 2060 prognosis stands in favor of Central, Southern and Eastern Europe with an average of over 47.2 years. We must show that the West also had a small growth, but it is not important in comparison with the South and the East.



Based perspective between 2015 and 2050, the large European states have opposing perspectives from the standpoint of population dynamics. The graphic presents the regression of Germany, Poland and Romania, but the progress of France and Britain held by substantial immigration. Spain and Italy will also slip into a decreasing trend, while Greece, the Czech Republic, Portugal and Slovakia will remain steady.

Compared to a growing worldwide trend, the perspectives for the European trend are modest. With the numerical regression, a decrease in the worldwide population proportion to be expected after 2020.

What I want to say before I close my presentation is it is very important to give years to the life, but I think it is most important to give life to the years. Thank you very much.

“Assessment of the Global Population Trends: Continental Perspectives in Addressing Population Issues”

Hon. Dr. Ram Prakash
Member of Parliament, India

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Dr. Ram Prakash is a senior Member of Parliament of Upper House of Parliament of India and a member of IAPPD. Former Minister of Science, Technology and Electronics in the province of Haryana; Members of many Parliamentary Committees such as Human Resources, Foreign Affairs, Petroleum and Gas, and Official Language.

He holds Ph.D. in Chemistry. He is a former professor of Chemistry of the Punjab University, Chandigarh. Currently he is also the Chancellor of Gurukul Kangri University.

I come down directly to my subject. I want to share certain opinions with you on population development. What is the relationship between population and development?

This debate was first initiated by Thomas Malthus from the U.K. in 1798. According to him, the carrying capacity of Mother Earth is limited whereas the population is growing in an unlimited manner. In his words, I say, “The power of the population is indefinitely greater than the power in the earth to produce subsistence for men”. But there are certain optimists who debate that population has immense potential to develop technology, to overcome development challenges.

I give an example of my own country. When India became independent, we were importing food grain but we achieved a green revolution due to new technologies in agriculture and we produced enough food grain. This year, our food grain is expected to be 263 million tons, which will be a record in our agriculture history.

Global population trends are alarming. The global population has crossed the 7.2 billion mark in 2013. Developing countries constitute 5.9 billion of the total 7.2 billion population. Of these, nearly three billion people are under the age of 25 years, the largest generation of young people in the history of mankind. Eighty-seven percent of these young people live in developing countries. These three billion people, currently under 25 years of age, will soon enter their prime reproductive years.

In the next table, I have shown certain trends. The growth rate in the least developed regions such as Africa, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, is the highest in the world. Africa is 2.6, and this reason is also characterized by very high infant mortality rate, for example 73 per 1,000 in sub-Saharan Africa, 68 in Africa. In other less developed countries it is 66. But in developed countries, it is very low, for example, in Europe, five, and so on and so forth.

World Regions/ Continents	Population mid 2013 (millions)	Rate of Natural Increase (%)	Infant Mortality Rate	Total Fertility Rate	Percent of Married Women 15-19 Using Contraception	
					All Methods	Modern Methods
MORE DEVELOPED	1,246	0.1	5	1.6	71	62
LESS DEVELOPED	5,891	1.4	44	2.6	60	54
<i>Least Developed</i>	886	2.5	66	4.4	33	28
AFRICA	1,100	2.6	68	4.8	31	26
<i>Sub-Saharan Africa</i>	926	2.7	73	5.2	26	21
NORTH AMERICA	352	0.4	6	1.9	78	73
SOUTH AMERICA	401	1.1	19	2.1	77	70
ASIA	4,302	1.1	35	2.2	65	59
<i>South Asia</i>	1,779	1.6	47	2.6	53	45
EUROPE	740	0	5	1.6	71	60
WORLD	7,137	1.2	40	2.5	62	56

Source: Population Reference Bureau Datasheet, 2013.

On the other hand, this area has very low rates of life expectancy at birth, use of contraception, and uses of sanitized facilities. Total fertility rate as shown here is 5.2 per women in Sub-Saharan Africa whereas in more developed countries it is only 1.6. South Asia is another area where the rate of fertility and access to sanitization is equally low. Developed countries, on the other hand, have a very high proportion of elderly population.

There is need to have a sound policy to stabilize population. It is a necessity to provide the largest

Socio-Economic Data/Estimates for World Regions

World Regions/ Continents	Percent of Population		Percent Urban	Percent of Population Ages 15-49 with HIV/AIDS	Percent of Population who Use Improved Sanitation	
	Ages <15	Ages 65+			Urban	Rural
MORE DEVELOPED	16	17	76	0.4	97	92
LESS DEVELOPED	29	6	47	0.8	73	42
Least Developed	41	3	28	1.9	48	31
AFRICA	41	4	40	3.6	54	31
Sub-Saharan Africa	43	3	37	4.9	42	24
NORTH AMERICA	19	14	81	0.6	100	99
SOUTH AMERICA	27	7	82	0.4	82	53
ASIA	25	7	46	0.2	77	45
South Asia	31	5	32	0.4	65	30
EUROPE	16	16	71	0.4	94	88
WORLD	26	8	52	0.8	79	46

Source: Population Reference Bureau Datasheet, 2013.

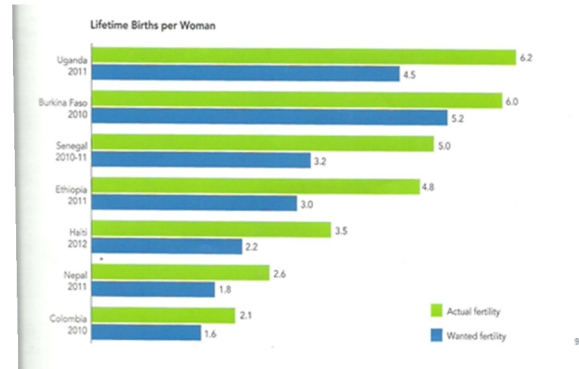
youth generation in the developing countries with appropriate sexual and reproductive health services and education. There should be choice with these people whether they want to have one child within one year or more. This is essential to ease poverty, increase educational opportunities, preserve the environment, improve health, and provide political security. On the other hand, the developed world has different kinds of challenges: the challenge of providing health and social security needs to their growing elderly population and secondly containing the below replacement fertility level. They need to increase the fertility level.

Thus the situations in developing and developed countries are quite different, so the challenges are intricate, complex and heterogeneous. At the core of addressing population growth is managing unmet needs. Even that proportion of women is not using contraception, who either want to cease further child bearing or want to postpone the next birth. It is due to unmet needs such as fewer hospitals, non-availability of contraceptives and the hesitance of women to demand contraceptives from the market. It is recognized that women are at the center of reproductive health efforts and addressing unmet needs. Where the need is met, family planning services work, and vice-versa.

Unmet needs for family planning remain high in sub-Saharan Africa. About 25% of the couples who would like to postpone their next birth by two years do not currently use a contraceptive method. This need could be met by improving contraceptive knowledge and the supply of reproductive health services so that couples can better plan their families.

As I have stated, unmet needs result in unwanted population growth, and here you see in Uganda

these figures are children per 1,000 per women in entire productive life. For example, in Uganda, there are 6.2 children as against wanted 4.5 children. For Burkina Faso 6.0 against 5.2, Senegal 5.0 against 3.2, Ethiopia 4.8 against 3.0, Haiti 3.5 against 2.2, Nepal 2.6 against 1.8, Colombia 2.1 against 1.6.



What is the relation between population, development and reproductive health? In 2007, All-party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health (APPG) in the U.K. provided the following conclusion.

“On the whole, those countries and regions where information and contraceptives were made available saw a moderate to rapid decline in the birth rate. In addition, there was an improvement in the economy, the health of women and their families, and the autonomy, education and status of women.”

There are two really big problems. One is the maternal mortality rate (MMR), and the other is the infant mortality rate or child mortality rate. All efforts should be done in allocating resources providing effective policy support and in skills enhancement of health and social services providers in addressing these issues. Regarding MMR, I will say that it should be less than 300 per million women in India, but it is still 2120 per million women. It was more than 3000 in 2005. Though we have improved a bit, we have not yet reached the proper figure. In Uganda in 2006, about 6,000 women died per year due to pregnancy-related problems.

Similarly, a huge proportion of children in developing societies are still not able to celebrate their first birthday. Infant mortality rate is that high. In this respect, I will say that infant mortality rates should be around 10 per 1,000 children. But in India, it is 42. In the developing world, it is 44.

In Uganda in 2012, it was 61. In the least developed countries, like sub-Saharan Africa, it is 66. These high rates result in more children as one is not sure about their survival. So they go on producing more children so that someone will survive. If this rate is low and survival is assured, the couples do not go in for more children. To reduce this mortality rate, we need better health infrastructure and service during the pregnancy and at birth.

There are certain problems associated with population. As we know, what are the basic needs? Fresh water is only to find 3% of the total available water. The remaining 97.7% is saline water. How much population can be sustained by this fresh water? So clean drinking water and sufficient water for sanitation, agriculture and other uses is another pertinent issue that looms large on the humanity. Globally, contaminated water remains the single greatest cause of human disease and death.

Even ensuring the food security for all will lead to enormous water scarcity, and therefore the best way is to focus on family programmes which will lead to population stabilization. Sanitation cover is another abysmal issue that leads to preventable health hazards, leading to impediments to gender equity and economic growth.

Before taking up this demographic dividend, I will make a few remarks on the population and poverty relationship. The contrast between the lives of the wealthy and the poor can be dramatic because the income and wealth gaps are associated with gaps in fertility and health. For example, in Uganda, women from the poorest fifth of families have twice the number of children than those from the wealthiest fifth. Economists acknowledge that the link between the slower population growth and economic development is complex and does not always result in an escape from poverty. There are so many factors resulting in poverty. It is not only by the population, but population is a very major factor. In developing countries where the birthrate has fallen, between 25-40% of the economic growth is attributable to the demographic changes.

Growing population as result of poverty results in malnutrition. Poor women and children suffer from malnutrition and are anemic. So stabilization of population growth will be a component in assuring fewer victims of malnutrition and hunger.

That is why food security is the need of the day. Global food security will remain a worldwide concern, as it is closely tied in many ways to climate change and water scarcity.

Needless to say, that food scarcity is not only a matter of production, but of enough funding and political will to distribute. Now when I take up this demographic dividend, it is a huge opportunity for developing countries. The policy framework should be made to harness the potential of this opportunity. Education and health services need to be strengthened to have a healthy, educated and skilled manpower, which will lead to development of the society. This dividend is available only to the developing countries because the least developed countries have a larger number of children, minimum number of working groups and minimum number of elderly people because of less survival. But slightly developing countries have fewer children, a large working age group, but not very many elderly people, so we have a large force of human resource for development.

On the other hand, in the developed countries, children are at a minimum, working age less, elderly maximum, but enough resources and good economy can provide social security to these elderly people.

Now I come to population and gender empowerment. Global evidences suggest a close relationship between gender empowerment and population stabilization. At the beginning of the life cycle, ensuring that girls are educated has numerous positive impacts such as delayed marriage and pregnancy, reduced risks of HIV/AIDS, increased household income, lower net fertility rate, better survival rate, health and education outcomes for future children, increased decision-making power within the household and community and reduced gender-based violence risks.

To conclude, to reap the true fruits of demographic dividend in most developing nations, a few strategic investments are collectively required from us, the political leadership.

- ✓ Number one, effective and good governance
- ✓ Second, investment in adolescence and youth, their sexual health, life skills, education and livelihoods
- ✓ Third, ensure that no mother ever dies

- while nurturing or delivering another life
- ✓ Zero tolerance to gender based-violence may it be mental, physical, emotional or sexual.
 - ✓ Progressive legislation frameworks for RMNCH+A (Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent) programmes
 - ✓ Promote South-South Cooperation among nations among nations, Asia, Africa, in particular.

It is well recognized that reproductive health and family planning issues are complex. It involves history, politics, local agenda, ethics, cultural norms and values, power relations, health, women's and human rights, economics,

poverty, education and myriad other components and realities. Finally, therefore, the policy framework should be more informed of these intricate and complex factors to be more effective.

Before ending, I must thank my senior colleague, Manmohan Sharma, who is the soul behind this campaign in India, and is working relentlessly. I acknowledge the inputs in this presentation from him. He is doing a very good job. And with these words, I thank you all for your patient learning. Thank you very much.

“Working with Members of Parliament”

Mr. Peter J. Ibembe

Director of Programmes, Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU), Uganda

Curriculum Vitae

Director of Programmes reproductive Health Uganda

RHU was founded in 1967 and is a Member Association of IPPF.

RHU is a leading NGO in reproductive health issues in Uganda and works closely with Members of Parliament of Uganda.

I am representing Executive Director of Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU), Mr. Jackson Chekweko, who was not able to make it here. As has been mentioned, we are from which is one of the leading NGOs in the country. We are doing a lot of work in the area of sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

There is a picture that is shown there, which shows our Executive Director. He stands together with the Minister of State for Primary Health Care, Hon. Sarah Opendi, together with Hon. Sylvia Namabidde. This demonstrates the interactions we have with Members of Parliament.

Perhaps I could say a few words about RHU before I continue. RHU was founded way back in 1957 before Uganda acquired independence, and we are a member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

Our core mandate is to promote high quality, high impact and gender sensitive health and rights information and services, and we have a number of strategies that we use, which include capacity building. We also offer SRH services, and we are also very strong in the area of advocacy, and we promote strategic partnerships.

Currently, in the country we operate 17 branches, in different regions, and we have 19 clinics and youth centers. Our interventions are based on the five “A”s. The first A, we try to increase Access to reproductive health (RH) and services. We are also focusing a lot on Adolescence. Another key area is AIDS, HIV/AIDS. Another controversial area in Uganda is the area of Abortion. We do not conduct abortion, but we promote post-abortion care, and we are also Advocating for liberalization of the indications to safe abortion in this country.

We also offer safe motherhood services and advocacy as I mentioned.

RHU, as a partner to Members of Parliament, we have strategies. We try, as much as possible, to build non-partisan consensus among parliamentarians on SRHR issues. We know that these issues are non-partisan regardless of party or otherwise. So, we work with all parties in this country. We also work with the media, I will describe this later on, and we try as much as possible to cultivate SRHR champions. We have many champions who help us push the agenda forward.

Another area where RHU works is on research and policy, and identifying policy gaps in the area of sexual and reproductive rights. Needless to say, we do not work alone. We partner with many actors, other civil societies in this country, the development partners and alike. Another strategy that we have is that some Members of Parliament actually are on our board. So we have an inner voice where we can reach out to a larger number of Members of Parliament through our internal members themselves, which is a very useful strategy. We know what is being discussed, and we know how we can influence policy.

I have mentioned that we work closely with Members of Parliament and we work either individually or we work with Committees of the Parliament. Some of these are the Uganda Parliamentary Forum on Food Security and Development (UPFFSP&D), which is one of our hosts today. We also work with the Uganda Women’s Parliamentary Association (UWPA), the Network of African Women Ministers and Parliamentarians (NAWMP) Uganda Chapter, as well as the Millennium Development Goal Forum,

amongst others. We also work with others I have not mentioned yet.

This is just a picture showing our interaction. As I said, with Members of Parliament, the Honourable Sylvia Namabidde, who is shown in the middle, is actually our Board Chair, and she is also a very influential Member of Parliament as far as SRHR issues are concerned. What are some of the key successes we have registered working with the Members of Parliament? As a result of this close collaboration, the road map to maternal health and natal health strategy was actually passed. Over the last few years, the national budget for RH and family planning increased from a mere US\$1.5 million in 2009 to US\$6.9 million currently.

We are not taking credit for all of this, but we participated. We are also partners in trying to increase resources for SRHR.

As a result of our close collaboration with the Parliament, there was a tax waiver on contraceptives by the government. Previously, as had been stated, contraceptives would attract a tax levy, which we thought would actually impact negatively on many Ugandans, especially the poor and the vulnerable.

So there was a concerted effort to have this tax waived, and this was successful. In addition to that, there was the passing of the Population Council bill 2012 was accomplished in July 2013, although this work is still incomplete because this council bill awaits presidential assent. The president has not yet assented to it. Another issue was due to our advocacy, we were able to secure a major World Bank loan, focusing on maternal health, to the tune of US\$30 million that was in 2011.

Additionally, we were able to wade in the scope of services by one of the contraceptive options. It is a one-month injectable contraception and previously this was not on our list, on the national essential medicines list. But as a result of our advocacy and partnership with the parliament,

this contraceptive was added to the national essential drugs list, which also weighed in the list of the options and quality that the population can have access to.

In addition to that, we are working quite successfully with Members of Parliament. We have a joint community mobilization and we have seen that Members of Parliament have actually played a very large role in mobilizing communities and linking RH issues at grass roots to national development.

Only last week, we were involved in a partnership with the Member of Parliament, and we were rolling out a cancer of the cervix screening services in that part of the country, and we were able to reach very many women with those services, including family planning services. RHU also partners with NAWMP through trying to develop their advocacy strategy. Additionally, Members of Parliament have participated in midyear tours, in partnership with RHU where we jointly examined and highlighted the SRH issues at the community level and we have been able to raise the profile on issues at the district and national level.

As I conclude, that is a picture shown above, the older gentleman in the corner is the Local Council Chair of the District. He has been previously a very staunch opponent of family planning in this country, but as a result of the advocacy and the activism by Members of Parliament, who worked hard in the community to try and influence policy at that level.

So, all in all, that is the work RHU is doing with Members of Parliament. RHU is a member of civil society, and the partnership between the civil society and the Parliament is strong and it continues to gain momentum. That was just a short brief on our work. Thank you.

Discussion

Chair: H.E. Gabriel Ntisezerana
Speaker of the Parliament, Burundi

Curriculum Vitae

H.E. Gabriel Ntisezerana was Vice-President of Burundi from February 2007 to August 2010. He is now the President of the Senate. He is also a trained economist and banker.

Chair:

The presentation was very important and very well done, so I think that everybody here has followed. Now it is the time for discussion. If someone wants to speak, this is the time for them to start speaking. Ghana, now you are the first to take the microphone. Please go ahead.

Hon. Kwasi Agyemang Gyan-Tutu, Ghana:

Now, we have had three brilliant presentations, but most of all, I would like to dwell on the presentation by Hon. Prof. Ram from India. From all of the discussions here, it is clear that we have an aging population in most of Europe and Japan. And then when you come to the Third World, represented most by Africa, you see that the challenge is that of a youthful population.

Now we can clearly see that we have two different problems, but within one world, different solutions will be needed for these. So we here as parliamentarians from the Third World, especially from Africa, should take note of this very important dichotomy and ensure that we tailor our projections and solutions towards our problem. Really Japan has helped us today to identify the problems, but they are not going to be there to actually deal with the problems.

So, it is for us to ensure that we have pragmatic solutions to these problems. It is an admonition for us to take care of what we have to solve, and this is the reason why we need to thank Japan for supporting us this way because their problem is clearly not the same as ours. But they acknowledged that the solution of ours will bring about world peace and progress. Thank

you very much.

Chair:

Thank you very much, Honourable, for your intervention. On my behalf, I thank Japan for recognizing the importance of this meeting because the population issue is a very, very big challenge for all African countries including my country, Burundi. We are facing a high rate of increasing population and it is a challenge. We see population and the rate of growing of our economy, and that is a big challenge between them. We are experiencing poverty in our country so at this moment it is very important for me to hear from other Members of Parliament here how they are dealing with that issue, regarding population and economic growth. So this meeting for me is very, very important. Does someone wants to speak to exchange experience or to say some words regarding the sessions, My brother from Sierra Leone, after comes Uganda.

Hon. Sualiho Koroma, Sierra Leone:

To start, I would like to thank the organizers for this beautiful conference on population and development. I would also like to thank the resource persons for this session. I believe I want to take a concern from the presenter, the Member of Parliament from India. I believe one of the concerns for our growing population has not well focused on water and sanitation. I want to say here that for my country 60-70% of our people live in rural areas. With population issues, we have been so much focused on reproductive health, not on water and sanitation. The problem people face in most rural areas is the lack of plain and pure drinking water. I would like to know how as Members of

Parliament, or as legislators, we can get our government to see that or to make sure that the governments of different countries, especially in Africa, get a lobby for a percentage of the budget that should be allocated for that purpose, because it is a great concern and a serious challenge towards our population in Africa especially my country.

As Chair of the Parliamentary Committee of Water Resources in the Sierra Leone Parliament, I am very much concerned with that, and I believe this is going to be one of the programmes that will enlighten me as to how to handle the nature of our water system or crisis in our country, or make sure that the growing population gets safe drinking water. I believe all of us here, as Members of Parliament, have to center this aim to our discussion and not just about reproductive health, because it is a great concern for population and development. Thank you very much.

Hon. Dr. Ram Prakash, India:

As I said during my presentation, water scarcity will be a big problem. And every country should take steps according to its situation. I have got a few things. In India, we produce rice. We were taking two rice crops, and sometimes three crops. Now rice needs a lot of water.

The government realized that this much water cannot be spent. And so we banned that there should not be two crops of rice, only one crop. In our state, Haryana, we did this. Secondly we are trying to recharge the water. Thirdly, we try awareness-raising among the people that do not waste water. If you open the tap and do your shaving, the water will go on flowing. That is going to waste.

Harvesting the rain water is another situation. So depending upon the country to country, several steps must be taken and people must be emphasized that they should do this. In India, there was a lot of water. When we were washing our hands, we will wash like this, the water will go down. In certain countries I noted, they do not do like this, they have less water, so they will do like this. So the same amount of water is being used for cleansing, at least one fit so depending upon place to place.

Next, sanitation is very essential, in this case. Less emphasis was on sanitation in our country. Now we are putting more and more emphasis on this. So, country to country might do its best.

Chair:

OK, thank you for your intervention, Honourable India, Uganda next.

Hon. Nalubega Mariam, Uganda:

I want to thank all the presenters. Again, my question will go to the Honourable Professor from India. You commented on some policy on population control, and I think in Uganda, it reminds me that our issue is not population growth or increase, that issue is quality of the population. And I think that when you look at the presentation of Honorable Professor from Romania, you see there is a gap between the aged and the young people. This means that maybe it advances the argument that we have improved in the quality of life, so people are not dying. I need to understand that argument, but the issue of quality.

We can have a big population, but is it healthy? Is this proportion a quality one, with the quality health care, the basic social services, and so forth? To me we do not have to have a big population. I think that China and other countries have advanced the argument, maybe because the big population is good, in that time, but you can see that the policy in China is again now changing, reversing.

What matters is quality, healthy, and skilled and maybe empowered population. The question is, is there a best practice we can borrow from the world on how to control our population that we do not have the cultures and traditions of people? Thank you.

Hon. Kafeero Ssekitoleko, Uganda:

I want to add my praise and thank the organizers of this meeting and also the presenters. My concern also goes to the Professor from India. We have talked about population growth and the back in the minds we know that the population growth has a negative impact on food security, so as India. We know that India really has a big population and maybe Professor have attended a number of meetings where this issue has been

addressed. Can we learn or can we get more from you on how those countries faced with high population growth can tackle or address the issues for food security. Uganda seems to be taking the same direction of high population growth, so I would love to borrow an idea from those meetings you attended, or what India in particular faces in high population growth. Can I borrow an idea from you? Thank you very much.

Chair:

Thank you very much. Next, please.

Hon. Sarah Netalisire Kayagi, Uganda:

And allow me also to add my voice in thanking the presenters. Both presenters talked about reproductive health and HIV/AIDS. We are having a challenge here in Uganda. Children are having challenges in accessing the reproductive health services, and the HIV/AIDS services, meaning that when they go to these health centers to receive these services they are put together with their parents. So, here in Uganda, we do not have the youth-friendly centers that are providing these services to our young generation and they can go there freely and receive these services without being stigmatized, without looking at their parents.

Those who want to protect themselves and take their reproductive health pills fear to go there because they are going to meet the health workers who are elderly, who are like their mothers. I want to find out from other presenters, if you have got such experiences, and how have you managed in creating an environment that is going to enable these young people, these actually children who are going into adulthood, to go freely to receive the health services.

Secondly, in the education system, we are lacking the component of reproductive health. We used to have matrons in schools who could speak to our children about reproductive health. It is no longer so open, and our children are growing without getting to understand. Even as the parents ourselves, and we call our private parts by the names of animals. So we do not come out openly to tell our children that A is A, and B is B. So I want you to help us and share with us an experience and even we are

accommodating the girls who conceive, deliver, and go back to school. The stigma around that area is another big challenge that we are still having in African countries. Thank you very much.

Hon. Kirunda Sulaiman Balyejjusa, Uganda:

I wanted to briefly comment on population dividend that Honourable Prakash from India mentioned. I think, population dividend refers to a process of transforming a largely unemployed youth into a productive work force and I am subject to correction, but that is virtually how I understand it. I am thinking that, for example, that in Uganda, we have a wonderful programme which is called Skilling Uganda, those of us who visited the Nile Vocational Institute yesterday witnessed. However, my worry and concern is I think for all developing countries, including Uganda, we need to sustainably commit resources to our vocational and technical education so that once our youths can very easily catch up with productive work force.

The problem in most developing countries is that the age pyramid is defined by the growing number of youths who do not have skills. So I wanted appeal and to ask our partners and the donors to help sustain this noble strategy of strategically investing in the vocational and technical skills of the young people. I think that through that, we can really say we are having a demographic dividend, which is very instrumental in transforming the lives of young people. Thank you.

Hon. Helen Kuyembeh, Sierra Leone:

I am going to take a general view and probably share experience from other people here. It seems very clear that developing countries, we call ourselves developing countries, are having a real struggle and challenges with dealing with population issues, particularly from governments on how to actually handle and manage programmes and policies that will effectively improve our population issues.

Now, like my colleague from Ghana was saying, when you do a comparative look at the developing countries, you definitely will see the difference. One of the reasons I believe clearly is that there are things that are going on, or things

that are actually right now imbedded in developed countries that have helped them make the leap so far. For instance, let's look at democracy. We keep talking about democracy, but how effective is democracy in developing countries?

We are struggling with actually implementing democracy and effectively handling it in our day-to-day running of programmes and policies within the country, whereas in developed countries it is already implemented because when you talk about democracies, you are talking about rights. Women know their rights, and girls know their rights, so it is a lot easier for them. You clearly see that they are at a higher level because it is already there that they know what to do and they have the choices and all the rest. Whereas when you come on the other side, which is in developing countries, you find that some are doing very well, but most countries are struggling with really trying to solidly define the existence or effectiveness of democracy within our communities.

For instance, in Sierra Leone, even within the political arena, you find that it is difficult for people to actually implement democracy effectively. People will say, "OK, this is it, but we will do a little bit of it". And so when that happens, it becomes a lot more difficult for programmes and policies to impact, particularly women and vulnerable groups in terms of making choices and benefiting from situations.

For example, let's talk about girls' pride. In most of our communities, religious rights, ethnicity and all these wholesome values hold impact. And you cannot even give them the opportunity to make the choices to go out public with HIV treatment, to go out public with birth controls, and all the rest of these. And yet, in developed countries, these are basic human rights and children and everybody knows that it is and they take advantage of it and use it effectively.

So the point I am now actually trying to say is, in the small choices we have in the global arena, we do have agencies and partners working effectively toward population issues, and we need to create that partnership with other agencies. For instance, there are agencies that are working within democracy so that we do

that kind of merging. So as we deliberate, governments and parliamentarians need to ensure that we do a lot of lobbying around our development partners so that we can do the merging of supporting or advocating so that these groups could work together, as one complements the other. Thank you.

Chair:

OK, thank you. I see a Member of Parliament from Zambia. The floor is yours.

Hon. Boniface Mutale, Zambia:

Please allow me to thank the presenters for the whole programme. Firstly, I would like to engage with the civil society organization. They are advocators of change most of the time and I noticed that CSO here in Uganda seem to engage them to lobby for positions by governance.

I would like to find out from CSOs how much interaction you have with other CSOs outside of Uganda in order for other CSOs to engage the government that you are doing here in positive matter rather in confrontation manner. Usually CSOs seems to be challenging the government instead of engaging the government to get positive results. Here we are engaging ourselves, we are sharing ideas, and we help CSOs engage parliamentarians activity in Uganda and worldwide so that we work on harmony with the governance of them.

Secondly, I would like to thank Japan for the endless efforts that they make in promoting population issues. What plans are we making in order to look after the aging population in our African concept? Because in Africa, we do not think of a particular policy framework which takes care of the aged other than the family members. So, what lessons have we drawn from Japan, for example? Whereby they take over the aged people and they start looking after them. And we wonder why because the family ties in Japan, some of the children are equally old now. Some of them are 80 years old, and their parents would be 100 years, 90 years. So that 80-year-old son or daughter of the aged would not be able to manage looking after the aging parent. What lessons can we take from Japan so that we can also start planning for the aged sooner than later? Thank you.

Chair:

Thank you very much. Now floor is yours

Hon. Dr. Florian Bodog, Romania:

We here are all parliamentarians and our mission is to represent and protect not only our electors, our nationalities, our nation. I think we can protect and we can help them to build correct and sustainable programmes for population. We must do these. To have this type of politics, we need to touch some objectives. One of this is increase of cooperation. This objective is very straight interlinking.

First, most important is to increase the quality of life. It depends on country to country, but I think for all of us, it is necessary to increase the quality of life and the results will be increase of life expectancy. It is not only life expectancy, but healthy life expectancy, because if we increase life expectancy, but the life will be not healthy, the cost for our government will be very high and I do not know if we can support this. I think our role as parliamentarians to promote law and politics which can be applied in our country, and I would like to thank you for the comment from the representative from the Parliament of Uganda which touched this problem.

Talking about the quality of life, I would like to mention the importance of the water. As my colleague professor from India spoke about it, it is a very important part of the quality of life and it is very sensitive point in the world. I think all of us have to think about it and we have to develop together a very correct policy. Thank you very much.

Chair:

OK, thank you. India, next.

Hon. Dr. Ram Prakash, India:

Thank you very much for your interventions. In India we have taken several steps. We have population policies and we have policies on health. Prime Minister has enlarged IEC programme that is information, education, and communication programme to make people aware of the dangers of population explosion.

In health, we have provided certain facilities as a doorstep to reduce the mortality rate of

mothers. Free facilities have been provided, and any pregnant woman will be taken from her house to the delivery room in a hospital and will be given the proper nursing and food so that her health is proper. Similarly, since woman is at the core of the problem, and if we help her, only then we can solve these problems. If we do not help her, we cannot solve these problems.

Earlier our ladies were not educated. Now we have provided them free education. In certain states in India, free education has been provided up to graduate level. Once a lady gets educated, she takes her own decision. So taking a view from this, the government of India is planning a bill that is pending in the parliament, that 33% seats should be reserved for women. Let them be decision-makers and not only silence spectacles.

Many schemes for health and for the poor have been enlarged. Similarly for children, we have a midday meal scheme in the schools. There are certain schemes for women belonging to any family, the poorest of the poor, because the father of our nation, Mahatma Gandhi, wanted to wipe out the tear from the poorest of the poor's eyes. We are giving technical education for free to poor people from the certain sections of society. So in our country, many schemes have been launched.

As far as HIV is concerned, people are being educated about these diseases. And we are involving the cultural leaders also to guide the young generation. So there can be many things like this that we can develop in different countries and from place to place they changes endeavor.

As a Member of Parliament, we must in our speeches advise people about the dangers of population increase and its aftereffects so that the masses in general should take advantage of what services are being provided by the government. Sometimes there is a communication gap. There are certain places people may not know that. If Members of Parliament are interested in this and they raise these issues in their public speeches and at the parliaments, with the wider concern, then the people can be helped.

By educating people, we can make them demanding. They will ask the government that we are suffering from the lack of this facility so ask them to provide this facility. Members of Parliament can guide them not only about the facilities being provided, but also learn from them what more should be done for them and plead that at the parliament. Such things can help us a lot.

Demographic dividend, we are laying emphases on skill welfare. It used to be that if a father is a carpenter, his son would also become a carpenter. He would join his father, and his father would educate him about carpentry and evaluate and upgrade this skill. But now, after education, people are going to different professions so skill development programmes have become very important. Similarly, we are to transform the youth into an earning hand for the family. Otherwise, he will be unwanted in this society. And if he has this feeling that I am not a useful part of this society, he will go astray. For that, technical courses help the people very much.

So many things like this have been done in India with better results obtained, and I think people in similar situations in different countries should also think on similar line. And we should exchange healthy better practices, because one must learn from the experience of others. Thank you very much.

Chair:

Thank you very much, Honourable, for your intervention. Next please.

Dr. Peter J. Ibembe, RHU, Uganda:

There are few comments on the role of CSOs from Zambia. I want to say that we have engagement with partners from the outside. For example, we work with the Member of Parliament and other organization where we partner, both internally and externally. We are already working with some colleagues in Zambia, PPAZ – Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia, which is also a member of IPPF. The issue was also raised about how we engage with the government so that we are not seen as being confrontational but together we collaborate for the strategies. We really try to understand the issues to engage with the

Parliament so that we are addressing similar issues and get point of view what they think, what their motivations are, what their sensitive issues are that they do not want to talk about. So it is more of patience that is cultivating their support.

I mentioned in my presentation that we also helped the Network called African Women Ministers and Parliamentarians to develop their advocacy strategy. In that case, as we are developing strategies, we engage them to discuss other key issues. One of these issues that came up was maternal health. So, maternal health was a sensitive issue not only for the civil society but also for the women Members of Parliament as well. So in that way, we became natural allies in promoting SRHR. So those are the some steps we can use.

We also have media tours. We may go with Members of Parliament to their constituencies, where we visit hospitals and health centers, and collectively identify the issues and ask what we do together to address them. So it is more of a cultivating partnership over time, which is how we get some little of success.

The issues someone mentioned about religion and culture. How do we address culture and religion is a challenge, because I think it is taken that religion and culture are antagonistic to reproductive health. I think this is not necessarily so. As the parliamentarian from India mentioned, we need to have consistent messages. Especially regarding population, if we talk about the quality of the population, often the population is having a very high dependency ratio and we find that half the population is 15 years and below. So these are the issues I think we need to address.

I think it is important that we deliver consistent messages so that the population is not confused. Because if someone comes and says population growth is good and other says it is bad, it is ambiguous. So I think the leaders and we need to find out how we can be consistent to bring out the clear messages for the benefit of the people.

Religion and culture are important, but one way of addressing these issues is to focus on

education. As the population gets better educated, and even at the same time, they get more educated as they get more information, I think no religion and no culture is interested on unhealthy population. No religion would want the mothers to see their children unhealthy and I think the same applies to culture. I think we should be addressing culture issues or religious issues to cooperate Members of Parliament, in a way that we can use to develop our country.

The other issue I wanted to mention was youth services. Of course, in this part of the world, there is a general lack of access to services, but this is more so for young populations. I have seen some of the leaflets, which have been passed on with the title "Let Girls Be Girls". I have not read much about what "Let Girls Be Girls" means, but I do not know whether it means girls should avoid teenage pregnancy. That is very good, but how do you avoid them becoming teenage mothers? We know girls in these ages involve in the sexual relationship, so the question is, will education help them? Or do they need RH services? And if they need RH services, who is able to influence these policies in a very positive light, so that girls can be girls?

Of course, we always want to say that the typical girl is the one who goes to school, but in Uganda 25% of the total pregnancies are teenage pregnancies. So the question is, will education help them or do we also need to have these services, and if we have those youth services, who is going to be championing those services? Are we going to leave it to the Ministry of Health? Of course we may need more resources. We need also people bold enough to speak about issues and raise them.

I do not know in Uganda if we are we investing in education or are we investing in services? Where are we investing? These are what we should ask ourselves from developing countries.

Chair:

Thank you very much. Brother from Kenya but time is short, please consider it.

Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:

I really just want to make a few comments to my brother from Uganda. In your viewing not to see where religion and culture have affect the

population and I do not know whether we have done enough, because majority of our population live in rural areas where information is not really reach there. We would consider the urban centers, in Kampala or Nairobi, where you can present information on culture or religion.

Religion affects us so much in terms of production in Africa. For example, I do not mean to say all people Catholic here, in Kenya Catholics are against on use of contraceptives or even condoms in terms of prevention, and the majority of the followers do not stay in the cities, and they are in villages and that hampers even messages to our young people to be protected on what we call pre-mature pregnancies. So that is why there is religious stigma that I see in Kenya, and culture stigma, too.

We are practicing more our cultural practices. In those connotations, you realize that in other cultures they do not want to talk about family planning and they really put negative messages on those that would really be able to control the birth of our population. For example, in my area they give women pills and the message that comes with that is that when you take that pill, you will never conceive. That negativity also hampers that. So when I heard you are saying that religion and culture do not affect us in terms of planning the population, I thought we need to check on it. Also I want to compare with my brother from Ghana.

As much as Japan is now having experience in aging population, we in Africa have a big challenge to deal with our young people. So we are going in two opposite directions. It is being something we have to ask, how we harmonize the two, so that one side is dealing with aging, and we in Africa will able to access some funding to deal with our young people, because if we do not lead with that, then it will be a disaster. In Kenya now, we have almost 60% of young people — young people who are not working in a place.

So how do we address this economically as much as we talk about the ageing? Aging in Africa has been less cultural. From my culture when you talk about aging, we ask the grandchildren of the grandparents that you are going to take care of them. What we saw in

Japan, the Government is taken care of them. But in Africa, you still have the belief that it takes a society to raise children. So we have two contradicting ideologies that we may need to harmonize, and I still want to encourage these gathering today to look into how we build a bridge between Asia or Western and Africa in terms of our challenges. Thank you very much.

Chair:

Thank you and I think we can stop here, unless Honourable from Uganda wants to add.

Hon. Sarah Netalisire Kayagi, Uganda:

Allow me to raise the issue which was reaching me. And one of the issues is packaging information that different partners play in different communities. It is challenging and I believe that is why many people forward challenging to utilize different commodities because different partners have different messages. So I believe there is package to involve the entire of population, so that they can recognize their role in term of family planning. And people keep asking, "What is family planning?" or "Does family planning really mean that I should produce one or two kids, or what is it?" You can see a family telling that "I am sick of managing four or five children,

so why are you telling me about family planning?" So I think we need to harmonize all these issues so the population can believe wholly and utilize whatever commodities that can be available, based on full-choice and full access. What are you telling me about full choice and full access, even if the government is not making it readily available to women? If we are promoting access, are they available in all our health facilities? Are they really ready to be accessed by our women in local communities? We need to sit down and focused on how we deal these commodities according to our choice. Thank you.

Chair:

It was very interesting and the intervention mainly from the presenters and from everybody here. We followed with big interest what have been talked here by Members of Parliament. We have big role to play in order to stabilize or to improve the lives of our population. So from experience we have got here, we try to continue to follow key issues in order to improve the lives of our populations, especially women and the children. So the time is over for this discussion. Thank you very much to all.

SESSION 2

Best Practice/Lessons Learned for Population Programme Implementation

“The Population Programme in the context of Champions in Uganda”

Dr. Betty Kyaddondo

Head of Family Health Department, Population Secretariat, Uganda

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Betty Kyaddondo is a senior medical doctor with a post graduate degree in the field of demography and population. She heads the Family Health Department at Population Secretariat, responsible for national population policy development, management and coordination. She has been affiliated with Child Health and Development Centre with over 10 years of experience in women and children health research, rights- and gender-based health research and programming intended to address needs of the most vulnerable and hard-to-reach sectors of the population including women, children and adolescents for purposes of accelerating the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). She has worked with policy makers at all levels, ministers, parliamentarians, district and community leaders to put health and population issues high on the development agenda.

First of all, let me appreciate the organizers of this meeting for giving me this opportunity to speak to you. I am going to the context of the work we are doing with champions to move forward the population programmes and population issues in Uganda. I would like to talk about the issues we are addressing in the National Population Policy. Because our champions have to know what to advocate, the issues which have been identified in the population policy include the rapid population growth. I am sure you are aware that Uganda has one of the highest population growth rates in the world, and I think we are the third country with the highest population growth rate. We have a lot of reproductive health (RH) needs, and we have very high infant mortality rates.

The young people are very vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, and the role of men in the reproductive issues has not yet come the way we want it to be. Of course there are issues of the early pregnancies, early marriage and unwilling pregnancy. Because of our increasing population, we face the challenge of food security leading to poor nutrition not only for children but to the entire population including pregnant women. Then we see so many of girls dropping school. They start the school but do not finish, which may slow down girl education.

We are not imparting these competitive schools

even in education system, but there are issues of poor infrastructure, poor access to the social services, and poor communication issues, which are not addressed. There are issues of high poverty level at the household and the issues of migration, and we do not mobilize our community as effectively as we would love it for development issues.

We are working with many players from the population and development section. We the Population Secretariat engage Members of Parliament through the different Committees and Fora, and also we engage with many Ministries because most of our population issues belong to one of our Ministries. Then we engage district local governments because many of our services are delivered at this level because of decentralization policy. Services are in view of the local government, and that is where they are accessed.

We also work with the national local authorities, the Ugandan Bureau of Statistics, Office of the First Lady, and cultural and religious institutions, mainly because if you look at these issues, especially RH issues, there is a lot of cultural and religious influence on the decision people have taken.

In terms of RH, the main agency is Ministry of Health and Reproductive Health Division that

because you cannot disassociate women issues from those issues. Also we partner with the Child Division of that Ministry. We work with HIV Center of Mulago and associate ourselves with Reproductive Health of Uganda, Uganda Red Cross, and Communication for Development Foundation of Uganda (CDFU).

Media has a major role to ensure the messages on population and development are disseminated. In terms of our key players, we work with National Association of the Women Judges and the Reproductive Education Community. Those programmes reached and this particular programme addresses the issue of female genital mutilation in one of the areas.

And we work with Ugandan Women Network, and under this network they have other partners. So when it comes to the issues of the champions' programmes, we were able to get more people addressing population and development and the key factor of boosting economic development of our country. It would be easier if we promote certain people who are already converted to the course of population issue to be our champions.

These champions have been identified with support of the UNFPA and their fora of the programme implementers of the Government of Uganda, and we are managing them through the Population Secretariat. At the National level, we have 15 champions and these include Members of Parliament.

We also have champions who are our religious leaders, cultural leaders, some members from the media, from the music industry and also from the private sector. Because service delivery takes place at the district level, we recruited 60 district leaders' champions from the 15 districts.

So the activities the champions do: one is advocacy which is mainly at the national level and also to address it at the district level and they disseminate and clarify the key issues, especially in the issues of RH. In terms of why communities have no access to family planning, they also engage in mobilizing communities to access the services.

We have very strong media campaigns – radio,

TV, newspaper and magazines to try to increase the role about RH and population issues. We work to provide technical assistance, especially when they have to visit the districts and share best practices and experiences.

We are very careful when we are selecting the champions because they are supposed to be the models and they supposed to have a passion to the issues they are moving forward. So we expect them to do their work as a role model so that they can inspire others to take on what they are trying to promote. They also do lobby meeting with politicians, policy-makers and decision-makers at the different levels. They also initiate demonstration projects to show the case how the issues should be dealt with. They promote ownership and acceptance of policy and programmes and also do networking, because they cannot work on isolation; they have to work with each other.

Because these issues are not individual issues but these are the issues which happen in each community, and they need the support of the various partners to move it forward. That is what we realized over the years.

I am going to share some of the things we have benefited from the champions.

At the national level from the Members of Parliaments, we have seen them advocating for increasing budget. We have seen our budget increased, especially in the sphere of RH and also for the family planning commodities. We also saw them advocating for the recruiting health workers and this has increased staff number and facility.

Members of Parliament, as I told you, visit their constituencies to identify their problems and challenges. They come back and use that as evidence to do advocacy at the Parliament. Religious institutions like Catholic Church are doing very good job for promoting natural family planning and they also explain to couples about GBV. Church of Uganda is also linking very close with the district leaderships to sensitize the issue of family planning.

We have musicians who have composed songs on the maternal and child health, and family

planning. They also composed songs that government can play a critical role on ensuring the health budget to reach the Abuja Declaration targets. The district champions sensitize the communities on family planning, on RH and the media has a very strong influence. Because every time they send out the messages, they create debates and increase the awareness on family planning issues.

So I just show here what is happening. As in 2011-2012 we saw the Members of Parliament refused to pass the law on budget unless the funding on maternal health was increased. I think they deserve applaud and clap for this. Then in 2012 there were some collective advocacy efforts with the civil society organization in health, partner organizations from the Parliament and other stakeholders worked for the Government's decision to recruit and increase the numbers of workers at health centers. This was because they are the champions on RH, and on Population and Development.

Last year we held our World Population Day in Ngora district. Members of Parliament wanted a dialog with the district and agreed on delivering maternal service. Because they have identified the matter of the district, the Population Secretariat will try to mobilize the community, to ensure that the services would be available. The beds were delivered by the Population Secretariat, although they are not many but at least some. And this has boosted the number of women that are coming to deliver at the health facility in Ngora district.

We also did some work with district leadership in Uganda, and we are trying to see how we can increase the delivery with family planning. We realized that districts know that family planning is a challenge but they do not know at which stage it is challenged. They know that a number of people ought to go with family planning but few people who are actually using it. We built the capacity of health workers to provide the services of family planning.

Also communities are not subsidized enough to demand for the services so we supported these districts to build the capacity of the health providers and we also supported them to

procure commodities. We requested the national medical stores and deliver them to the districts. We saw a very high increase by over 50% in the provision of the IUD.

We also saw Depo-Provera increasing by almost 70%, and we saw women willing to come to the tubal ligation. We also saw the number of men accessing vasectomy increase from 6% to 16% just a matter of one year. We think it was because the district leadership encouraged this. Actually in this district, the champion was a Chair and in other districts the Speaker was a champion. They really supported it and saw the results of the increased people accepting the family planning services.

This is an example of one of the district in the north of Uganda called Yumbe, where they increase demand of utilization on family planning services. The champions visited them, and they held advocacy meetings with district leaders. They also agreed that they should undertake and conduct community dialog, so they establish action group at the district and distribute the messages. Then they had service providers conduct family planning outreach, which was supported by RHU and Marie Stopes. Religious and culture leaders as well mobilized communities. There was a significance increase on family planning, and men come out strongly to support it.

When the first project was conducted in 2012, the registers were 140, but later they were over 800 clients. Also in the work we are doing we are trying to encourage adolescence to access the adolescence training centers. This is another example of the districts where the Peer-to-Peer approach has motivated the young people to come and access to utilize services. This is an 18-year-old young man from Kotido districts. He dropped out of the school in 2010 but he was a big fan of Youth Friendly Services (YFS) because when YFS had been established he was already there and was already ready to either learn or teach. So when he got information about this Youth corner he went around and mobilized his fellow youth to come and get services.

A lot of effort has been done, and there are a lot of good strategies we are doing, while there still

is high demand for the family planning. We still have misaligned document priorities. We still conduct our intervention as a project-based and we do not do as an entire country programme. So there are still inadequate resources, especially for health workers we need. We cannot recruit them because the finances are not enough. We also see poor quality of the health centers' infrastructure, especially in terms of what is available as a facility.

But we believe that we can move on and make changes as an entire country. So we are recommending that village health team (VHT) structure is a very good structure and we want support from Members of Parliament to advocate and strengthen efforts at the primary level, because we have seen it worked in Rwanda and Ethiopia.

Community health workers are part of the health system, and they are not working in isolation. We want to improve VHT financing because this would motivate the VHTs. We also want to continue the engagements of cultural and religious institutions in mobilizing communities for services and also work very close with them.

There are issues which negatively impact on issue of maternal health, family planning and RH. The involvement of men is a very big challenge in the programmes we are doing and we want to work with men through their community groups to ensure that more people can access the RH services. We also want to ensure that we also do more intervention supported by the advanced technological diagnostics treatments. Thank you so much.

“Assessment of the Global Population Trends: Continental Perspectives in Addressing Population Issues”

Dr. Jotham Musinguzi

Regional Director, Partners in Population and Development- Africa Regional Office (PPD-ARO),
Uganda

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Jotham Musinguzi is a Regional Director Partners in Population and Development- Africa Regional Office (PPD-ARO), former Director of Ugandan Population Secretariat. In 2013 he was awarded UN Population Award for 2013.

I would like to thank you for inviting me to speak to you, just as Betty has said, as Population Secretariat of Uganda in which I used to work for in some point. We at the PPD also work with the Members of Parliament. In particular, PPD itself is a South-South organization and it deals with the countries from the developing regions – South East Asia, Africa and also Latin America. We hold meetings regionally.

My presentation today is talking about global trends in the population, looking at the challenges and opportunities. I am also proud to talk about Members of Parliament, who have very unique roles to play. You are representing your own people, you have legislative powers, and you have budget appropriation and oversight roles. But also you are coming from the different continents with different priorities in terms of population. For example if you look at Japan, the issues of population are completely different from countries like Malawi and so on.

Because of that, I am going to present my presentation which may bring some challenges and opportunities as well, but I will hesitate to be prospective on what I suggest we can do, but with a bias so much in African sub-Saharan which has a lot more need in terms of challenges. But it does not mean there are no challenges in other countries.

As I made this presentation, I have question marks in my own mind – is the glass half full or

half empty in this field, from your own perspective whether you come from Japan or Philippines, Malawi, Kenya, or Uganda? I hope by the end of my presentation we will see why this glass makes still be a relevant.

I also want to conceptualize my presentation because taking in your mind about MDGs which were targeted in 1990s, so that we could achieve these goals by 2015. So just to do things about poverty eradication with education, gender equity, health of child and women, HIV/AIDS and malaria disease, other infection diseases, especially in the African continent, but also to pay attention to environmental sustainability.

I also want you to take in your mind the population issues to pledge on the number of issues, especially a health sector. I am using the WHO's system building blocks for health sector strengthening. For those of you who do not know them, they normally start from the bottom. I should start from the “leadership” which is very important, and that is where you belong to as leaders. Because as the parliamentarians, this is your role and matter of leadership in these areas is important, especially in health care financing, health workforce, medical products and supplies of technologies, information and research, but clearly to make sure we have good services in health sector.

I also want to invite you to remember as we talk about population trends, we need to know that

countries are going through the transition but at different levels. I quoted countries with different examples, where everything high – high birthrate, high mortality rates and other challenging issues – Uganda is there, Zambia, Burundi and Malawi as well. But Ghana is moving and already leading, which is good progress. But we also know the countries like Kenya, they are starting to move, but even Uganda needs some time to go, and I will come back to this.

It is very important in fact that we can see countries with challenging issues, where country everything is high in terms of fertility, mortality and child birth, but on the other side you have countries like Japan as an example which has everything low, including birth rates.

So my message here is just to say where we are headed? About 200 years ago I really do not know where Uganda was, but Japan know where they were, and others as well, especially countries from Asia and I will come back to this. India and China as well.

In a given period of time, the population increased slowly, but for now we are going off very rapidly and this is important.

If you look at urbanization again, as a matter of fact in Africa in 2032 it will be balanced with half of the population in urban and half rural. Just to look back, 200 years ago, the World got its first billion and it took about 123 years to get second billion in 1927. The population was increasing very slowly and your colleagues Members of Parliament from Asia have longer history and may be able to discuss these issues more.

But as you can see from here, it took less and less to get another billion and last year 2013 we got 7 billion and likely we can get next billion by 2028, which will be 15 years after last year. If you look at 1950, and to the countries which had more than 150 million population – three big China, India and the U.S., and no African countries were there. Looking at three years ago to most populated countries, again China, India and the U.S. maintained their position, while Nigeria is the only country which is coming to this picture. If you look more to what we are

looking at in another 40 years by 2050, still these four are there, though they change their positions. India overtakes China, Nigeria comes third, and Ethiopia and DRC also come here. Please note that Nigeria still has a combined population of Ethiopia and DRC. Nigeria will still continue to go far in the African continent.

What is interesting here you see is that U.S. maintained its position and has third for a long time. East Asia dominates by the major cities – Japan the largest, then Korea and others. In the western hemisphere, Mexico, U.S. and Brazil are there, but mega cities are in the South East Asia region. As a matter of fact, if I continue to put on more cities, the next one will be Beijing and so on. You can see China's capital is not here because it is about 17 million, and China has minimum cities which have 10 to 12 million, so that China may start dominating in case of mega cities.

In African context, just to conceptualize it, so about 6 years ago the share of population was less than 10%, but now it is about 15% because we are just above one billion, and in another 40 years we shall be 2 billion and represent 21% of the global population. African population continues to grow fast. So what is my message here? In the 20th century, we saw the highest population growth rate, the largest annual population increase, the shortest doubling time of population, and the shortest time to add one billion. We saw resolution on declines of mortality of children and women. We also saw urbanization and witnessed environment in the mega cities mainly in South East Asia dominating the field.

In Sub-Sahara, as I said, the population is about one billion now but you have an average, and there all of them still not favorable yet, but it must be less on average because in some areas, the population growth is 2% and in others 3.4%, which is much higher than other.

If you look at life expectancy, it varies at country level. I must say African has many challenges. And if you look at term of mortality ratios, in 1990 you can see Sub-Saharan African at this rate, and if you look at 20 years later in 2009, the average is the same. If you see Uganda, as an example, what kills women, you can here

bleeding, diseases, unsafe abortion and others, but at the back time, it was HIV/AIDS, Malaria and lack of blood. These are very important.

When I went to medical school, which was not recent, these were the causes and they have remained and have not changed. This means we have worked to do, and it is not that we do not know what to do, but women and children continue to die. Similarly what kills children at the time of their deliver are infection, diarrhea, malaria and other things, which are presentable. We have technologies in terms of vaccines but we still are not there.

Also malnutrition remains the big problem. Most of you landed to Uganda as the visitors you must noticed that Uganda has a lot of water, and we should able to grow for benefit of our people, but still malnutrition is the issue in Uganda. This is the same in Malawi.

There is high unmet need for family planning. A lot of women would like to use family planning, but they do not have access. When you look at use of contraception, you can see, especially in Africa, the use is very limited at the moment. When you look at fertility rate, not all the countries but some are very high, including in my own country Uganda, In South African region, country like Botswana can be seen changes. We hope that the others will follow. We know that use of contraceptives go a long way in reducing mortality of women.

The next slide tells you that the poorest people with around 8 point have twice many children as compared to richer groups as 4.1, meaning half. So poor have more children. But also poor do not use services as much as majority of riches. That also means that we need to continue dealing with this issues that do not allow the women who are poor to have an access.

Next slide simply shows the benefit of early control of the HIV/AIDS epidemics. For example, Uganda had relatively low life expectancy in 1980s and it went down because of HIV/AIDS. But because HIV/AIDS was controlled in early 1990s, the life expectancy started going up. Of course, the life expectancy is not affected by HIV/AIDS alone, but point is you can see

contribution of controlling early epidemics like HIV/AIDS.

In fact, one of the good things comes from Uganda is that life expectancy is rising rapidly along the way. It is not the size of economy or the richness of the country, but in our poor country there are things we can do as in country which have succeeded. We have good stories in Rwanda, Ethiopia, Malawi, Ghana and other countries. Things can be done and it is not just the size of economy, and if you do things right you should move positive. So, I go back to the MDGs and we see challenges and see what our scores are. Since I talked about population trends, I want to invite you think about transition. Countries which come from Far East Asia or South East Asia have gone through transition, and they have seen some of benefits.

As I said, countries in Africa are yet getting out of this. If you reduce the fertility, you help your population to have youth, the working population, comes bigger because they have less dependent, less children and less elder so you have big part of labor force. And if that work force is healthy and educated, then you can get economy growth out of that, and that is called demographic dividend. Unfortunately, this dividend is not automatic and countries have to do something for it. You have to have deliver polices in order to have a benefit of this and I would able to speak more about it.

If you take Uganda and other African countries about 10 years ago, you can see a pyramid as here it is, the young population they need schooling, health care. Suppose in the U.S. and South Korea, the middle majority are the working group. In Uganda, majority working group places down here. In other words, in term of population pyramid, the pyramid of South Korea and the U.S. are more advancing than in the African continent and Uganda. As matter of fact, if you look at the averages in Uganda or Africa, it is still at the bottom of it. These developing countries still have issues and if we are going to think about benefit of demographic dividend, then we still have work to do.

I have chosen some countries which I found have vision. Kenya has vision on 2030, Rwanda has vision on 2020, Zambia has vision on 2030,

then, Tanzania 2025 and Uganda 2040. If you look at Uganda vision, that intends to transform Ugandan society from a peasant one to a modern and prosperous country within 40 years. It implies that Uganda is in the transition from current low income level to middle income.

The statement here shows no low income country has ever transitioned to a mid-income without reduction of fertility. So the issue of what countries can do with demographic dividend becomes very important, because they are trying to address their vision as to where they go. In case of Uganda we have rapid growing population as you have seen not very different from what we saw in the previous days. So Uganda has 35 million people but within next 40 years it may add another 17 million. If you are a planner, you should think about this. Does it mean we should add more schools, institutions and so forth?

As in theoretical point of view as you can see in case of Uganda, by 2040 when Uganda wants to have its vision of transition to middle income, it will have population of 83 million people and almost 50 million people will be the working age. In other words, there is potential for demographic dividend because you have big bulk of people who would be the working population but if they have jobs, skills, education and health. Without it, it is going to be tough.

Next slide talks about how Uganda does well in reducing poverty in terms of percentage. This is about poverty level of Uganda. In 1992 Uganda's population was 17.5 million and more than half of population was in poverty, the level of poverty was 56%. It means one every two Ugandans was poor. Poverty has been reduced to 24.5%. As a matter of fact, Uganda is achieving the MDG Goal on poverty. Which is good and as a result, the green line shows the number of people who moved out of poverty.

But an important thing for you as the legislators and policy makers, Uganda's people who are in poverty are still as they were in 1992. In fact this 9.3 million now is 10.2 million. There are more people in numbers who are still in poverty. Although the government says that we reduces poverty but in terms of number, there are still

more people in poverty. That is very important.

In Africa and other places, incomes are growing up, you can find improvement. People are living longer and healthier and extreme poverty is going down. Child mortality is also improving. We know in Africa 7 out of 10 fastest growing economies in the past decade were in the African continent. We also see some countries become self-sufficient and become donors. China is coming on, India is coming on, Brazil and others.

We know the improvement of schools is growing up, life expectancy has increased, but nonetheless we know these averages must reflect the real situation on the earth. I should have started with this to compare Asia Tigers with what is happening in the African Continent. Asian Tigers have moved but some of African countries have not, so we need to reflect and talk about it, in term of BRICs – Brazil, Russia, India and China as growing economies. Also MINTs – Mexico, Indonesia, Nigeria and Turkey are the countries to watch from now on as countries of growing.

Looking at the U.S., China and Japan in terms of GDP, China may overtake the U.S. This is some new information on what is going on and we need to position ourselves and see who are doing well, and what it is they are doing and what we do should. So I also invite you to think about the demographic dividend again. In terms of demographic transition, our country is moving from high mortality and fertility to low, in order for us to be able to get demographic dividend.

What countries should do in order to speed up achievement of the demographic dividend, which I said, is not automatic. Some enhance policies on health, population and education to deal with child mortality, which must be reduced as a result of family planning and have education, especially for females. We also need economic policies to make sure labor policies taking into consideration gender and empowerment of women. Also the skills need to be built to improve human capital.

There are economic policies to achieve demographic dividend through financial

institutions and domestic services, but also maternal health, family planning and nutrition will accelerate the transition as well as

education and empowerment of women. But most important, countries must provide jobs for people. Thank you.

“Best Practice for Population Programme Implementation by UNFPA Uganda”

Ms. Florence Tagoola

Team Leader - Population and Development of UNFPA, Uganda

Curriculum Vitae

Ms. Florence Tagoola is a team leader of Population and Development of the UNFPA Uganda office.

I am going to make life easy by making a very short presentation so that we can catch up by time. You will see in the short video what UNFPA is doing in Uganda. We partner with Population Secretariat, RHU and PPDR, who already talk about population and development programmes in the country and they have given a situation in Uganda.

As we marked the 20th years of ICPD, you see that there is a lot is needed. So I am not going to that background, but the presentation here will give you an idea what we are doing in Uganda to address the issue of sexual and

reproductive health.

But briefly as UNFPA, our major strategic focus is specifically to ensure access to sexual and reproductive health and rights and reduce maternal mortality. We do not implement independently but work through with partners and, as I said, some already given what we are doing and we are working closely with them. So I invite you to watch this video and after that we can have discussion.

Thank you.

Discussion

Chair: **Hon. Kwasi Agyemang Gyan-Tutu**

Member of Parliament, Ghana

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Kwasi Gyan-Tutu was a former Civil Servant. Currently he is a Member of Parliament, and Member of Population Caucus on Population and Development.

He has MPhil from University of Ghana

Chair:

Thank you Madam. I would like to go for 3 or 4 questions. Please, Uganda.

Hon. Sarah Netalisire Kayagi, Uganda:

Thank you Chair, I would like to thank presenters for their interesting presentations. My concern or question, I do not know what to call it, is that poor people have more children and rich people have less children, and that is where should our energies go. Should we concentrate on economic empowerment? What can we do in order to achieve that? Thank you.

Hon. Mathias Kasamba, Uganda:

I would like to thank presenters for the very good and enriching submissions. I have an experience of last year when the International Conference on Family Planning was held in Addis Ababa. They have made and jumped to massive family planning programmes, whereby put in place community health workers. They have also strategy on development of families, as a strategy for making sure that there is comprehensive community approach to ensure that awareness of population is taking care of maternal, health and family planning concerns.

How are we fast tracking these ones in other countries to make sure we catch up with the lost time even a fact that most of are behind of schedule and making sure we put things to right and ensure family planning and population issues in main screen of their economy policy and framework of these countries. Thank you.

Chair:

Next, please Uganda.

Hon. Nalubega Mariam, Uganda:

I would like to find out how really we can involve in the issues of family planning. Because through presentation we find that we still have a very low percentage of men who are involved in family planning. For the majority of our people in the rural areas, indeed we go a long way we need to get men fully involved in the issue of the family planning. So it is not clear now we can involve men to help us in this fight against population growth, for example, in Uganda.

Chair:

Please answer these questions.

Dr. Jotham Musinguzi, PPD-ARO, Uganda:

First, Honourable Nyakikongoro's question in terms of empowerment. I think part of window of demographic dividend helps us realize – I want to use Honourable Kasamba's words about the need to be comprehensive and holistic, and also to pay attention to not only short-term but also long term needs.

For example, if you look at the current situation, paying attention to family planning saves rights of women and children so we need to make sure it is done. Sometimes we must look at a long term span, to make sure other things are in place: education, finance and jobs. The policy needs to make sure that jobs are also available because people to whom you have already given contraceptives will not bring food on the table to the people. That is why the concept of demographic dividend is looking at all these things – at health, population issues, education

and jobs. You have to be holistic and look at the country as a whole.

Let me bring you an example, Ghana's transition is already moving on, so the policies which Ghana needs now may not be exactly the same policies as Uganda needs. Just as we heard examples from Japan and whichever in the Stage Four, they have issues of ageing, which is very severe. They have implications for their health insurance, pensions and others. But that is not an immediate problem of Uganda, but of course one day we also get that. That is the way we need to look at this.

I agree with Honourable Kasamba, who cleared it if Ethiopia's demographic transition moves on, Uganda needs to learn. You are in the same circumstances, as you have low resources. So if a policy is working there very well, we should be able to think how we replicate it with some modification along the line. So I think I will leave the other questions for the other colleagues.

Dr. Betty Kyaddondo, Uganda:

Thank you very much for the questions. Honourable Kasamba asked a very important question on how we fast are tracking. In the last International Conference on Family Planning, there was a lot of discussion on achievements countries realized by working closely with community health workers promoting family planning. I just want to say two things.

First, Uganda is the country which first developed the community health workers programme. What happened then is that the countries which learned from us, Ethiopia and Rwanda, have really gone far ahead of us. I think I did recommendation on my presentation, and one thing we need to do is to ensure that our village health teams to become part of the health system, for as long as we continue to rely on their volunteering work we are not going to benefit much. We cannot get people to do work for us when nothing is being paid to them by the end of the day. I know it may not be your major role as a Member of Parliament of Uganda, but there is something you can do. You do advocacy as much as possible and we support you as the Population Secretariat to change this.

Another thing with regard to family planning is the issue of task sharing or task shifting. It was also discussed that at the Family Planning Conference, and we know that there are certain skills that different cadres have not got in school. And I also know that Uganda is in the process of developing implementation plan for the family planning, and most of these issues must be incorporated in this plan. But there are challenges. Many times you heard from the UNFPA presentation that they are supportive but these are limited in the district survey support. They are limited in the certain areas. It is time that we came up with the National Family Planning programme that reaches each and every one, because everyone is in need.

There is a need for family planning even in Kampala. There are so many needs even for men who are educated. There is a need to have a National Family Planning programme that reaches everyone and that is not limited.

Also I attempt to respond to the question from Honourable Mariam. It is very true that there is a way of preventing their accessing to the family planning, but I know there is a lot that is going good. Ministry of Health and Ministry of Gender and Social Development have developed what they call male involvement strategy, and probably this year it is going to be implemented.

We shall see more work been done in terms of establishment of male action groups, in terms of working with communities, which involve men to support women, to support reproductive health and services. If you just established men action groups, how we need to support them work. So there were questions because they just established these groups which were not guidelines for their operation, so they finalized them toward the end of last year and now they should be ready for use. Especially districts that are supported by UNFPA and I am sure male action groups will be functioning, thank you.

Ms. Florence Tagoola, UNFPA, Uganda:

Since morning, the issue of where our focus has been coming out and reflecting on the IPCI Conference in Addis, especially for Africa, we remember that the issues of young population came up strongly and Dr. Musinguzi talked about demographic dividend, and to answer the

question of our Member of Parliament, how do you make it happen?

We know there is no country that has been developed without reducing fertility and reducing mortality. So how do you ensure that the decision-makers and policy-makers advocate for SRH so that we are able to achieve demographic dividend. We are not there, and we need to transit from high fertility to low fertility, from high mortality to low mortality so that young population will contribute to our countries. To me, this is a key area especially for the East African countries, and we need to focus on this and we need your support from parliamentarians. Thank you very much.

Chair:

Thank you to all resource persons. We heard very interactive discussion, and I think the bottom line that they are claiming the links between population issues, education, health and unemployed, and I think that would be complex in Africa because there are cultural and religious values and poverty. I think if we collaborate we can get there, and we should take all these issue at National Security issues. Uganda's third high population growth should be softened, and I think Uganda should be third worldwide to come out to find solution to these problems. Thank you very much.

SESSION 3
***Legislation and Policies for Population
Programme***

“Legislation and Policies for Population Programme in Lao PDR”

Hon. Vonekham Phethavong

Member of Parliament, Lao PDR

Curriculum Vitae

- Member of the National Assembly of Lao PDR in Legislature VI and VII. He is a Vice President of Bothen economic zone (border with China). He graduated from Sofia University of Bulgaria in 1989. From 1989-1992 was serving as a diplomat of Lao Embassy in Bulgaria; in 1993-95 Secretary to the Minister of Education; in 1995-2000 Deputy Director-General of the Personnel Department of Ministry of Education; from 2000-2005 Chief of the Personnel Service of the Province.

I am pleased and honoured to attend this meeting. First of all, I would like to express thanks to APDA for inviting us to Uganda, Africa, and thanks to the host for the warm welcome.

Laos is a small country, with a small population. It has about six million people, but our country is located nearby big countries with bigger populations, like China, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar and Cambodia. Economic growth in Laos is about 8%, and our population growth is about 2%.

As we are aware, population dynamic like size, structure, composition and distribution is the important frame for the national development planning. The country's population represents the most important resource and minimizing the speed strengthens the national development. It reflects the importance of the population, too.

The Lao PDR had the high intention to pursue the national policy on population and development, which has been adopted in 1999. Success in many areas just as improved health services, increase education opportunity for women and children, improve livelihood of all ethnic groups, and last but not least, upgrading knowledge and skills on staff working on demographic issues.

Like all the countries in the region, Lao PDR still experiences high population growth, and the total population growth of Lao is about 55-60% in recent 10 years. There was an increase from five million to six million in the 2005 census. It

means that from 1995 to 2005, the population grew by one million. At present, about 50% of the population in my country is young. It is below 20 years old, according to the 2005 census.

With declining fertility and increasing life expectancy, it is expected that the number and proportion of the elderly population will start to increase in our country. The Lao PDR is now already in the list of the first demographic dividend, which will last for about 30 years until the aging of the population starts. Population is increasing, not only in the city but in rural areas.

Lao PDR pay attention to the legislation and policy for population and development. Let me share with you some of our policies in the area of population and development. We introduced a National Policy on Birth spacing in 1995 and a National Reproductive Health Policy in January 2005. A Policy on Maternal and Child Health including safe motherhood was enacted in 2002. The National Policy and Strategy for the Prevention and Care of STD started in 1998. The National AIDs Policy was adopted in 2001. The National Policy on Population and Development was adopted in 1999. The national policy provides guidelines on achieving the package of existing policy instructions, according to the national growth and poverty eradication strategy.

The Maternal and Child Decree was adopted in 2004 that reflected the country's situation in terms of geographic structure including infrastructure, transportation, living conditions of the people of multi-ethnic groups with

traditions, beliefs and practices.

Our policy development also aims to improve efficient management in all levels. Community access network in order to meet the need of the old people living in the remote areas is important. Also, on the medicine policy and programme, the National Assembly of the Lao PDR and the Lao Association of Parliamentarians on Population Development (LAPPD) carry out the oversight of the implementation of the existing legislation covering population and development. We have a law on development and the protection of women, law on health care, family law, the law on food and the law on hygiene, for health promotion. We focus very much on our region, public hearing, communication structured to involve and inspire the public in the implementation through education and information.

The committee participation is the key to implement legislation and policy for the implementing programmes. Inter- and intra-sector coordination is also important in the mainstreaming population issue into the national economic development. It is also to facilitate successful management and implementation. LAPPD advocates frequent and regular outreach on population issues, including reproductive health, family planning, maternal and child health.

The Lao PDR is still facing some challenges being vulnerable and less development. The country is also affected by the financial and economic crises, climate change and has problems with the implementation of the ICPD PoA and the MDGs. Members of the National Assembly

encourages the government to intensify efforts to mobilize both domestic and external resources to improve the key sectors. They focus also on developing human resource capacity, improving the education system and infrastructure development, in particularly transportation and communication investment.

Allow me to share with you some recommendations. Parliamentarians should aid all the states to start to introduce laws and policies to promote population programmes, and push adaptation. Parliamentarians should urge the government at both the national and local level to increase budgetary allocation on population issues. Parliamentarians should advocate on strong community participation. Parliamentarians should strengthen the evaluation of the implementation of the social-economic development plans, including budget allocation, approved by the parliament.

Cooperation and coordination mechanisms between the parliament and the government and other development partners should be strengthened to effectively increase budget allocation to promote programmes dealing with population issues, especially people living in rural and remote areas, to achieve the MDGs by 2015. Parliamentarians in Asia and Africa should be strong in networking to share experience on the issues of population and development.

Lastly, I would like to express our gratitude for giving us, the delegation of Lao PDR, an opportunity to share with you some experience of Lao PDR in terms of population and development. Thank you.

“Population: Legislation and Policies in Zambia”

Hon. Boniface Mutale

Member of Parliament; Vice-Chair of ZAPPD, Zambia

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Boniface Mutale is Vice-Chair of ZAPPD; President of Zambia Rugby Union.
Constituency Number: 21; Parliamentary History started in 2011.

I feel very privileged that I also take part in presenting my speech on this topic. My presentation outlines the overview of the population. Secondly, policies related to population, Vision 2030 of the National Policy.

Zambia’s population size: Like I stated in the last meeting we had in Tokyo, Japan in November 2013, Zambia has young population according to official statistics that we have. According to the census of population announced and conducted in 2010, Zambia population is 13,092,666. Trends in Zambia’s population size from 1940 to 2020 projection indicate that our population keeps growing up and up and up. The population grew at an annual rate of 2.8% during 2000 and 2010. This is backed by the rate of 6.2 children per woman. Some of the challenges which attribute to the rapid growth of population are early marriages of which in Zambia been discouraged. From the table below you can see that Zambia and Uganda are in the same race of high fertility rates compared to other countries.

As you have noticed even yesterday we saw border-border transports carrying people around, because of the rapid growth of population. It is therefore necessary that we share the best practices with our colleagues from other countries in order to mitigate this challenge or crisis. Suffice to say that population growth should be superseded by sustainable economic growth in order to meet the law of demand and supply.

We have also, however, been striving to control high fertility rates. For instance the table illustrates the contraceptive prevalence in

Zambia. As you can see, contraceptive prevalence keeps growing up, but the total fertility rates is not dropping at all, meaning it is not compensating itself. There are two schools of thought related to population development – addressing population growth first or economic growth first. The question is which one should come first – population or economic growth. I would like this meeting to come up with an answer which should be agreed by all.

The so-called question also is what the best ideal population size is for my home and your home, as leaders, before we preach to our constituencies and the count. Evidence shows that countries that will maintain population growth rate at a level that is a third of their economic growth rates, they have recorded significant levels of development, e.g. China and Japan. The question is, what plans are we putting in place to also move in this direction?

This entails the paradigm shifts of policies and legislation, which should be supported by all concerned citizens in their respective countries. As you can see from the graph, it speaks for itself. The economy is superseded by population growth, and their population growth remains stagnant and is not improving at all, which is a big challenge. So the economic growth is not in tandem with the population growth.

From the graph above, I still want to ask the same questions as I asked before: what are the consequences of having a much higher economic growth rate than the population growth rate? What are the consequences of having a much higher population growth rate than economic growth rate? Again, our request

to the delegates to this conference to deliberate on this and that we can learn from each other. I personally may not have the answers to give you, but I would like to also learn from you, because this is a learning process. I leave these questions for your considerations. The above population dynamics and the questions that have a bearing on development have made Zambia embark on a population programme in relation to policy and legislation reform which I write below.

National policies on population: Zambia's policies on population as I may understand them being the Vice-Chair of ZAPPD. The development agenda of the country is anchored on the Vision 2030, which is the long-term agenda. In this vision, that role of population factors play as development and outlined. Among the objectives set out in the Vision 2030 is to reduce the annual population growth rate from 2.8% to 1% over 25 years. At the same time, maintaining the real economic growth of 6-10%. Once this is achieved, we have infrastructure to support the population that will be prevailing during that period. This national vision has seen various supporting documents including the revised National Population Policy.

Since the mid-1980s, Zambia has recognized high population growth rates as an obstacle to social economic development. This realization resulted in the formulation of the National Population Policy in 1989. That led to the revision in 2007 in order to be in tandem with other development agendas, such as the Vision 2030. It is also necessary to note that 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) played a key role in the developmental agenda that led to the revision of the 1989 Population Policy that has been superseded by the 2007 National Population Policy, of which I have a booklet to which you can photocopy so that anyone can go and read it when they have time.

Population Policy Objectives are to:

- Integrate population variables, reproductive health, including family planning, gender and HIV/AIDS into programme implementation process,

especially in education, health and agriculture

- Reduce the incidence of morbidity and mortality, particularly maternal, infant and child mortality rates.
- Reduce the high level fertility, particularly the adolescents' fertility
- Promote the achievement of even spatial distribution of population
- Improve the sexual and reproductive health including family planning so as to encourage manageable family size
- Achieve a more even distribution of population between rural and urban areas to regulate migration.

What are the strategies? The strategies that the policy uses are multi-sexual, multi-dimensional in nature:

- Establishing of a population unit in all the relevant institutions and strengthening the institutional capabilities of integrating population variables into the developmental planning and programmes at the national and district levels
- Strengthening and expanding the integration of population and family life education in existing programmes for in and out of school adolescents and youth
- Promoting the values of manageable family size
- Promoting awareness and understanding of population and development issues, including reproductive health, especially family planning, gender, STIs and HIV/AIDS.

Among influential groups such as ZAPPD, which deals with population matters in Zambia, this is also extended to influential citizens and the general public. For enhancing development mechanisms:

- Coordination, collection, processing, analysis, dissemination, and utilization of demographic-related information
- Training, retraining and retention of human resource so as to ensure effective implementation of population and development programmes, which in most cases are not given the necessary attention themselves
- Enhancing and expanding access to guidance and counseling services in the

area of reproductive health, including HIV/AIDS, for all population groups including refugees, persons with disabilities, and special groups

- Subsidizing parents and communities on the value of education, especially for a girl-child, with Members of Parliament in Zambia actively working with communities
- Promoting integrated rural development so as to reduce rural-urban migration

This migration is what is causing the strain on the limited infrastructures available such as water, sanitation and medical services. Through this strategy, the government has embarked on infrastructure development such as rural electrification, leading the Zambia 8000km Road Project, construction of 650 health posts countrywide, creation of universities and schools in rural areas, promoting research on inter-relationships between population and reproductive health, gender, HIV/AIDS, and various aspects of development. Furthermore:

- Promoting awareness of the importance of sustainable use of natural resources
- Promoting economic expansion and job creation
- Promoting awareness on gender-based violence and child abuse
- Promoting gender equality in all spheres of national development to ensure sustainable development
- Promoting measures for the reduction of incidences of HIV/AIDS and STIs.

Institutional arrangements: the coordination of policy is done by Inter-agency Technical Committee on Population (ITCP). Minister of Finance and National Planning chairs this committee. The secretariat of this committee is provided by a Permanent Secretary in charge of planning and economic management division in the Ministry of Finance and National Planning. The membership of this committee is made up of major institutions that deal with issues of population and development, such as the civil society organizations, education and the provision centers, and ZAPPD as well.

The ITCP membership to subcommittees comprises senior technical officials from the appropriate institutions. The secretariat works

closely with various sectors' advisor groups, provincial development coordinating committees, and district development committees' coordinating committees.

Fellow delegates, with these very few words I have said, ZAPPD engaged in various meetings with the Ministry of Finance, and other relevant ministries to discuss these issues pertaining to population and economic growth. Normally the Ministry of Finance calls for a meeting at ITCP each year to look at the status of the population policy in Zambia. In 2013 the meeting was not held. As a result of these meetings, Members of Parliament do take some of the resolutions as motions for debate in the house. This shows how ZAPPD would like to see issues on population and development are given the necessary attention they deserve.

There are some of the pieces of legislation that relate to the population and development. Article 77 of the Constitution provides for the delineation of the constituencies using population data. As you may be aware, some of the constituencies in Zambia have larger population than others; they deserve to be split in two halves, maybe three. So the government is looking at that. If the new constitution comes out, which we are waiting for, maybe to include that data to work out for other constituencies to be split. Article 127 provides for the conducting of census.

The other issue of concern is that the early marriages especially the girl-child who is pushed into this without her consent. In most cases, these girls are below the age of 16. Therefore, this has become crime by law. Already some people have been sent to jail, and they are serving their respective sentences.

In the African set-up this has also been common trend, because for most parents their interest is dowry as a means of living, which I think we share the same feelings with Kenya, Uganda, Ghana and Malawi. I think in most African countries this has been an issue that parents marry off their children quite early. However, pieces of legislation need to be reviewed and harmonized in order to promote the implementation of the objectives outlined in the national population policy and the Vision of

2030.

In conclusion, I would like all of us to embark on vigorous programmes for legislative and policy reform for the integration of population factors such as fertility, mortality and migration. They

are the integral part of the developmental processes, which will continue to pose a great challenge with the sustainable development and implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action. Thank you. ASANTE SANA!

Discussion

Chair: Hon. Helen Kuyembeh

Member of Parliament, Sierra Leone

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Helen Kuyembeh is a Member of the Sierra Leone Parliament since 2012 and a member of the opposition party; a member of the Public Accounts Committee;

She is the designated Member of Parliament for Sierra Leone Parliamentary Action Group on Population and Development and works closely with key development partners on population and development like UNFPA; she was a career civil servant for many years and championed issues of women, children and vulnerable groups

Chair:

Thank you very much, Mr. Mutale. That was very close to home, because it actually gave me a clear picture of our population policy revised just that as theirs has been. At this point, because we are running out of time, I am going to take just probably two questions on either side of the table. Yes, Honourable from Malawi.

Hon. Paul Chibingu, Malawi:

I just wanted to thank the resource persons for the presentations. But my comment is going direct to my brother from Zambia who has made a very nice presentation, and I have got two comments which I just wanted to bring forward. When he was making a presentation on the contraceptives laid against fertility, he had posed a question where he was saying despite that we are doing well in the provision of the contraceptives, but our fertility rate is too high.

I wanted to share this experience that we have also in Malawi, and after doing a thorough research, we discovered that most of the women, especially in the rural areas, who go for contraceptives, they go there after they had already produced six children and above. Unlike those who go from urban setup, who normally target to say, "I just want to have four children" and they go according to their child-spacing. I think this could be the similar problem with Zambia where maybe, women do so, especially those who live in rural places. After having six or seven children, that is when they say, let's go and start family planning. I just want also to

comment, though it is not being emphasized in all the presentations.

I think the issue of rural growth centers is the answer to most of our problems that we highlighted or have been represented by many presenters. Because we find that most of the problems we are having in Africa is the high illiterate rate. When you take over the high mortality rate, you find that those who died are those who come from the rural places. When we talk of any other development, we find that those who are doing well are those who are living in urban places.

Even when it comes to formulation of a budget, they focus much on people who are living in the urban places. But in most cases, from my observation in my country, you find that the high population lives in the rural places. And these are the very people who are bringing in or contributing negatively to the development of our population because they are lacking knowledge. When Honourable Boniface was making his presentation, he was talking of a short-term method of combining such problems by coming up with mobile family planning activities, which I feel is a short-term method.

I feel to come up with a long-term method, we need also to intensify and emphasize the need of having rural growth centers. In Malawi we had already started 30-40 years ago, but that was not supported by the donors. It was the initial arrangement, in which each and every district should be having one or two rural birth

centers. Otherwise, people rush to town, which makes many people to migrate to town. They should be available at the rural level and I am sure that would help manage our rural places to have better access to education, better access of water supply, better access to healthy provisions. That is what I wanted to add. Thank you.

Chair:

Thank you, too. I will just take one more question. Botswana, please

Hon. Fidelis Molao, Botswana:

Just one probably rhetorical question or observation which we can all try to answer as we deliberate on. We were talking about the fertility rate, and Honourable Mutale said 6.2 on average per family.

I was just wondering whether in Botswana my observation is that in families we may say they who are the poorest of the poor, we find an average of five children per family. But as you go up the ladder to the middle class, one child or two, and the question would be, where do we miss it in terms of reaching these people? In other countries, do we see the same trend? Are they in rural areas or even in urban centers, do we find such trends? The real question is where we miss it, as leaders, planners, and stakeholders who are involved in developmental processes and also researchers dealing with demographics and population statistics. The psychology of it, why is it that we find it to be that way? Thank you.

Chair:

Can you make it real quick?

Hon. Boniface Mutale, Zambia:

Thank you. I would like to just make a comment to my brother from Malawi. In Zambia, we will embark on, like I said earlier, on construction of 650 health centers in rural areas so that people can have access to this.

Also these problems that we are talking about, due to lack of facilities and infrastructure in some parts of the country, we embarked on this and this is done in conjunction with the Indian government which provided the resources to build this infrastructure. The groundbreaking

was done about weeks ago and they are already in Zambia from India.

And then the issue from my brother from Botswana, when he spoke about the 6.2 children per woman, I think in an African context, people feel that if they have more children, they have more people to look after them. Equally, for fear of death, so they try to insure that they have more children than they can afford to look after.

But as it is happening these days now, the economics is not allowing that number of children and the Honourable Members from the African or Asian regions also will find that those children who pass exams in our constituencies, they usually go to Members of Parliament to plan with their school fund. And it is across Africa, it is not just in my country alone. So the moment they realize that they should have sizeable number of children, whom they are able to sustain and give them better education, it would be of good use.

Also there is lack of information. I think now in the rural setup, most of the Members of Parliament, who all come from the rural areas, will all embark on this exercise of trying to impart knowledge to our citizenry out there so that they know that having more than two children is not going to be of good use. Some people have 12 children and this is a fact. And they need to be given the opportunity. You see, to be honest, in the rural areas there is lack of entertainment. You know, in towns people go socializing. So with those remarks I would say we need to assist our citizens in terms of knowledge because knowledge is power. Thank you.

Chair:

Thank you very much.

Mr. Bounlert Loungdouangchanh, Lao PDR:

I would like to share with you about family planning. We have some experience in Lao PDR. Actually we have a small population, about six million. We are in truth family planning but now we do not worry about population growth in Laos. In the city, the most family population growth is very slow, very little.

For example, one family has only one child or two children in the city. The high population growth occurs only in the countryside and in the mountainous areas. So we expect by 2040 or by 2050 the Lao society will be an aging society. The aging population will come to Laos faster than expected, like Singapore or Japan.

Now we have to think about family planning. People consider about improving family incomes and improving family wealth. That is why people do not have a lot of children in Laos. Yesterday we went to a study visit in this area. I think Africa and Asia are quite similar, in that we have one common problem, which is poverty. The poverty prevents us from having access to education and public health. I think the parliamentarians have a role to encourage the government to do more about population and development. Lastly, thanks to APDA to make this forum, to the Members of Parliament from Asia and Africa to share experience how to go ahead to address population and development. Thank you.

Chair:

I actually wanted to stop it, but if you pleased to do me a favor and make it real quick because we are running out of time.

Hon. Dr. Florian Bodog, Romania:

Yes, a very short comment I want to have, because we are all parliamentarians, I want to say that according with the title of the session, "Legislation and Policy" for the country with the same problems, we need to build the same, the similar legislation, and the similar policy.

Chair:

Thank you. On that note, I want to thank our resource people, thank you very much for your time, and all we have shared with us. I also want to thank members of our participation group for sharing in and chipping in, and I want to take this opportunity to appreciate the presenters. Thank you.

SESSION 4
***Impact of IT, Technology, Accountability,
Transparency, and Good Governance***

“Impact of IT Technology: Accountability, Transparency and Good Governance”

Mr. Arindam Chackrabarte

Project Manager of Airtel Uganda

Curriculum Vitae

Mr. Arindam Chackrabarte is a project Manager of Airtel Uganda
Airtel Uganda is owned by Bharti Airtel, the world’s fourth telecom company.

It is been a real pleasure for us, to be a part and be associated with you, in our own humble capacity, which our managing director could not be here today. I will take you through a short presentation. I was happy that the Honourable was able to pronounce my name, which is a big difference from the time I came in Uganda about two years back, and I have not left thereafter. Thank you Honourable for that. I am supported by my colleague Dennis Kakonge. Dennis is our Legal Director, and he will help me with the presentation.

What we have tried to do is put together in our own small humble way what we think is the contribution of ICT to the topic of the day, which is “Accountability, Transparency, and Good Governance”.

But before we do that, let me just take you through a small snippet of the Airtel journey in Uganda. This is about five minutes, so kindly bear with us.

And finally good governance refers to all the processes of governing which then define actions and at the end, very importantly verify the performance that has happened. In short, the importance of ATG, which talks about the answerability being equal to accountability, transparency, the way that we see things, and the way that people can see us as well, and governance, which is to define the actions and finally verify performance.

A quick look at the emerging economy of the ICT: this has been for the last 10 years, between 2000 and 2011. You see, sub-Saharan Africa, which Uganda is a part of, has been growing at a

rate at almost 40% over the last 10 years. It is a little lower than what we have seen in South Africa, but among other parts of Africa, which is Mid-East and North-Africa, we find Uganda to be growing. And especially Eastern African countries are growing at a rate, which is a little higher than what the rest of Africa has been growing.

In terms of mobile penetration, we all know, I think it is a unique phenomenon across the world. We see fixed line has grown, has grown from almost 9 million to about 12 million over the space of the last 10 years, but what we have seen is almost an exponential growth in the mobile. From almost 16.5 million we are now talking about to 650 million of mobile phone users across Africa. This shows the potential of mobiles, and the fact that how we can make ICT and through the hands of the common people, make ATG accessible.

I think there are a lot of numbers here, but one that I would like you to focus on today is that ICT contributes almost 7% to 8% of Africa’s GDP. We have a large network, backbone of almost 615,000 km. This shows that each of us can learn and pick up from the other in terms of sharing and kind of driving penetration as well.

The other big one is the growth of the bandwidth of Internet. It is almost 20 times. This is again a phenomenon which is the world over, but we have seen Africa in short picking it up much faster than most of other economies have done. What today gets launched in Asia, or in Europe, or in America, gets launched the very same day in Africa as well. Today’s S5 launch happening or has been planned in parts of Asia

and America the same S5 launch is being planned in Africa, specifically in Uganda, as well. In terms of some of the initiatives that we are talking about, maybe we can put together certain examples.

Now these are some of these places or sectors or categories that we can look at. The first one means election monitoring. Let me give an example. This was pioneered by an organization called USHAHIDI in Kenya. USHAHIDI in Swahili means “testimony”. This is basically non-profit software that was developed for collection, visualization and interactive mapping. In some ways it also helped to track any kind of violence that could have happened after the elections were announced in 2007. It has been picked up from what I understand, or what we have learned, it has been picked up in many countries including South of Sudan, Togo, and Liberia, and now from what we understand it is going to be used in South Africa and in the Asia as well.

The second one that we can talk about is on the health service delivery. The health service delivery, this is about a project called *kubatana.net*. *Kubatana.net* is an initiative pioneered in Zimbabwe and it intended to be a one-stop shop for information about social change, a website that improves the accessibility of knowledge particularly of human rights and civic information in Zimbabwe. What we are here talking about is that there are various models for tracking, and the way ICT has also been used for dissemination of information.

The next one, Budget Monetary, started in Kenya. We know that every Member of Parliament is given a certain sum of money to facilitate development programmes in this region. This tool provides access to citizens on how the funds have been utilized by each of the Members of Parliament. In a way is transparency, in a way, that is accountability. This is transparency and accountability, obviously that will lead to good governance as well.

The other one we will talk about is Civic Complaints. This is infamous, but it is also known in various media as the social pack which talks about Twitter, Facebook, and even things

like WhatsApp.

We know that many countries went through a kind of a revolution, which was sparked up or added with the help of the Social Media, driving agents as well. In terms of advocacy, I think this is something that we Ugandans can be proud of, which is what we call the U-Report. It is a free SMS-based system that allows young Ugandans to speak out on what is happening in their communities. We all understand that ICT impact on ATG is at its infant stage in many sectors. But this is a good start which has been made. We do not know for now as to how many hits the U-Report system is generating at this point of time. But as we speak further and give our recommendations, I think driving awareness trial and training will help drive penetration of many of these applications which exist today.

The other one that was there was Crime Mapping. I think today a lot of fraud, a lot of misuse, a lot of abuse can be tracked through intelligence that is available through the mobile network. Mobile network can help you understand the location and position of the individual who is using a particular service, understand his movement, and understand the other people whom he is in touch with, and therefore it almost forms a very, very critical tool as part of the ATG as well.

I am sure each of you in their own way will add more thought and insight into some of the categories that we have highlighted here. But we just want to leave it at the point of time where it can generate some sort of discussion. Some examples that I still have is there is something called a “Spin and Watch”. This is some information that I have picked up from the Internet. It encourages residents in Malaysia to submit their complaints to local authorities through its online channel. What are we trying to say here is empowerment. It is at your fingertips, and it is with every individual given the penetration of mobile phones and ICT.

Let me now start taking you to the initiatives that Airtel Africa has done as far as ICT is concerned. First is in terms of education delivery we are partnering with Nokia to develop an ICT-based initiative to provide broadband connectivity in rural schools. You

may know that there are many schools which do not have access to knowledge, primarily because of the absence of teachers, because of the absence of access to online knowledge which is relevant. This programme also uses mobile technology to make available educational videos in the classrooms. I have heard many times people have picked up a lot about learning how to play a particular instrument by picking up videos on the YouTube. I think there are many such things that people, our own brethren, in rural areas, who do not have access to education, can also enjoy and can also pick up a lot of learnings from this programme as well.

Million Village Collection, which is the second point, is in partnership with the Earth Institute. Airtel Africa at group level has decided to provide technical communication services to eight villages in six African countries. These countries are Ghana, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda itself, Kenya and Nigeria. This programme provides Internet and connections for the community health workers so that you are part of one group, you are part of one community, and you are part of one system.

Finally, Digital Hubs: I think that this was spearheaded primarily in Uganda, which is British Council, Microsoft and Airtel partnered to provide broadband connectivity. To all our schools in Uganda we should be able to provide hubs for training, hubs for research, hubs for education. This is now being spread across nine countries. This is the model that we have developed here in Uganda.

Finally, on recommendations for a robust ATG, structured through ICT. These are some of our recommendations that we started the presentation with. These are our humble recommendations, and I am sure you in your own way are more learned to take this forward, but what we can suggest is the first part being training. I think there are a lot of civil service organizations which are hungry for skills to utilize the tools. I think while we can debate, discuss, and dialogue on the need for ICT and ATG to be together, I am sure many of our colleagues do not have access, or knowledge on how to use some of these applications. So for us training takes the first most important criteria

for driving ICT and ATG together.

Secondary thing is improve appreciation. To improve appreciation what you are talking about is awareness. If you are aware, about a particular application, if you understand and value its contribution, the role of ICT in development in democracy can be further enhanced.

Create a safe working environment. I think we have Honourable Members of Parliament sitting here. I think what we have seen here, and I am sure you will see in many other parts of the world as well, is how the government supports freedom of speech, freedom of expression, and I think to the leaders here a humble request for ensuring that it continues to do so. All this implementation, I think whatever we do, we know ICT is here. ICT can foster growth, ICT can foster awareness, and ICT can really help a country leapfrog into the next space. So policies which can help adoption of ICT, spread of ICT can further address our initiative and objective.

Creative outreach: I think the issue here is for the illiterate people who may not be able to read, write, but have always access to audio visual learning. I think for them ICT becomes a very key element, because we know there are people who may not be able to write or read, but they can definitely understand what you are saying.

Encouraging participation: I think this is a sector which has grown primarily because of the increased participation of people across all age groups, gender and social strata. Finally, providing funding: I think if the leadership team in this room takes it among themselves to foster ICT, I am sure it will help not only in creating awareness and understanding, but also being a large, sustainable group engine as well.

We have kept it to just about 10-12 minutes so that we just give you a gist of our thought as far as ICT and ATG is concerned. What we would now like to do is over the space of the next 10 minutes take you to what has been Airtel's journey. We will show you a short clip and will try and explain to you the kind of investments that Airtel has done in Uganda.

Airtel is present in more than 20 countries in Asia and Africa it is ranked number 4 globally in terms of customer base, we have all over the world about 281 million customers, we offer 2G-3G services here in Uganda, and in many other countries we offer 4G as well, which also includes M-commerce, fixed lines, high speed DSL broadband, IPTV and DTH.

We offer services on enterprise, and on also national and international long-distance services and carriers. In short, we are one of the global leaders in telecommunications. Our vision: By 2015, Airtel will be the most loved brand in the daily lives of Ugandans. This was a vision that was crafted when Airtel came into Uganda in June 2010, so we had given ourselves the space of five years to be able to reach this resolution.

In terms of investments, I think Airtel has till date invested about US\$260 million, of which about US\$120 million were invested last year. This is the largest Indian FDI injection into the Ugandan economy, but more than that, I think we have been able to make substantial inroads into the hearts and minds of people as well.

Transformation of the IT sector: this is what we call the three spaces in which we are present today and offer services, starting with mobile telephoning, and then we offer a meaningful choice to the customer. This is affordability, quality of network, and something that keeps Ugandans together. In terms of coverage, there are about 160 towns and cities, or 750 villages which are equally to about 80% of the geography and nearly 90% of the population. The task that we have set for ourselves is to move this access to over 95% of the population.

In terms of mobile Internet, I think affordable Internet is very important. We are the largest 3G coverage in the country, daily cover 430 sites that are 3G enabled. We have access to local content. We have partnered with UGO.com, which is a website that offers relevant local content. When I say local I mean Ugandan content, and which is absolutely free. So any time anybody browses UGO.net from their mobile phone, it is absolutely free of charge.

And finally the social media and the youth focus.

As a matter of fact, what we have done is also used a Facebook page for resolving numerous customer complaints.

Airtel money: I think this is where we have made some inroads. We have a long way to go, but today in terms of transaction fees, they are low. We have over 15,000 agents across the country, a very reliable platform, and we offer both bill and bulk pay solutions. A quick part and a few words on the so-called "marriage" which happened when Airtel took over WARID UGANDA LIMITED. It was supposed to be a wedding that it would have made Ugandans happy. I think what you saw was the benefits of the merger to the sector. I think the emphasis to create a strong sector in terms of the benefits to the government, in terms of taxation, drive penetration as most of the resources would be used to drive coverage, affordability, build on innovation and finally enhanced customer service.

What we feel is that the sector has benefited a big way after Airtel's merger with WARID. In terms of benefits for the customer; today the customer enjoys being a part of a large global brand, we are seeing constant investment and therefore better benefits and services to the customer, with access to latest technology.

One African network: One African network is talking the benefit of ICT forward while one African may mean that we operate in 17 countries in Africa today. If a customer in any of these 17 countries, especially Uganda, travels with a SIM to any of the other 16 countries, incoming calls while roaming is absolutely free. This, I think, takes away the so-called fear in the mind of customers to say, "If I have travelled, do I need to take a call, because it could be very expensive?"

In terms of technology, we are today part of a large global partner and vendors, which includes Nokia-Siemens network, IBM, Erickson, i-Zone, Etone, and Warid among the rest of others to follow as well. In terms of infrastructure contribution, we will create a state of the art network opening center, a NOC, the latest data center, which we can boast of a BPO call center, which employs over 500 employees, all Ugandans, and access to the

latest services and processes.

Finally a customer experience shops. In terms of employment, we impact over 400 families at Airtel as an organization, who are partners of a thousand odd are distributors, about 800, and through our retail agents over 100,000. In short, the presence of an ICT operator gives value to over 100,000 families who make the livelihood out of the telecom and the services that the company provides.

In terms of cooperate social responsibility (CSR), I think we have dedicated at CSR to two clear objectives: one is on driving schools, and the other one on promoting football. You know, football is a passion, and we want to take this passion to the next level and actually picking out stars and pushing them to the next level. This is the second one. The first school was inaugurated two years back, by the First Lady, Her Excellency Mama Museveni. This is what we talked about are digital hubs which we also mentioned when we were talking about the importance of ICT and ATG. This was done in association with the British High Commission and Microsoft. Another one is in terms of driving Internet in schools and communities. In terms of sports, or football primarily, we are the ones who have started aiding rising stars three years back.

What it does is to pick up talent across seven zones of Uganda and the best team goes on to play against the teams from the other 16 countries. As a matter of fact, there have been

representatives from the Uganda Women's Team. When I talk about the Uganda Women's Team, I mean the girls who participated in the zonal rows. We have three of them who are now part of the Uganda Women's Team as well.

Our partnership with AIRTEL helps us nurture some of Africa's future stars as well. Moving on, we have partnered with Uganda Cranes, which is Uganda's national football team, and we hope with our support to both Airtel's rising stars and our partnership with the football club, we will be able to provide much more guidance and encouragement to the young team as well.

In terms of the leadership, as our chair, Mr. Sunil Bharti Mittal, based in Delhi, the CEO for Africa, Mr. Christian de Faria, is based with the group in Nairobi, and we have a local leadership, through our chair, Mr. Christopher Kassami, who is based here and a board member, Mr. Huntington Kohunga as well. In short, to summarize our future in Uganda, I think we see an economy which is fast growing at a rate of 6%+ per annum.

Employing local people: over 99% of our people are local Ugandans, which comprise of the company. We feel we can play a very pivotal role in the Vision 2040, which has been crafted for Uganda and in this pursuit support key sectors of agriculture and business. In short, we want to enable, empower and help Uganda emerge in the forefront. Thank you, and with that I end my speech, I think together we can. Thank you very much.

Discussion

Chair: Hon. Kasamba Mathias

Member of Parliament, Uganda

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Kasamba Mathias is a Member of Parliament since 2006. He is a Chairperson on Committee on Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries; Member of Business Committee; Member of Appointments Committee; Publicity Secretary of UPFFSP&D

Chair:

I would like to thank the presentation, from our team members of Airtel, which has been quite enriching, and none of us, in our daily life can any longer afford to live without a telephone. I want to open for a brief interaction, if you have a comment how you appreciate what Airtel has done, but also propose where we can partner to improve the life of our people we represent. I open to members to make submissions. Honourable Muwuma, please start.

Hon. Milton Muwuma, Uganda:

I want to appreciate Airtel Uganda for the presentation and the support they have been offering to the African continent and Uganda, in particular. One: I think history should always be recorded. According to the presentation, Airtel was born in Uganda in 2010, but I would have loved to see the city capital evolving there. I remember in Ugandan there was Zain and then there was Celtel. I want to mention our side of history is well-tracked. You never know which will help one way or the other.

Then the other one: about network coverage, there are some parts of Uganda where you have not exploited those gaps, opportunities. I think you should take interest because as a politician we keep moving, and you find yourself in a total blackout where you cannot communicate or what. So let's make use of these, since we are looking at the competition, and I want to be competing with the other.

Also, I think you should be strategic in that way. I should say Airtel money needs to do a lot. Now we are talking as partners, that via outlet coverage, I think you are not yet there. Because

if we just held a sample here in the neighborhood to see how many outlets we have that somebody can deal with, will they draw or send Airtel money? We also have to do something about that.

In Kenya, I remember there is a project Tanda Reproductive Health where this technology is being used by mothers or consumers. You just send a text message that we are out of stock of contraceptives, which is working. It helps, by mothers even if their husbands are not willing. In Ethiopia, it has been used, so IT is very good if we embraced it along those lines. I think I may not be making another presentation with just say bravo and we are willing to partner and work with you in transforming Africa and Uganda as a whole.

Chair:

Thank you Honourable. Ghana, take charge.

Hon. Kwasi Agyemang Gyan-Tutu, Ghana:

Airtel, you have a presence in Ghana, and just like my colleague who already was talking about coverage, I think you have to advise the corporate African coverage. When you were talking about CSR, I was listening very attentively. I think instead of CSR being limited to what you are doing, try to ensure that you expand coverage to the rural areas. Go where other organizations are afraid to go, give them access so that now we have this coverage in the cities and the towns. Because for now we tend to have a lot of you all concentrated in the big cities. Let us have a different view of what I see, so that when in my village back in Badhu, I can also access you.

Chair:

Thank you so much, my brother from Ghana. I want now gender balance, Honourable Kayagi?

Hon. Sarah Netalisire Kayagi, Uganda:

I want to thank the presenter. In your presentation you noted that you see “those who are hungry to use the skills for the different tools”. I do not know how you have come up with that, have you tried to find out how politicians, for instance, are yearning for using the different tools to mobilize different constituencies, because politicians reach out to the entire country. How have you effectively used, for instance, Members of Parliament?

Two: after having joined with WARID, I think you have a wider network, which people actually use. So in terms of sending out messages to your users specifically for mobilizing them, for instance, like sending a message during the rainy season to engage in planting season, CSR may not reach out to everyone. But a wake-up call to ensure that people need to begin working, and I believe when they work, definitely you get money through air time, all those mobile services that you have.

So I was thinking that if we are to mobilize a population to engage into reproductive activity, apart from that, let's also generate that kind of SCR that reaches out to everyone. I also wanted to ask, to find out from you, if I wanted to use it as a tool to mobilize my constituency, focusing just on my constituency, how do I do it and do you have a specific tool that targets my constituency, where can I use that to mobilize, to send a message to do, not going to entire country, but focusing the district which I represent, Sherma alone.

Chair:

It is Honourable Chris!

Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, Uganda:

Let me also add my voice to thank Airtel for the informative presentation which they have given us. Indeed there has been a telecommunication revolution in Africa, including here in Uganda. And like Honourable Muwuma said, Airtel is a new name, but we know you have been here, you began as the Celtel, Zain, and you have been changing names, but we appreciate the

kind of services and the work you have done in Uganda and even beyond.

Here, as parliamentarians, we have been discussing issues of population growth, maternal mortality and HIV/AIDS, which are challenges in our continents, Asia, but also much more particularly in Africa. I just wanted to ask whether it is possible. You have a very good CSR plan with various interventions, which you are carrying out.

When I used to work with UNFPA in the early 1990s, we designed a programme to improve referral, because when most of our mothers die, after they develop complications in their homes, in their communities, they cannot easily access the health facilities where a doctor or a midwife can provide emergency services. And we did start a programme in Uganda where we equipped health facilities and health workers with walkie-talkies. That time the mobile phones were not common here in Uganda, but we used a very high frequency walkie-talkies and that was able to reduce maternal mortality in that community by 50% within one year. It was because the traditional birth attendants and community health workers could easily communicate with health facilities where there was an ambulance, and the ambulance could easily pick up a mother who was bleeding or had the complication, and could be worked on.

I am just wondering whether we can design programmes with the Ministry of Health for you to provide, say, toll free numbers where members of the community can call at low cost to ensure that the ambulance services within the communities can be effective. The government has procured ambulances in Uganda, and there are hospitals, but the communities cannot actually call these ambulances, or cannot access them. I do not know whether in your plan that can be discussed with the Ministry of Health and see whether we can partner to improve the issue of maternal health within Uganda, but also in other countries where you are. Similarly, I do not know whether it could be possible for these days to use Airtel, say to pass on messages on HIV/AIDS, since in Uganda you reach over seven million people, because we are having a challenge where HIV infection rates are starting

to rise again.

Some of those initiatives are possible if they can be discussed between Airtel and Ministry of Health and other partners to see how we can pass on these health messages to the population as you deliver the services. Otherwise, we thank you very much and we assure you of our support from the Parliament of Uganda. We shall work with you to ensure that we will continue to serve the people in this country. Thank you very much.

Chair:

My Honourable colleague from Kenya.

Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:

I want to thank the presenter from the Airtel, and the kind of work they are doing in Kenya. They have been meeting challenges in Kenya a lot. I want to ask you if you have any challenges in Uganda.

Because in Kenya you have had some challenges sometimes back, and I want to thank Sharma, who is here and we met in Japan. He spoke on your behalf, that the Airtel is having challenges in Kenya. That is two years ago. And when I went back home, I had to intervene in terms of interconnection rates between Safaricom and Airtel, and that one was policy matters. That is the only way you were able to work with the Members of Parliament here, to bring policies in parliament. Because in Kenya, Safaricom has taken advantage, and so it was killing all other interested parties. And so, I wanted to hear if you have challenges.

Number two: the SCR is somehow limited here, in Uganda. Maybe because you have not developed a good number of customers, but I would wish that you would increase a little bit better. But finally I want to thank Airtel. For me, wherever I am, because I speak for them in Kenya, this is 24/7 days in a week, 360 days in a year, I do not think I can communicate with my constituents easily, so I just want to really thank you for that kind of engagement.

Chair:

My time has run out, but I also have a very brief one which I would like to. I presume those who have represented a big majority. Airtel, I would

like also to thank you so much, for the great innovations you brought to this country, Uganda, and the IT revolution.

My only submission is not far from my colleagues that have submitted. Every government has a communication department, and they have communication strategies. And there is always a big gap between ministries, central agencies, and the people we serve. Has there been any initiative to deliver messages – for example in health, in family planning, in areas in how we can help fast tracking, service delivery as a communication strategy within the IT, other than buying the technology. Strengthening partnership and improving innovations are needed to make sure to awaken the youth, for example, to prevent HIV and avoid early pregnancies.

These are some of the areas we would feel as partners in population and development. And the people there need a lot of knowledge how we build those synergies to make sure that all the relevant communication departments in health, in education, in agriculture when the season is on. When the meteorological department provides the forecasts and we are offering to make sure that we deliver, to notify all the regions as to when the rains are coming. You know this is a risky, you will tell the rains come and they do not come, and then you will be blamed. But that is a necessary information gap which we feel that should be covered in as far as linking up the people's knowledge base, and those who hold it in trust.

Mr. Arindam Chackrabarte, AIRTEL, Uganda:

Now let me start to respond to some points that were put across. Let me start with you, Chair. I think you put a very valid point across. We have interacted with departments in government. I think we now need to partner with them. I think that is where the big jump has to be.

I think today the level is only at interaction level, and we have not partnered. It is a humble submission that we have not moved on this space, but I can also assure you, we will. Because we know that the mobile phone is now going to be the one device linking and making a lot of knowledge accessible to the common customer. So we are completely aligned, and

what we also said is about every department having a specific communication team. We will start definitely with the health.

There was other point which was to say about schools. I think Airtel is committed to the development of schools. I also heard a comment saying limited CSR. Let me assure you that when we take up a school, we ensure that every year we put up one school completely. These are schools which are in very dilapidated conditions. When you go there, you feel extremely humble to see the conditions in which the young kids come. As a matter of fact we have got the third school ready now. It should be opened in terms of formally inaugurated after the revoke has happens sometime next week.

We also heard a very key comment coming from our Honourable Member of Parliament from Ghana saying coverage in rural area itself is one of the key CSR. Absolutely. I think all of last year, we have been extremely engaged in the merger activity and we have not added our coverage, but I can assure you that this year we are really going to focus on coverage, and we hear you even from a thought, not to leave from the point of population coverage, but the factors making communication available to the common people could be the biggest CSR initiative that could be completely reality.

I think a friend here talked about a maternal health programme. As we said we have looked at others only seeking permission. We have not partnered, but we will speak on each of these and we will be in touch with each of your teams and your departments. I think wider network has come across very strongly in many of the comments. We will take it up as one of our key drivers for this year.

The other big one is the one which we talked about building synergies. We will build synergies with various departments in government. We heard that Celtel, Zain, and Airtel. Airtel is here to stay. So I hope there will be no further, and I can assure you we hope there will not be a fourth telecom operator to say that there was Celtel, there was Zain, there was Airtel and now we are here. Airtel is here, Airtel is committed to staying. But we respect the point that you

made, saying that we must talk about our history as well. We have been in operation from 1996, or 1997.

Mr. Dennis Kakonge, AIRTEL, Uganda:

I just want to add to the partnership zone we have had with the government. This is something we will keenly take on, and we have in the past done partnerships with the Government of Uganda, in ensuring it was just a customer base, through Know-Your-Customer (KYC). This came from the Ministry of Security, and we had to do the registration of Sim cards that are on the network on any new Sim cards.

I will just touch on the challenges that the Honourable Member of Parliament from Kenya asked. In this partnership with the registration of customers there are challenges, because Uganda does not have a national ID and we have had to find ways of getting registration details from our subscribers. It is a huge task that we have had to embark on, and I think we have managed to achieve a substantial milestone in assuring we get the registration done with those challenges in our face. It goes without saying that, like in any market, in any country, there are several challenges. I would just like to touch on some of them that we face in the telecom industry.

The telecom's industry is one of the most highly taxed industries in Uganda. We have 18% on VAT, 12% on excise tax. Last year we saw an introduction of a 10% levy on any mobile money transaction. So for the value of the transaction, the cost that has been paid by the customer is a 10% fee. We now pay 2% of our gross annual levy to the regulator. Before, it was 1%, but that was increased to 2%. That additional 1% goes to the development of ICT. The original 1% went towards development of rural communications, which takes care of rural coverage. I am sure the Honourable Members of Parliament have asked before, how do we improve our coverage.

So we work to ensure that there is coverage, using that 1%, but on top of that, as an additional 1% that has come in. This is one of the challenges we are facing. There is also a 25% levy on the importation paper for ATM cards, which makes the distribution much harder. The last one that came in last year was on value

added services. For any value added service that we provide to our customer, where they participate. Participation in a game or skill, and win something, maybe a prize. We have to pay 20% which is excise, so the tax regime is quite hurts the telecom and that is one of the challenges we would like to appeal to our honourables in the Parliament, our brothers, to re-look when you are focused on the budget this year on how we can facilitate the role out of telecommunications, to our subscribers without as high taxes being levied against our subscribers, because these are passed to them eventually.

The other thing we have, which is not unlike in Kenya, is vandalism of our sites, which is a big issue. We have over 15-20 vandalisms in a month. People come and steal fuel and batteries. There is damage to our infrastructure in terms of fiber and a whole range of infrastructure damage which goes on. I think in Kenya what has happened was that the government of Kenya came up with a law, which nationalized telecoms infrastructure. Anyone found vandalizing a site, is tried, convicted and sentenced with very harsh punishment. I think that this is something that we should emulate in Uganda, because it affects the way we can provide services to our customers.

The third one is on electricity. We do not have grid connection in the rural areas, which is a big

issue for us. Our sites run on 24/7 generators, which leads to the theft of fuel, down time. If we had grid connectivity on all the sites, then we would have much better quality of service to our customers in the rural areas. That is what I would like to mention on the challenges. Thank you.

Chair:

Yes, thank you so much, our resource persons. This is the last session of the day, as far as our classroom work is concerned and I would like to thank all the participants ever since morning, for having been here and having kept time. Thank you so much, and I would like to give a big clap to Airtel Uganda for having given in the time and the resources to come and partner with us in this conference.

Food security and population issues go together. And at this juncture, I would like to say that Dr. Osamu Kusumoto has presented to all of you a copy of the document "*Concerns over the Development of Africa from the Viewpoint of Food Security and Population*". It is a very critical document I think each of you is going to get, and I think as we go through it. It will guide us on how we can continue to drive further for the security issues vis-à-vis population and development. I thank you so much.

SESSION 5
***Field Visit Observation and
Integration of Population Issues into the
Post-2015 Development Agenda***

“Field Visit Observation and Integration of Population Issues into the Post-2015 Development Agenda”

Hon. Tissa Karalliyadde

Minister of Child Development and Women’s Affairs, Sri Lanka

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Tissa entered politics in 1989 and became a Member of Parliament in 1994. He fulfilled the positions of Deputy Minister of Health and Indigenous and Minister of Land and Minister of Indigenous Medicine. Currently, he serves as Minister of Child Development and Women’s Affairs of Sri Lanka. He is holder of Agriculture diploma from a University in Japan.

First of all, I would like to thank Dr. Osamu Kusumoto, Secretary General of APDA, and Honourable Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, President of the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development, for inviting me to attend this important meeting in Uganda. I would also like to extend my thanks to our host, UPPFSP&D and also all other organizations, who supported in holding this meeting in Uganda.

APDA with the prime objective of enhancing the capacity of parliamentarians in their effort to address the population and development issues conducted its first “Asian and African Parliamentarians’ Capacity Development Project on the Integration of population issues into the National Development Frameworks” in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in January 2013.

Now with the support from our host UPPFSP&D, we are meeting this time in Uganda to further enhance our capacities in addressing population and development issues with the knowledge and experience gained since our last meeting in Cambodia.

On conclusion of our last meeting in Cambodia, we emphasized the major role of population programmes in national development efforts in the Asian and African regions. Based on the facts relating to the importance of population programmes, we were able to come up with certain policy recommendations to be followed in reaching our national development goals.

First of all, I would like to reiterate the fact that the world population increases annually by

approximately 77 million, and 90% of the children born annually belong to the developing countries.

It is also accepted that these births are either unplanned, or due to ignorance. And it is believed that stabilization of the global population can be achieved by preventing unwanted pregnancies.

As addressing population issues countries an integral part to achieving sustainable society that can ensure the well-being and welfare of our societies, stabilizing the global population is essentially the most effective measures to achieve sustainable development.

The population programmes in our countries for most part are, therefore, closely linked with the improvement of HEALTH, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT and SOCIAL PROTECTION. As far as the population growth in Sri Lanka is concerned, we have been able to reduce our population growth to least possible acceptable levels, and stands at 0.7%.

Extensive health care services and infrastructure provided for free by the state for over 50 years. The free access to reproductive health service including family planning have been important factors contributing to very positive health indicators as manifested in maternal mortality ratio, infant and child mortality rates and increasing life expectancy.

We see education as a key factor in sustainable development, and it is a component of

well-being, and means to enable the individual to gain access to knowledge. It also paves the way for reduction of fertility, morbidity and mortality rates.

Sri Lanka is one of the few countries providing free education from primary to university level since 1945, and currently the primary school enrolment rate is over 99%. Granting of free education facilities to the entire population has resulted in achieving a very high literacy level. Sri Lanka's current literacy rate stands at 92.5%, and the youth literacy rates stands at 98%. Therefore Sri Lanka has one of the most literate populations among the developing countries.

Free mid-day meal programmes and supply of free school books and uniforms to school children were launched by the government to further enhance the welfare package to improve the quality of life and education among children in the country.

Since the conduct of the first project of "Parliamentarians' Capacity Development on the Integration of Population issues into National Development Framework" in Cambodia in early 2013, I submitted a note to the Cabinet of Ministers in Sri Lanka about my attendance at the meeting. In my note I conveyed to the Cabinet the consensus reached at the Cambodian conference regarding the importance of integration population and development issues into the formulation and implementation of national programmes.

I also emphasized that addressing population issues constitute an integral part to achieve a sustainable society and that can ensure people's well-being and welfare; therefore stabilizing the global population is the most effective measure to sustainable development.

The Sri Lankan government is well aware of the fact that population programmes are a key to national development, and without stabilizing the population it would be difficult to achieve sustainable development.

Due to the successful awareness programmes conducted by the state sector as well as the non-state sector, the population growth in Sri Lanka according to the latest census carries out

in 2012 stands at 0.7%, which we believe is a remarkable achievement.

The Sri Lanka government is already making a conscious effort to integrate population and development issues into the formulation and implementation of national programmes, which has yield good results. This is well demonstrated by the fact according to a report released in early April 2013 by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on the human development of more than 40 countries. Sri Lanka makes it to the high human development category with a Human Development Index (HDI) ranking of 0.715 against the global average of 0.694.

The UNDP report says that Sri Lanka had high income growth despite many years of internal conflict. Overall, Sri Lanka has been ranked as the 92nd place among 186 countries.

These striking human development gains are attributed to some strong national commitments in the areas of better public health and education services, innovative poverty education programmes, and strategic engagement with world economy.

Though my Ministry's administrative machinery the constituents are made aware of the importance of population issues in national planning and development programmes, and though the government awareness programmes carried out so far emphasizing the importance of population issues, particularly the economic burden and maternal health problems related to large families. We have been successful in education the masses, thereby keeping the size of our families small.

However, it is not possible to introduce legislation, and also conduct any vast campaigns to limit the size of families due to obvious religious and cultural constraints. In our meetings with other relevant ministries and parliamentarians, I have been able to convince the participants about the importance of population issues in developing the national programmes. Also, through the discussions over the media I have been able to pass on the message to the general public about the importance of population issues in developing

the national programmes and achieving sustainable development.

One of the most important challenges that we all countries would face in the future beyond 2015 would be the fast-growing aging population. In my country Sri Lanka for example, consisting of approximately 20 million people, nearly 2.4 million people are over 60 years old, which amounts to approximately 12% of the total population.

While the birth rate stands at approximately 1.7%, the death rate stands at 0.59%, and the general life expectancy at birth stands at 76 years, which means very soon our aging population will reach unprecedented levels, and therefore, we may have to think of re-examining our population policies. Another big challenge facing all countries would be creating jobs for them to contribute to growth, equity and peace in any country.

In Sri Lanka too, there is a concern that job creation has mostly been in the informal sector, characterized by low skills and low earnings. The challenge we are facing today is creating more high quality jobs. Therefore, expansion of the knowledge economy and search for innovative ideas will be important to successfully accelerate growth and improve the living standards of all citizens.

To reach that goal, raising investments, improving productivity of those investments through innovative policies, skills development, and macroeconomic stability will be important. Above all, implementing policies that promote the inclusion of all segments of society in the growth process will be crucial. In its Master Plan, Government of Sri Lanka is planning to mobilize all available resources towards achieving this goal.

Sri Lanka has changed dramatically since the end of armed conflict in 2009. The economy currently grows at approximately 7%, and Sri Lanka is now considered as a Middle-income country.

Under the government's Development Vision, "the Mahinda Chinthana" or the Vision of His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of Sri Lanka, seeks to transform Sri Lanka into an emerging "Wonder of Asia", and a vigorous programme to further develop infrastructure, education, health and employment is being implemented right now.

I have briefly outlined some achievements and challenges facing the most important sectors, education, health and employment in Sri Lanka. Thank you.

“Field Visit Observation and Integration of Population Issues into the Post-2015 Development Agenda”

Hon. Antonio Tinio

Member of Parliament, Philippines

Curriculum Vitae

Member of the House of Representatives of the Philippines from Quezon City, Philippines;
Taught at the English and Pilipino Department of the University of the Philippines for 19 years;
Headed the Alliance of Concerned Teachers, a progressive national teachers union for 10 years;
Now serving 2nd term in Congress; Member of the Philippines Legislators’ Committee on Population and Development

I would just like to share some of my observations on the field visits which we had, and I am sure that you will agree that they are the most valuable part of our experience here in Uganda, so I would like to thank the organizers for two days of these very educational visits.

I would like to share my observations that relate to similar experiences in my own country, the Philippines. Then I will conclude with some general observations on the efforts of lower and middle income countries toward national development and some general observations on the Post-2015 development agenda.

On the first day, we made a visit to the Uganda Industrial Research Institute, which is a government research and development institute for supporting the development of the domestic industrial capability of Uganda. And then we went to the Nile Vocational Institute, which is a private school for teaching technical and vocational skills to young people of various educational levels here in Uganda to prepare them for work. On this day, you could say the themes of the visits were job creation and employment, which are major challenges for developing nations.

First, let me talk about the Nile Vocational Institute. There we saw young people being taught at various educational levels. Some who did not graduate from elementary school, some who were secondary school graduates, and so on. They were being taught skills in construction,

electrical work including installation of solar energy systems, automotive repair, hotel and restaurant services and dress-making. We also learned about the campaign here in Uganda called, “Skilling Uganda”, which among others is meant to address apparently a cultural bias against technical and vocational education in favor of higher education and white-collar work.

It is very similar in my country as well. Of course, the Nile Vocational Institute shows us the commendable efforts being made by the private sector and by the government in order to address the need to provide Uganda youth with skills for a growing economy.

Let me share briefly the history of vocational education in my own country. It was in the late 1960s when the World Bank, in a sector study of education, first made the critical observation that our educational system was biased toward university education and that this was mismatched, according to them, with the needs of a developing economy, which required more technical and vocational skills.

And so, in the 1980s, there was a great restructuring of the educational system, so-called tri-focalization where the government formally structured the organization into basic education, technical and vocational education, and higher education. And there was promotion, of technical and vocational education. Currently, starting from 2010 there is an ongoing reform in the government known as the “K to 12” reform,

which is to introduce two additional years in basic education, senior high school. In the senior high school, there will be a mainstreaming of technical and vocational education. So in other words, there has been a long history of our government promoting technical and vocational education.

What have been the results in our case? Because of the lack of a national industrial programme, by that I mean, a comprehensive programme for the development of the domestic industry, in short, a failure to industrialize on the part of the Philippines, the skilled labor that has been developed over decades of technical vocational education has migrated out of the country because of a lack of opportunities.

As you probably know the Philippines is now one of the largest exporters of labor in the world. If you passed through the Dubai airport on your way here, you would probably have noticed that most of the workers there from the airport security to the shop attendants, to the fast food attendants, they are almost all Filipino. So I feel like I am at home and that I can speak my own language. But that is the sad reality in the Philippines. There are over 10 million Filipinos working all over the country, on all continents of the world, which is 10% of our population. And 4000 Filipinos leave every day in search of work.

It is one of the problems that we face that it is not enough to focus on technical and vocational education. This has to be part of a plan for national industrialization and this is not something that our government has been able to do. This is why I think the work being done by the Uganda Industrial Research Institute is important. It shows that the government considers or realizes the importance of developing local domestic industries. The jobs must be created here. Otherwise, the people will move out.

Yesterday, we went to the Mulago Hospital. We visited the fistula unit and the antenatal care unit. We also went to Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU), a private NGO promoting reproductive health, and the Naguru Teenage Center, aimed at promoting reproductive health

education and services to Ugandan youth. Then we also visited the Nerica Project in Namulonge, and of course, the themes for yesterday were reproductive health on the one hand and food security and employment on the other, particularly rural employment with regard to the promotion of rice cultivation in Uganda.

First let me make some observations regarding the NERICA Project. Of course it is a very impressive and commendable effort on the part of the Ugandan government with the help of the government of Japan, to introduce rice as a new staple in Uganda using scientific methods. And I was pleased to note that one of the Japanese experts there, Mr. Tatsushi Tsuboi, told me that he actually spent 11 years in the Philippines, studying at the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines for two years. So in other words, perhaps some of the learning from the Philippines is being shared with our Ugandan brothers and sisters as well. So I was happy to hear that.

The Philippines is one of the largest consumers of rice in the whole world. In fact, just some years ago, because of speculation in the local rice market, that had the effect of pushing up the price of rice in the world. That is how big the Philippines as a market for rice. So we are one of the biggest markets in the world, yet our problem is that the Philippines is not self-sufficient in rice. It is not able to produce, even though we are a tropical country with lots of agricultural land and water. We are not able to produce enough of our own rice to feed our people, so we have to import, mainly from India, and other various Southeast Asian countries.

And why is this? This is mainly because of the low level of productivity in Philippine agriculture and this is not mainly because of lack of technology. It has to do with the prevailing social relations, or feudal relations in agriculture in the Philippines. There is a shared tendency where there are landlords with tenants, cultivating small plots of land, which makes it very unproductive. So that is one factor, the low productivity.

Also, the other factor is the liberalization of agriculture, which was adopted by the government, following commitments to the

Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and also of course to GATT and the WTO. And this is meant that with the removal of tariffs on agricultural imports, it is much cheaper to import rice from, say, India than to buy rice from the domestic producers.

So these are some of the challenges that our country faces when it comes to food security, particularly in the case of rice. Perhaps our brothers and sisters in Uganda will also face similar challenges.

Now to reproductive health: again, I much appreciated the visit to the Mulago Hospital, RHU and the teenage center. I commend those people we visited for their heroic efforts - the doctors in the hospital particularly for addressing the problem of fistula, easing the suffering and providing dignity for Ugandan mothers and also the dedicated work of the teenage center for helping especially young women of Uganda when it comes to reproductive health, education and services.

The Philippines has a population of over 95 million and we have a population growth rate of 1.98%, I think, which is still quite high. It was only recently that our legislature was able to pass reproductive health law. I was in the previous term that was one of the major achievements of the previous congress of which I was part of it. I was one of the active advocates of the reproductive health law. So after 14 years in our Congress, we finally were able to pass the reproductive health law.

However, there are cultural barriers to the promotion of reproductive health and women's rights in the Philippines, the major one being the Catholic Church, which strongly opposed and continues to oppose the reproductive health law. In fact, although we passed it last year, it is still not being implemented now, because there is a challenge in our Supreme Court, claiming that the law is unconstitutional.

So reproductive health and maternal health continues to be a concern right now. Our maternal mortality rate is at around 144 deaths per 100,000, that translates to around 11 Filipino mothers dying every day, mostly in the rural areas, mostly because of a lack of access to

reproductive health services. This is a continuing challenge and the cultural barrier is one problem.

But I would also like to mention here the problem brought about by the government policy is privatization. We have a similar hospital in the Philippines, Fabella Hospital, one of the biggest maternity hospitals. Yesterday, the Mulago doctors were talking about how their delivery unit was like a production line, or an assembly line. It is like that in the Philippines as well. Because of the lack of beds in that hospital in the Philippines, mothers are forced to share beds, so there are two or sometimes even three mothers in a bed. But the issue right now is that the government wants to privatize this hospital. So the issue of the privatization of health services, which I feel personally would be an obstacle to greater access to health services.

I was looking at the newspapers in my country on the Internet, and the headlines today are about the latest employment surveys. There are currently in the Philippines 12.1 million unemployed. The latest unemployment figure is 27.5% and this is 6% higher than last year despite the fact that for the past 10 years, the Philippines has enjoyed a relatively high GDP growth rate, around 6-7%. Last year it was 7.2%. Our President Aquino likes to claim that this is second only to growth rate of China. So high growth rate but also high unemployment, so this is the situation in the Philippines.

As we talk about the post-2015 development agenda, maybe we should question the model of so-called inclusive growth that is being promoted by the World Bank as a means to address poverty all over the developing world. By inclusive growth, they mean that governments' main role is to create the conditions for employment by focusing on infrastructure, by focusing on provision of adequate social services such as education, health and so forth, and by providing skills training to develop work force. The job creation itself will be left to the private sector. That is the model of inclusive growth, and it encourages the private sector with the triple policies of deregulation, privatization, and liberalization. Instead, I would like for us to consider the need for the government, first of all, to play a more

active role in directly addressing income inequality, because the model of inclusive growth, at least in the Philippines' experience, has led to so-called jobless growth. High growth but no jobs, so this has led to greater inequality. The benefits of economic growth go to relatively few.

So I think in the post-2015 agenda, the government should address more directly income inequality. In my country, this would mean a programme of genuine land redistribution. Also, I think that we should take a more active role in agricultural development with direct support to farmers for improving production.

Lastly, I think, in the post-2015, the government should directly address the national industrialization, or development of local industries, at all levels, from the basic industries to light consumer production of industrial goods, which is the key to continuing job creation domestically.

In my view, it should be in this context that population and reproductive health programmes and policies should be pursued. Population programmes and reproductive health policies are necessary, but not sufficient in order to ensure and address genuine economic development for our countries. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

“Field Visit Observation and Integration of Population Issues into the Post-2015 Development Agenda”

Hon. Paul Chibingu

Member of Parliament; Chair of Parliamentary Committee on Health and Population, Malawi

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Paul Chibingu graduated with advanced Diploma in Clinical Medicine in 1987, worked with government hospitals for 12 years as a Clinicians; He worked with Christian Hospitals for 3 years. He is running own hospital, which has 45 beds and 63 employees from 2002 till today. He has become Member of Parliament in 2009 and Chair of Parliamentary Committee on Health and Population, Member of Legal Affairs Committee of Parliament.

The first visit it was before I arrived, I excused myself because Malawi is having a general election on the 20 May. So Monday when I was supposed to be amongst you, I was submitting my nomination papers in my constituency. So I left there very late. All the same, I will make you a presentation based on what I saw yesterday.

The topic is to mitigate most of the problems that we face of our population and resources. You agree with me that it is good to congratulate the Ugandan government for hosting this kind of conference, which makes we Africans proud. I believe it is good to give a hand to the Ugandan government, because you have really portrayed what Africa is.

From what I experienced yesterday when we visited the hospital, it was exactly what is reflecting in the African set up. Starting from where we are putting up at the hotel, you can see as well that we struggled to reach the hospital. Had it been that way not being escorted by the police, it would have taken maybe three hours. That already gave us an impression that we need to do something to ensure that we have got a manageable population.

When we reached the hospital, I was personally impressed because of the passion, the teamwork that I saw at that hospital, which has got 1700 plus beds. But the way the team there is working, it is as if it were less than 20 beds.

Everybody was showing an interest to save a fellow African mother, to save a fellow African father, to save a fellow African child, to save everybody who had an access to that hospital.

We heard from the hospital director that the hospital that we visited is one of the busiest hospitals in Africa. That is an indication that some of the African countries, if we are not going to be very careful, will also have the similar challenges.

They talked about the issues which they are now dealing with, such as fistula, which has really brought happiness in many families, especially those who have been a victim for quite a number of years. Uganda is able to bring back happiness of the mothers who have been sidelined, the mothers who were not being taken as a part of the society. When we are managing our resources well, when we have a quality population, we can manage some of the problems, which our fellow Africans face. From there, I concluded that Uganda needs to be thanked because they are able to focus the MDG5, which is providing the mothers with a conducive environment, considering our journey to 2015, which most African countries ratified international instruments, ICPD as one of them.

After the hospital, we visited Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU), where I believe is one of the areas which I was impressed with, because

if we are having problems in Africa it is because of such kind of areas which were previously ignored. Little focus was being put on the reproductive health. And it was difficult to accommodate some of the views, which others were giving us talking about family planning, spacing in our families, with the ending result, and you will find that lifestyle in our African set up is completely different.

Our hospitals are congested because of the resources that we have. Now the mothers are given a freedom of choice as to when to have a child. They are being empowered, which was traditionally lacking in the past. And that is why I find that Africa is overpopulated compared to its resources. It is because most of the total fertility rates were above 6. In my country, it is now 5.7. You find that in the rural areas it is 6, in the urban areas it is 4, which means that when people have good information, when the women are actually going to school, they make a choice.

So I was impressed with RHU more especially because of its approach to how they are doing their work. They have involved so many supporters, including the Ministry of Health, which I believe is the custodian of that work, the parliamentarians who have also demonstrated a very unique way of handling reproductive issues.

I believe some of us from different countries emulate what the Parliament of Uganda is doing. Working hand in hand for reproductive health as Members of Parliament, we are very influential. If you happen to take that role of addressing reproductive health, we can also assist the community and we can also assist the organization to be accepted in our society.

It gives a lot of problems when you speak different. You find NGOs, and they are talking about things, which are good for our community. As Members of Parliament, we are also considering their vote. If you have fewer people, you have fewer votes. And that alone also brings negative impact that most of the people in our communities lack a lot of basic needs, such as few clothes, few health centers. That is the real set up all over Africa.

The government can formulate a very good policy, but when it comes to implementation, because of the resource constraint they fail. Like in Malawi, we are supposed to have a health center in each and every 8 km but we find that there are others who travel a distance of 20 kilometers.

So these are some of the things which I appreciated yesterday when I visited RHU. They are involving many supporters and people themselves at the grass roots. When these people are going to make a choice as to when they are going to have a child, they also consider the resources to bring up their children.

By so doing at the end of the day, you find that most of the children that will be born will be well oriented. And it is unfortunate that all through we have been making sure that children go to school, you need to be employed after that. One of the reasons is that the government has been failing to create job opportunities. In my case, I just worked for 12 years and three in the child hospitals. Later I went into private where I employed 65 people. So I see for no reason why as an individual I can stand and blame that the government is failing to create job opportunities. But I believe it is now our task to come up with some creative ideas.

But that can only be done if we take family planning or reproductive health seriously. When we visited the teenage center, I was impressed because that is the area, which I feel it needs much focus because it is like a nursery of our future. Some of us are the victims of overpopulation because we lack that kind of a chance of having information on sex and reproductive health at the teen age. I believe that the organization is fully supported by both Members of Parliament and executives in government, plus the civil society.

Our youth can actually benefit a lot. When we interviewed some of the youth, they have good information on the dangers of having early pregnancies, on how to prevent themselves from having HIV, and on the benefits they can have if they sticks to school. When a girl completes school and gets married, she can

have just a few children. All these things I learned yesterday, that is what is being disseminated at the teenage information center.

I think if many countries can have those kinds of centers, we can move ahead and by 2015, though it is just next year, we can show the light at the end of the tunnel to show that our future generation they will have a nicer destiny. So that is one of the things that I really appreciated.

I will not skip the place where we had lunch because it was part of the field visit, Parliament. I was told that when that parliament was being constructed, it was aiming at having only 60-something members. But today, they are having 300- something members. Then I was asking how they attend a deliberation, especially when it is a crucial matter, which means that they need every member to be here. They say that other members do stand up.

That is one of the things that can make many African countries to think of what we can do to ensure that our future generation. They should not double the problem that we are having today. If anything they should become the solution to the problem that we are having today. Their expansion cannot solve the problem because we find that 10 years after expansion, the parliament has doubled because of the population. In other places, the constraints vary according to the population, where in other places the market constrains

according to the demographic features. I have learned a lot, so I will share the experiences with my countrymen in Malawi, where we have some similar challenges.

Finally, when we visited NERICA Project, I was extremely excited because one of the countries in Africa, which is blessed and rich, is Uganda. They have got two seasons. If you properly utilize the two seasons, they can feed the whole Africa. If you utilize the seasons properly, they cannot have even a single day of their citizens living without food. And I want to thank them for thinking of now alternative staple of food, in the name of rice and maize. I was impressed because the rice, which Uganda is currently being oriented to, can be planted using both irrigation and upland, whereas in Malawi, most of the rice is through irrigation. This means that with their rapid increased population, if rice can be produced in many places, they can also create job opportunities to the youth because you start now exporting rice to many countries and you have factories of packing rice and processing rice. We observed yesterday that they have some species that from just one hectare, you can have eight tons of rice that you can eat and sell.

To conclude, I think I have also addressed the economic challenges in my presentation, I thank you.

“Field Visit Observation and Integration of Population Issues into the Post-2015 Development Agenda”

Hon. Nyakikongoro Rosemary

Member of Parliament, Uganda

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Nyakikongoro Rosemary is a Member of Parliament from Serena District, Western Uganda; Member of UPFFSP&D; Vice-Chair of the Ugandan Women’s Parliamentary Association; Member of the Natural Resources Committee of Parliament.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to share with you the field observation, but more importantly how we can interpret these issues into the Post-2015 development agenda.

I know my friends have shared a lot in different places which we visited. Therefore for me I will just highlight what we should push in the post-2015 development agenda given the fact that most of the observations actually lead to the issues that have been raised.

We realize that there is a need for provision of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) information and services for our large young population. This one is what we heard at Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU) and the presentations they were making. Already the population is in momentum, and therefore we need to see how we can really control. Given the fact these NGOs and development partners are giving services in isolation, that means the different governments should come up strongly to support that provision of SRHR information and services to our young population.

Relevant education training is a window of opportunity that can address poverty. Remember we said that poor people produce a lot and therefore, in order to address this issue, we need to train relevant education, which will translate skills and involvement among our youth, and therefore vocational training is the way to go.

When we get more people employed, when we get many people busy doing their own things, I

am sure the population increase will be reduced. I am giving an example of Uganda, over 70% are young people, and the majority of them are unemployed. Therefore in order to tap into this resource, the demographic dividend is a huge opportunity. But how do we tap into it, especially in Africa?

There is a need for planning and catering for first of all education, health, employment opportunities. This cannot be done by individuals, but commitments from different governments to ensure that this demographic dividend is tapped into in order to translate it into development. All these can be testified by the places, we visited. At the Nile Vocational Institute where we went, many young people are producing by improving their skills. We realize that it is another government organization, but how can such be maintained in order to provide life skills and livelihood skills to our population?

There is a need for governments to pay attention to population and gender empowerment. They have been talked about, but they are just left there and this time around, I believe that different governments should refocus on education for the girls, which actually has numerous positive impacts. We all know that education for girls has delayed marriages and pregnancy, reduced the risks of HIV/AIDS, increased household incomes, lowered fertility rate and resulted in better survival rates.

Given the fact that yesterday when we went to

Naguru Teenage Center, we were told that actually these young girls lack information and that is why after all they are being taken home by these sugar daddies. When I was inquiring unfortunately, they told me that the information regarding sugar mommies is limited. Therefore, if our girls are highly educated, they know how to make decisions.

So there is a need for focusing on population and gender empowerment. And of course we need zero tolerance for gender-based violence and need to increase women participation in decision-making. We need to commit governments through setting aside budgets that address funding problems for reproductive health programmes. No wonder that is why we have isolated problems being done and offered by different stakeholders.

If governments had total commitment in their budget to fund reproductive health programmes, I believe maternal death would not be an issue. When we visited RHU, they gave us the statistics that the maternal death in Uganda remains at 438 per 100,000 lives, which is unfortunate. They were offering this service in terms of reaching out to give out family planning services in isolated districts. You remember they told us that RHU and UNFPA are in a few districts, and they cannot overstretch, and therefore different governments should come up with concretized budget that addresses reproductive health issues, especially maternal death. No woman in the world should die actually, giving birth to life.

We also noted or realized that male involvement continues in SRH issues. Many problems have been focusing on women, young girls, and they leave out boys and men. And yet, these have hindered deliberate programmes that would actually achieve attaining reproductive health and development related issues. So there is a need for the government to come up with deliberate programmes that involve men, and bring men and young boys across the board so that the issues of population and development are completely taken on by men and women.

The issue of food security cannot be underestimated. We know that the population

momentum is very high and we need to eat. But how do we get this food? Given the fact that we are competing with even the resources that are available, when you look at the low productivity of the young people, food production and security is significantly affected. We are producing a lot, we are eating a lot, and even people who are working are very few. Therefore, there is a need for delivery of appropriate agricultural technologies especially sub-Saharan farmers. We need better tools and better harvests, and this will lead us to better lives.

This one is testified when we went to Namulonge where they are trying to make multiplication of rice, maize, and you name it. And I remember the Japanese technical person, who was taking us around, said that Uganda, you need to work a lot. Already population is 36 million, if you do not produce enough food, hunger is going to strike in this area. Therefore we need better tools and technologies to ensure that we have enough food to offer to our population.

There is a need for strengthening laws legislations and good governance. This will help us to address issues of health, income enhancement, relevant education and skilling young people. We can continue talking about all these issues, but when we do not have relevant legislation, I do not think that we can make headway. And therefore, wherever we are going, issues are just there, but now we pick a lesson as legislators that within the Post-2015 agenda, we need to ensure that strong legislations should be put in place for different countries that will address issues of population and food security. For instance, in Uganda, I do not think that we have a policy on food security. If it is there, Honourable Kasamba will tell us, but how do we assure Ugandans that we have enough food for their children and their families, and then the rest for sale?

As we were moving to different destinations, you realize that this was part of the fieldwork. You realize that there is a lot of traffic jam. And we were inconveniencing many road users by our little car, as if we were the planners in this country. We took a lead car as if others did not want to go on with time. Therefore we need to pay attention to rural-urban migration, urban

settlement changes, slum dwellings, and general human suffering. We realize that at RHU brought our attention to the moonlight star business, and all this is a component of rural-urban migration. Of course they come to towns looking for employment opportunities, but they are not there, so at the end of the day they end up in this moonlight star business. Hence, there is a need to pay attention to rural-urban migration in the post-2015 development agenda.

At the teenage center and RHU, the issues of HIV/AIDS keep on coming. It becomes a huge challenge, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. I can give you one of the quotations I got from RHU that half of all the infections in the world are between the ages of 15 and 24 now. That is a youth that should be in productive labor, a

youth that should be doing productive work. If we do not pay attention to the youth and we focus only on the problems of married people, and we neglect this youth because they are not married yet, we shall lose out. Therefore, we need deliberate programmes targeting youth so that we may contain the issue of AIDS.

These are some of the things that I wish us, as Members of Parliament, to push in our different fora and different parliaments, and engage different ministers that are going to be representing us in different forums in the post-2015 development agenda. This time around, each continent actually should have its own target rather than generalizing so that we fail to maintain, to achieve the MDGs. Thank you.

Discussion

Chair: Hon. Fidelis Molao

Member of Parliament, Botswana

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Fidelis M holds Bachelor of Arts in Humanities majoring in English and History for International Relations; Holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Education majoring in Educational Psychology; Holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Public Relations; Started his career as a senior secondary school teacher in 1999; Moved to a career in the private sector as a manager in retail business in 2002; In 2003 he was appointed the Deputy Executive Secretary for the ruling Botswana Democratic Party; In 2009 he was Executive Director of Botswana National Youth Council until he was elected to Parliament to represent Tonota North Constituency in 2010

Chair:

Thank you Madame Rosemary. Ladies and Gentlemen, you realize that we have overshot the runway, and we are on the verge of crashing into Lake Victoria, so I will open up for debate, probably, maximum five questions only. Let us be concise, be precise in what we ask or comment on, so that we save the little time that we have. The first question or comment from Zambia, short, concise, precise, thank you.

Hon. Boniface Mutale, Zambia:

I would like to focus on a question, not a comment. The integration of population issues into the post-2015 development agenda, I would like to find out as we sit here today, what agenda are we putting in place into the post-2015 development agenda as Africa and as we go to international forums in the days to come, before 2015? Thank you.

Chair:

Does anyone have any comments? Ghana.

Hon. Kwasi Agyemang Gyan Tutu, Ghana:

Felicitations from Honourable Rashid Pelpuo. He used to be the Chair of the Population Caucus in Ghana, and he greets especially the organizers of the group. I have also told him about how happy we are with the organization here. He is very enthused and greets everybody here.

We have been talking, and if you look carefully, you realize that most of the speakers from Africa tend to be falling over themselves

bringing out something new because they are all talking about the same thing. If you go to Uganda, what you see here is no different from anything that you see from Ghana. Why are we then, trying to reinvent the wheel? Cannot we network and learn from each other?

One other thing that I also saw was that from the other fora that you go, you realize that whereas the so-called developed world, that when they talk, they talk about we have done A, B, C. In the so-called developing world, we say we shall do A, B, C. While they flaunt their achievements, we flaunt our plans that never got implemented anyway.

How are we going to work towards this? We are all legislators, and we are all decision-makers in one way or the other. How are we going to firm up all the decisions we make in the end? So that we do not turn out to be just a talk show, we need to be able to take whatever it is. For instance, somebody was talking about the fact of food security, we should not be talking about food security in Uganda, and we should be talking about food security in Africa.

We have to realize, for instance, in Ghana, we have what we call the Buffer Stop Company where we put all the extra food that we got into. And when there is a lean season, we will release it to the market. What is to stop other African countries from replicating this, so that we can have a sure way of getting food? Ladies and gentlemen, we have work to do, and we should

go beyond the talking and start action. Thank you very much.

Chair:

Thank you, Ghana. Uganda, please.

Hon. Nalubega Mariam, Uganda:

I think we need to focus on the best part of what was said. When we were sharing the other day, about Uganda's companies and achievements, you realize that most of these issues rotate around policies and decision-making. And I think that these issues also involve much of the women.

You can see that women are not at the front when it comes to decision-making and policy formulation. So, what can we do to make sure that we involve as many women as possible on the platform of decision-making and policy formulation? You can see in this room. If you are to take a decision, the men have a position and the women have a position, the men's position automatically passes. I am not complaining about involvement, but I am saying that we need to balance and bring more women in decision-making. And these issues, I believe, will change. Thank you.

Chair:

Thank you, for those words. I suspect that decision-making will be done on consensus building rather than voting. Any other comments? Yes, Madame from Sierra Leone.

Hon. Helen Kuyembeh, Sierra Leone:

I just want to comment on the resource person from the Philippines. When he mentioned about the World Bank, I think, inclusive growth, and I do agree with you honestly, because we are experiencing the same thing in our country.

And particularly on the point that you brought that inclusive growth does not automatically translate itself into economic growth for everybody. As a matter of fact, you mentioned about the inequality in economic distribution across the country, and we are facing that greatly because our country has so much adhered to the World Bank, to that inclusive growth thing. We are doing huge world networks and all these things, which apparently fit into the World Bank package; however, it has

not been translated into the daily lives of the people. Money has been transferred into the pockets of people who are closely related to the package itself and then, at the end of the day, the bottom line is that the grassroots people, or people who do not actually have advantage into those areas are suffering and that brings me to what my friend from Ghana said, it is unfortunate that in our African context, most of the times, we really do not walk the walk, we just talk the talk.

And so when really these things happen, if they are critically examined as to their impact, I mean, the packages, the bottom line is that they are meant to be properly implemented to have a positive effect on our lives and our standard of living. However, if they are not critically looked at and done the right way, we end up suffering, rather than benefiting from the decisions. So I absolutely agree with you when you said there is unequal distribution of the wealth around the country from this package, which is supposed to be giving us the best of everything and yet the question is, does it? Thank you.

Chair:

Thank you. I want to believe that the comments and questions are over, so I will hand over to the resource persons to wrap up one minute each.

Hon. Paul Chibingu, Malawi:

I just feel that I want to repeat what I said. Maybe I have no chance of having a floor. I would like to thank the Ugandan government and parliamentarians for hosting us, and this has also made us proud and maybe it will take time for Malawi to have a similar chance of hosting this kind of gathering. But we are aiming to invite you to see Lake Malawi in the future. Thank you.

Hon. Tissa Karalliyadde, Sri Lanka:

Thank you very much everybody for giving support to us. So I propose my friend's request, next time, we can held in Malawi. Thank you very much, all the best.

Hon. Nyakikongoro Rosemary, Uganda:

For me, I want to call upon you in a different forum that we are in. The issues, the ICT is very critical, and therefore we should use it in terms

of mobilizing our population to take home reproductive health issues, and other population development issues. ICT has grown up so rapidly and therefore we should utilize it in order to achieve all these issues that we are battling with. Thank you.

Hon. Antonio Tinio, Philippines:

Just to reiterate some of the points I made earlier with regard to the limits of inclusive growth model, I think we should look into, as I said earlier, a stronger government role in job creation and not leave it to the private sector. In our context the private sector means foreign investment, in many cases.

But foreign investors will not invest in agriculture. They will invest in my country, and they invest in BPO, which will not give jobs to the countryside. I think national development with a strong role for the national government is the key. Population and development, and reproductive health programmes will be one of the tools or instruments in this whole development package. Thank you.

Chair:

Thank you, my wonderful resource persons. They have not answered the Zambian question. Uganda, please.

Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, Uganda:

Thank you very much. My colleague here from Zambia asked a question, and I thought that I would provide a brief response. That is we are discussing the post-2015 development agenda, so what are we attacking mutually?

As African Members of Parliament, there is a debate. Briefly, let me say that UNFPA organized continental consultative meetings through the ICPD Programme of Action as we come to 2014, which was spearheaded by the ICPD. I know there was a meeting in Asia, and there was a meeting in Africa, which was held in Addis Ababa. Latin America and all the continents, and I think they tried as much as possible, to involve the Members of Parliament. A few of us participated in the discussions in Addis Ababa, and it is a common position by the African continent.

As you probably know, maybe I will make these

remarks later on in the closing. We formed the African Parliamentarians' Forum on Population and Development because initially we had a forum that brought together parliamentarians from Africa and the Arab regions. But for various reasons, that forum did not work and it remained weak. We have now agreed that, as Members of Parliament from Africa, we form our own forum and we are getting support from UNFPA and IPPF and trying to establish a secretariat, so that we can come with common positions for these important issues.

To that effect, there is a national consultative meeting for members from parliament from all of the continents that will be held in Stockholm, Sweden, in April. As African parliamentarians, we are working out a meeting, which will take place in Abidjan, Cotes d'Ivoire. And the government of Cotes d'Ivoire has graciously accepted to assist in arranging this meeting and we shall be having a meeting in March, next month. Proper to the common African position, and make an input as Members of Parliament, and we shall take this position to Stockholm, Sweden, so that as African parliamentarians, our voice can clearly be heard on these issues because population and development issues are very remarkable in the African context.

So I think we shall work with UNFPA and see actually how the members who have participated in this should be part of that process of the Abidjan meeting and also the Stockholm so that the debate continues. I will get the exact dates after we are giving the closing remarks, and then we continue coordinating, look at what we are discussing and even the statement which we are about to start. The draft statement, which I hope to discuss, should inform that debate and inform that process, so that parliamentarians are not left behind.

I thought that I would make that clarification to answer the question that was raised, so thank you very much Mr. Chair. The request I would make is the APDA, because you have been supporting the Asian parliamentarians, I think we need to work together to see how we put our heads together for this Stockholm meeting. We must share information. There is a team which is organizing the conference, but maybe

we should improve on sharing information and work out the agenda for the Stockholm meeting so that parliamentarians from across the globe can be involved and add to this process and consultation.

Chair:

I thank you once more. As I release my wonderful presenters, I would welcome to the podium the next chair of the next session, and before I do that, just a little sharing that from Botswana we are in the process of our budget discussions, and we have, as the government and legislature, for the three years running allocated education the largest share of the budget so far. This year, 19% of the cake has gone to education followed by infrastructure, health, agriculture and lands. The five ministries are sharing 60% of the budget. The reason being to want to educate each and every child, as you know, we do have free education from primary to university and education is empowerment.

As we were visiting the areas yesterday, the clinics, we found that young kids, girls, boys, teenagers were going to these facilities. If they are not empowered education-wise, it is as good as pouring water into a leaking kind of drum. Because when they get home, the boyfriend, as we heard, will refuse to adhere to what they learned from the health facilities, it is important to try and mop up everybody on the

streets and try to educate each of them.

At agriculture, we are trying to subsidize agricultural subsidies, and they develop well. They highly subsidize their farmers to produce enough food and as Africans, that is also the way to go if we want to produce enough food to feed our populations and also export.

In Botswana, the decision has been that five hectares per a family. The government covers the costs in terms of seeds, fertilizers, pesticides for each family to cultivate five hectares for free. Of course, if you want to go beyond that, that is when you can come on your own as a way of trying to stimulate interest in agriculture. Agriculture is a sector that can provide mass job opportunities and if we seriously venture into it as governments, we will be able to reduce the level of unemployment. I just thought I should share particularly with you.

And we should not forget, as Africans, that sometimes developmental processes, as a result of us the leadership, are losing focus and looking at our interest versus the interest of the nation, the issue of corruption, we should not shy away as Africans, let us stop this rot that is engulfing our countries, our economies. We need to put the interest of the nations before our own interests. Thank you!

SESSION 6
***Discussion for the Adoption of the Draft
Statement***

Discussion for the Adoption of the Draft Statement

Chair: **Hon. Fredrick Outa**

Member of Parliament, Kenya

Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Fredrick Outa was first elected as a Member of Parliament since 2007 in the general election in Kenya. He represents the constituency of Nyando in the Western part of Kenya. He currently serves on the Committee on Health, Agriculture; and is also on the Speakers Committee. Among the projects he has so far initiated are: the revival of irrigation that had initially collapsed; the building of orphanages; catering to the needs of widows in Nyando; attending to the aged and eye surgery; and the sinking of boreholes.

He holds a Bachelor's in Health Management from the City University of New York; a Master's degree in Theology from the International School of Theology; a Master's degree in Intercultural Studies from Biola University; and is presently working on his Doctorate of Philosophy through Biola University.

Under the Chairpersonship of Honourable Fredrick Outa, Kenya, various points of view were aired and debated to highlight the issues related to population and aging issues. The result of the session was the "**Statement**", which was unanimously adopted by the participants on 13 February 2014.

CLOSING CEREMONY

Address

Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi

President of APF; Chair of UPPFSP&D, Uganda

Once again, let me take this opportunity to welcome you to Uganda, particularly those of you who have come to Uganda for the first time. And also sincerely thank you for the active participation and the resilience that you showed the last four days when you have been interacting, discussing issues of cooperation and involvement.

We want to thank the Honourable Minister, who has accepted to come, and to be our Chief Guest. As we told you, the members of the Ruling Party in Uganda are having a two-week retreat, about 300 kilometers from here, and the Honourable Minister had to interrupt his stay, which is extremely important, to come and be with us and we want to appreciate your commitment and your attachment to issues of population and development.

As we have discussed the last four days, Asia and Africa share a lot in common. And definitely the question of population and development, the question of sexual reproductive health, these are issues which are challenging us in our times when we are leaders, when we are Members of Parliament.

I therefore want to appreciate all the contributions, all the discussions that we have had the last few days. We hope you have been able to learn from each other and we should be able to take this debate forward, and be able to influence what happens in our countries in order for us to have a better society where everybody will enjoy the quality life.

With our development partners, we as Members of Parliament are committed to working with you as we address challenges of population and development. For us as Members of Parliament in Africa, we know we have a bigger challenge and it is our duty as Members of Parliament to see to it that we do everything possible to serve the population that votes us into our respective parliaments. If you

asked any Member of Parliament why he or she decided to contest and go to parliament, the answer would be the same. Whether you are from Asia, Africa, from Japan, Uganda, the answer as to why someone goes to ask for a vote to be in parliament, all of us would want to work for people. We would want to see improvement in the quality of the people whom we serve.

That is why I want to appreciate and thank all those who have been behind this conference. We would want to thank the Japanese government for the consistent support you have extended to the rest of the world to address this question of population. We want to thank APDA for the good work and the effort you are putting. Dr. Kusumoto and your team, thank you very much for the great work. We want to thank JPPF for doing a lot of work not only in Japan, but for the rest of the world, and for the consistent support you have extended in advancing the agenda of the quality of population in the world.

We want to thank UNFPA for the commitment and work that we are doing across the world, but most importantly in Africa, in Uganda, where these population issues are quite a challenge. Also I want to thank IPPF through your affiliate organizations. I want to thank you for the tremendous work that you are doing to improve the quality of life of the people whom we serve.

And all of you Members of Parliament, I want to thank you for the work that you do in your respective parliaments to ensure that the issues of population are high on the agenda. As I commented earlier on, as African parliamentarians, we are extremely committed and we want to participate and be part of the story that addresses the question of population growth, the question of population and development.

Sometime back a forum was created, that brings together the Members of Parliament from Africa and the Arab regions, but the forum for some reasons did not work as effectively as it was expected. So in May 2012, when some of us met in Istanbul, Turkey, it was agreed after discussing with UNFPA and other partners that we need to separate the two regions – the Arab region and the African region, and in December 2012 we had a meeting of about 44 countries in Johannesburg, South Africa where we launched the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development. We put into place an Executive Committee, where all regions are represented and I was elected to be the President of the forum. It was a very tough election that we went through. And we were tasked with the responsibility of setting up this forum and ensuring that the others on the continent are mobilized to be part of this process.

Like we heard during the discussion, UNFPA has been organizing consultative meetings through the 20- year reviews of ICPD as this year 2014 is the year when the ICPD Programme of Action comes to an end as we look at the period beyond. And each continental community has come up with a position paper. And in Africa a few members of the parliament participated in the discussion. Members of Parliament from Asia must have participated. The International Parliamentarians' Conference is being organized to take place in Stockholm, Sweden from the

23-26 April this year, where we shall converge as Members of Parliament from all corners of the group to voice, our position on population and development as we look at 2015 and beyond.

We do hope that Members of Parliament in Asia will have an opportunity to meet before the meeting in Stockholm, to harmonize the position from the perspective of parliamentarians. In Africa, we are organizing a meeting in Abidjan from the 17-20 March to concretize the position of the African parliamentarians. And from now we shall work with UNFPA to ensure that the members as well participated in this discussion so that our voice can continue to be heard on these issues. So I thought that I would give you that clarification as a way of next steps and also as a way forward. So the debate, the engagement, the discussion, should not end here.

Let us all resolve to continue addressing these issues on population and development so that we can have a better future for the people whom we serve. I thank you very much for those of you travelling here and I wish you a safe journey back. Also, like I said, if you are on your own, it is still agreed, you can adjust your itinerary in Uganda and be able to see what else Uganda offers in terms of the attractions in the countryside. I thank you very much and once again you are welcome to Kampala, Uganda!

Address

Ms. Junko Sazaki

Director of the UNFPA Tokyo Office, Japan

I am very happy to participate in this meeting. I am so much thrilled and impressed with not only the deepness of these discussions, but also the achievements you have made. This year we have many events. You may have heard yesterday Dr. Babatunde our Executive Director and Secretary General Ban Kimoon have launched a report of the review of ICPD after 20 years, and that was broadcasted. In addition to that, many events are ongoing. For example, Commission for Social Development is ongoing in New York, and that is followed by Commission for the Status of Women in March, and then on 7-10 April, Commission on Population and Development will be held. The theme is *ICPD Beyond 2014*. This will become a very important meeting to set the goals and the directions for ICPD beyond 2014. That even will be culminated to United Nations General Assembly Special Session on *ICPD Beyond 2014* on 22 September.

The UNPA has been very actively working together with parliamentarians. For example, as the Japan's Trust Fund, we receive US\$1 million for parliamentary activities from the Government of Japan every year. We also ask for a donation from the Swedish government that is what they call the International Parliamentary Conference for Population and Development in April. As Hon. Chris mentioned, all the parliamentarians get together to discuss ICPD issues.

The Regional offices and Headquarters also have a funding to support the regional consultation meeting and regional secretariat of parliamentarians. In addition, the Country Offices have programme funds to support the National Committee on Population and Development.

I would like to highlight very briefly the outcomes of this report: what happened 20 years after ICPD. It is very much amazing there is a large gain made, but there are a lot of

challenges.

The key issue highlighted is the inequality they have identified. There are many people who benefited from the ICPD during the last 20 years, but the poorest of the poor, marginalized people have not really enjoyed the gain from the ICPD. For example, nearly 1 billion people have escaped from extreme poverty for the last 20 years. In 1990 one out of two persons was living in extreme poverty; in 1992 one out of three; in 2005 one out of four; in 2010 one out of five. This is an amazing gain we had. There are many laws that were approved based on human rights. That is also amazing.

There is a reduction on maternal mortality by 47%; infant mortality by nearly 50%; a skilled nurse attended birth has increased 15%. There are many other gains, like more children going to school, more women having access to education, and fewer adolescent girls are having babies.

However, internationally the top 5% of the population are gaining 52% of the wealth. That you may have heard from the outcome of the World Economic Forum that took place in Davos in January. That is equally influencing the outcome of the ICPD.

For example, in the poor communities, women's status has not increased and there are a lot of child marriages. There are many concerns: life expectancy has not increased in these communities and also 800 women are still dying in delivering a child. So there are still a lot of challenges we have to address. The secondary education of the girls has not been yet achieved. But if we work together to provide education to girls, including the sexuality education, many girls can gain the ability and the skills to lead their life and make their own decisions. So that is why we will have to work on that.

Another issue is that there are still many laws

approved based on the human rights for the population development and sexual reproductive health, but they have not been implemented, or no budget allocation has been done. That has to be really taken into account for the post MDGs.

Another amazing finding in this report is that one out of three women has experienced physical or sexual abuse. Many men openly admitted and there are rape cases without facing any consequences. That has to be changed.

And also in no country are women equal to men, especially in political and economic field. That is what very clearly statistics shows, including my own country, Japan. According to the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap report, it

ranks 105 out of 138 countries because of lack of access and low percentage of female parliamentarians who accounts only 8% in Japan. Also, fewer women are working as executives in the private sectors.

It concludes that the laws have to be approved, and that is very important for you all parliamentarians to make sure to give more benefits and gains for the poorest, most marginalized population. I think these are lots of challenges. This is a key year of the ICPD Beyond 2014, and we look forward to working all together, especially toward IPCI. I hope that you all come to Sweden to discuss further what direction we need to take. Thank you for your listening.

Address

Mr. Sam Ntelamo

Resident Representative to the African Union & ECA IPPF Liaison Office

On behalf of

Mr. Tewodros Melesse

Director-General of IPPF

My name is Sam Ntelamo, and I work as the Resident Representative of IPPF for the Liaison Office to the African Union and Economic Commission for Africa. IPPF Director-General, Mr. Tewodros Melesse, very much wishes he could join this meeting. Unfortunately, he has to attend to other pressing competing priorities, and regretfully excused himself. Therefore, I am here to present this message on his behalf.

Director of ceremonies, first and foremost I would like to thank JFPF, APDA and UNFPA for making this special opportunity to gather together and share experiences between Africa and Japan and Asia. I sincerely hope that JFPF and APDA and the colleagues in Africa will continue to work closely together with and support the African parliamentary activities on the African continent.

On behalf of IPPF, we congratulate the Ugandan government, JFPF and APDA for the continued support that we are able to meet in this beautiful hotel in Uganda. The Asian-African partnership presents a better opportunity for further collaboration as the world gets what is beyond 2014 and the Post-2015 development agenda.

In setting our commitment to this cause, just recently IPPF assumed greater responsibility to host and provide secretariat services to the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development, of which Dr. Chris heads as Chair. We firmly believe this commitment will come into a formidable voice for Africa on population and development. There is need for Members of Parliament, especially on the African continent, to support the registration of this forum.

We note that JFPF is the world's first

all-inclusive parliamentarians' group working in the field of population and SRH. It has demonstrated global leadership in the field of population and reproductive health by influencing high level political processes.

One such example is the strategic initiative of the former Japanese Prime Minister and former JFPF Chair Honourable Yasuo Fukuda on the occasion of the G8 Summit and the 4th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV), which were held in Japan in 2008. We observed under his leadership including that of JFPF members' robust advocacy efforts.

These actions' items to promote population's reproductive health with clearly included in the outcome documents for both the G8 and TICAD IV processes. Contrary to this TICAD IV process we noted at the beginning at TICAD V progression process that reproductive health was not even part of the discussion topics, but through our strength and collaborative efforts with our different stakeholders such as UNFPA, JFPF, and APDA, we succeeded in maintaining reproductive health as a priority item in the TICAD V outcome documents. I think this information can be found on the TICAD website.

Africa has now become a leading vehicle of global economy, but despite its recent remarkable economic successes, there are still high need to improve children's and women's health, including reproductive health and family planning.

IPPF highly appreciates Japan's efforts and interest in working with Africa for its further development including its 20-year-long TICAD process and JFPF members' advocacy work to keep our issues high on the agenda within Japan

and the global forum. Japan has been one of IPPF's strongest supporters, both in general funding and in finding innovative approaches to our issues.

Japan has also shown the world how promoting such reproductive health and rights can enhance human security. Actually we can catch Africa's name for that, from such experiences. As the Director-General of the IPPF, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Japanese Parliamentarians for their demonstrated leadership on global population and reproductive health issues and equally their long-standing support for IPPF.

In the same manner IPPF appreciates current Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's new "Womenomics" initiative, which announced in New York last year. Under the new leadership of Honourable Minister Tanigaki and with the support from the

JPPF members such as Honourable Ms. Takagai and Honourable Mashiko, we hope to work together to make sure that our issues remain as one of the major contributors to human security and the "Womenomics" in Africa.

Distinguished Members of Parliament, balanced approaches to integrated population programmes are of political importance. We at IPPF will be very happy to collaborate with you at global, national and grassroots levels, while we strive to make a difference for current and future generations. As I conclude these remarks, I would like to echo Honourable Dr. Chris's sentiments on the preparations for the General Assembly of the African Parliamentary Forum on Population Development that is going to be held in Abidjan. At IPPF we are doing all possible to make sure this meeting will be a success. Thank you very much.

Address

Hon. Teruhiko Mashiko

Member of Parliament; Executive Director of JPFP, Japan

On behalf of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP), I would like to express my hope that you all felt the four days of meetings and the study tour were truly useful and productive. We are grateful for the contribution each of you has made to the success of the conference.

APDA, serving as the Secretariat of JPFP and as the Chair's Office of AFPPD, has for more than 30 years organized and conducted parliamentarians' conferences on population and development as well as related study tours.

APDA has been involved in many international activities to support international conferences organized by AFPPD, but this is the first time we were able to conduct one in Africa.

I have learned that close collaboration began with the participation of Honourable Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, President of the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (APF) as well as Chair of the UPFFSP&D, at the conference and study tour organized by APDA in 2007 in Japan.

Following the end of the World War II, Japan was the first non-Western country to achieve demographic transition, and by sharing its experience with other countries in the region was instrumental in playing a useful role in resolving population challenges in Asia.

If we wish to continue to survive on this planet, stabilization of population is an essential condition. It has been made clear by research already conducted that there is no need for a compulsory policy or programme.

Nobody will be against preventing unwanted pregnancies. By empowering women and achieving universal access to reproductive health, we can prevent unwanted pregnancies. We believe that in so doing we will be able to stabilize the world's population and enable

sustainable development to take place.

It seems that our emphasis on environmental issues is diminishing. The world's interest in Africa now seems to focus on BOP business and the resource economy. Is this in the right direction?

One thing is clear. We will not be able to continue to survive beyond the limits of the earth's capacity that sustains delicate environmental balance. This applies both to the developed and developing countries.

As elected representatives we must strive for the welfare of our citizens. We all know that there is more to this than material achievement just for our generation. We should not rob the future of our children and grandchildren by pursuing immediate advantage.

As politicians we are expected to do more than just address imminent issues as governments do. What is expected of us is to share our vision and work with those we represent to build the future we want.

In this sense, I believe it is essential for us to go beyond our regions and work hand in hand to make a hopeful future for all humankind. But the realities before us are challenging.

Ten years ago no one would have imagined that APDA would be organizing a meeting here in Africa. It shows beyond a doubt that our world has become smaller and that the time has come for us Japanese to think of Africa's challenges as our own. It probably goes the other way round for you as well. I suspect that no one thought back then that the African Parliamentary Forum and APDA would share their purpose and be working together for this successful project here in Uganda.

Today, international issues have become our own issues. I am confident that the close

collaboration between us will give birth to new ideas and wisdom. This in turn will herald a new future for mankind. This project clearly signifies a curtain opening on a new age. Let us build a closer partnership so that we can contribute together to this hopeful vision.

Last but not least, I would like to sincerely thank Honourable Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, President of APF and Chair of UPFFSP&D, Honourable parliamentarians from the breadth of the African continent, and those who have travelled from Asia and Europe to be with us, and not least the representatives of UNFPA and IPPF. Thank you so very much. I am sure you will be instrumental in seeing that what you discussed here will be positively reflected in your countries' policies.

I wish you a safe return home and look forward to seeing you all again.

Hon. Kasamba Mathias, Uganda:

Thank you so much, Honourable Teruhiko Mashiko. At this juncture, I invite our Chair of UPFFSP&D to give the background of our Chief Guest and then invite him to address this conference and close it. I thank you so much.

Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, Uganda:

Thank you very much to the MC for requesting me to introduce our Chief Guest, who is none other than Honourable Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye, the Minister of State for Health in the Government of Uganda. Honourable Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye, who is with us, who is not a new face to most of you, who have been participating in these meetings on population is a Member of Parliament for Sheema North constituency, and has been representing that constituency since 2001. Sheema North is in western Uganda.

Currently he is also the Minister of State for Health in charge of general duties in our government. He has a long history and a long CV. If I was to go through it we would need to take all the time for the closing ceremony, but allow me to introduce him briefly.

He is a medical doctor with a post-graduate specialization in public health and epidemiology and he has done a lot of work in this country. In our parliament, he was the pioneer chairperson for the HIV/AIDS Committee, Department of Uganda and he has done a lot of professional work in this country. He worked as a clinician, as a medical officer in the Ministry of Health, and several hospitals in this country but also before he went to the Parliament, he was working as an epidemiologist in the sexually transmitted disease (STD) unit in the Ministry of Health. Honourable Dr. Elioda has done a lot of work in the field of HIV/AIDS.

When you hear Uganda it is one of the few countries that was able to register a substantial decline in HIV infection rates in the 1990s, that was the work of Honourable Dr. Elioda and other medical specialists who were working in that area.

So he is a professional who has done a lot of work in HIV/AIDS, population programmes, sexual reproductive health, and therefore we are extremely privileged to have him here as the Chief Guest, and has been participating in these meetings. Actually he represented the Parliament of Uganda in the Cambodia meeting which took place last year. So he is not a stranger to the discussions, which we are having here.

Tumwesigye that is the name of his means "We must trust him or we must rely on him". That is what it means. And therefore he is a reliable supporter of the cause of population and development. So that is the man who is here, like I said he had to leave a very important retreat where he was getting together with the President to come and be here as our Chief Guest. We appreciate your coming and with that very brief introduction of our Chief Guest, I take the opportunity to invite you to have an address at this meeting and also officially close this conference. Thank you very much, Honourable Dr. Elioda, the Minister of State for Health.

Official Closing Address

Hon. Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye

Minister of State for Health, Uganda

I am extremely happy to be with you, and I feel I belong to you! This position of Minister just came recently in July, but before then I was associated with the Population and Development Forum. Actually, my first trip outside of Uganda to Asia was part of the Parliamentary Forum work. We came over in 2001 to Japan in Tokyo and from that time I used to sometimes stop over in Thailand. There used to be some old gentleman who was in Thailand, Bangkok, Mr. Shiv Khare, former Executive Director of AFPPD, and I used to go to his office there.

I used to participate in many of ICPD conferences with some of your colleagues. I think I went to the Philippines twice. Another time there was even like coup when we were holed up in a hotel in the Philippines. In 2002, I was elected to represent Uganda, as the council member for Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development, and I think our last meeting was in Jordan, before Chris and his team went separate pathways. I was a treasurer for the Forum of Africa ad Arab Parliamentarians from 2002 to 2009. But of course, most of the treasurer work was being done by the Secretariat Fatimata Deme and others.

I did come with Honourable Dr. Chis to Japan, some time back over the years. Last year I went to Cambodia with another colleague of mine, who is also not here today, but I was together with the delegation from Malawi. I see my friend from Zambia was different at that time. So when we were going to Cambodia, we started debating where we can do this conference also in Africa. And I remember that it was, "Should it be Uganda or Zambia, Uganda or Zambia?" Could not we say why we should meet only in Asia? If it is this triangle – Asia, Africa and Europe – we should have another day when we can have it in Africa. So I am happy that finally the choice was made for Uganda to

be the first host in Africa for this Asian and African Parliamentarians' meeting.

Somewhere along the way when the preparation started for this conference, that was when the President of Uganda picked me to be Minister and I became extremely busy. I apologize because I was no longer able to respond to emails of Dr. Osamu or someone. But I am happy that Honourable Dr. Chris, Honourable Kasamba and Mr. Musa were able to do the footwork and finally you are here. In Uganda, we say "the end justifies the means". Now the conference has been held here in Africa, and in Uganda.

And I am happy that we are here in this country, and we thank God for this conference taking place. Warm welcome to you, colleagues, people who had trouble imagining coming here. Maybe Honourable Teruhiko was asking himself "Really should I go to Uganda?" I am sure that is what you were asking relatives, "Should I go to Uganda?" But I am happy all of you decided to make it to Uganda. I hope that you have had a good time in Uganda, and I wish you could be here for more days, but I am afraid you have to go. Besides the fact that you really made to Uganda, the conference has been held in Uganda that operates well, please feel free to come back to Africa.

Africa is where action now is, in terms of population. Africa has a rapidly growing population, but we are also studying topics about aging populations. In the past years, we never cared so much about the elderly because they were not there. In Uganda, our life expectancy is about 58 now, but we have so many people who are elderly, and at the last conference you had was actually focusing on that.

Actually I wanted to come on Monday, to be here with our Speaker. But on that very Monday

my Ministry was to make a presentation at this retreat, and it was a very crucial retreat with the President and all the leaders of Uganda, so I could not even move away even for 20 minutes, so I am sorry I could not come. But I think you have had a successful conference, and you had your input into the issues on family planning, teenage pregnancies, youth skills, education and employment for our most vulnerable population of our countries, especially women, children and youth.

On behalf of the government of Uganda, I want to thank you for choosing Uganda as a host of this conference. We cannot take it for granted, but it worked out for those who supported this conference, the organizers, for choosing Uganda, our trusty conference. We are happy to note that the conference is now successfully completed. For our country, the issue of population is prioritized in our development plan, and also prioritized in our sector strategic and investment plan. And we hope that this conference and our Members of Parliament, who have attended it, will help contribute to population issues and the development of our country.

I also believe that our colleagues from Uganda shared with you the challenges they lie ahead in response to slowly reducing the maternal mortality rate in Uganda. In Uganda we have had significant improvement, like infant mortality. When the current government came to power in 1986, we were losing 130 children per 1,000 children a day, before reaching their first year. But the government was putting a lot of programmes in immunization, and now our infant mortality rate has been reduced to only 54. Of course, I know what people are going to say, "Why should we say 'only 54'?" It is too many in some of your countries. But from 130 to 54, we think we are moving.

But for maternal mortality we have not done very well - for every 100,000 women on delivery, we used to lose about 505, for a long period after around 2001, while in 2006 we lost 435. So we are still around that level. We have not done very well in terms of maternal mortality, and I think Members of the Parliament from here have shared with you.

We have a huge population growth, as you must have heard, helped by any influx of refugees. We have a lot of immigration. Just right now we are busy at the border with Sudan. People come from Sudan to our country and other countries. Also, there is pressure because of high fertility rate, aging and its structure, and of course constrained resources, but the situation is more than financial. Some of your countries have gone through demographic transitions, and hopefully have adapted to them and enjoy demographic dividends and have best practices to share with our colleagues.

This forum for sharing and exchanging ideas is commendable and should continue. Uganda is still committed to contribute towards the global targeting of reaching an additional 20 million women to provide family planning services by the year 2020. As a country we are committed to make sure that our children in Uganda are begot by choice, not by chance, as has been the case.

We have had some modest improvements lately, in contraceptive preference, but we are still far away. A Council therefore will be addressing family planning, and these not only to support our people to plan their families, but also to prevent unplanned pregnancies, reduce maternal-childhood mortality and support better livelihoods of our people. At the national level, lowering the fertility rate and population growth is a solution towards a sustainable society and economic development.

The Ugandan government has also invested in strong sanitary systems so that there is sufficient capacity to prevent maternal and childhood mortality. We also strive to ascertain upon improvement by expanding infrastructure and improving knowledge for disease prevention. We also made a stride in the fight against AIDS by permitting strategies to eliminate the transmission of HIV from mother to the baby, in order to reduce HIV incidence.

Education for our country is very, very crucial. The current government which has overseen education for eight years now in the country has tried to improve education. Right now, we have introduced universal primary education and universal secondary education. Pupils go for

primary education not having to pay, and also secondary education also not paying. Of course, schools charge some little money, but by and large, a free education for primary level, free education for secondary level, and maybe introducing a scheme now to support university education.

We believe that once you educate a child, once you educate a woman, their issues of family planning, issues of spacing of children and nutrition and others would be answered. As a country we have been committed to that. Also it comes to ease of access. We have now made sure that we have built this infrastructure and over 75% of our people now are living within five kilometers of the nearest health facility where they can go and get free health care, including free care for deliveries.

I wish to thank Ugandan Parliamentarians from UPFFSP&D for organizing and host this important event. I think they need a very fat clap. It is not a simple task to put this together. A special appreciation goes to APDA and UNFPA for the support you have given to this conference. Of course, I thank JFPF for the support you have given. Right commends all Honourable members of Parliament for joining us to exchange ideas on population and development. I urge you to address what you have learned at this conference and advocate for good policies and programmes that challenged the realities of people. We cannot develop our countries if we do not have a better balance between population, education, fertility, security, urbanization, modernization and environmental protection. The nations need our sustained commitment and support as parliamentarians.

When we met in Cambodia, we looked at that triangle: the Asian, African and European triangle. We said we should strengthen South-South cooperation and North-South cooperation and look at issues of integrating population issues and development frameworks. We say that all breeds of beings are created equal and therefore all of us should work together to improve the quality of life of our people; be it in Europe, be it in Asia, be it in Africa.

Under the law we have challenges of young people in some places, we also have challenges of the aged, but we could learn and work together. As we focus on the Post-2015 development agenda, we really need to grow on common actions that we want to promote this forum, bringing together these parliamentarians from Asia, Africa, and Europe. Already in Uganda we have universal healthcare coverage and my ministry is working on that to ensure that we have various insurance for all Ugandans.

Honourable Teruhiko Mashiko, the citizens of Japan, I really want to thank you as a sector of health for the support you are giving us. Please give a very, very loud clap, by actual support from the Japanese government, under the TICAD arrangement, and specifically under JICA. JICA in the country has helped us and put up very good health facilities in various parts of Uganda, including facilities for women to deliver, so I thought really, my talk would not be complete without thanking the Japanese government, and the Japanese people for supporting us in making sure we improve the quality of life for the people in Uganda. I am thankful for that.

I also want to take this special opportunity to thank the Minister from Sri Lanka. Recently the First Lady of Sri Lanka was here. Before then you have hosted our President in Sri Lanka. We have a lot of cooperation with Sri Lanka. There is medical counterpart which comes from Sri Lanka, treating our people here. We want to borrow from your experience of community health workers in Sri Lanka.

I also saw representatives from India. A lot of our people are getting care from India. We appreciated that. They try in Europe and America, but they are too costly. Many people are alive, and strong, and safe, because of the support from India in terms of health care. We are working closely to have technical exchanges. We have trained our best specialists there, and we really appreciate it.

And to our colleagues from all these countries, we thank you. Our African colleagues, we hope to be together in AU in addition for this forum, and in just 27 days. I am supposed to be in Malawi, for East, Central and Southern African

Ministers of Health to see how we can work together in the areas of health. So, all of you, let's work together.

Someone has said "The highest service that you can do for mankind, is to save a life". Thank you for saving the lives of our people, and I hope this conference you had here this week, will be moving towards saving more lives and making people live longer, and just rest in peace. When they go to sleep they just lay around at the age of 150 - that is what we hope for.

Before I officially close this conference, I want to invite all of you to dinner this evening. I know the conference is ending shortly now, but as the Ministry of Health I asked my colleagues in the health sector and said 'I went to Cambodia, and made sure that this conference took place in Uganda. How can people come and go away without us meeting with them?' So I called my

Deputy Secretary of Minister of Health, and others to host you dinner tonight. After your shopping, or whatever you do, you come and join us in Kampala and we just share a simple meal. They say that families that eat together stay together. So we stay together, the Forum of Asia, Africa and European Parliamentarians on Population Issues.

I want to thank you. I wish to declare this conference officially closed.

Hon. Kasamba Mathias, Uganda:

Another steady clap for our Chief Guest. Honourable Minister, thank you so much for addressing this occasion and closing this conference and we are very proud of you that we could have you here with us. We thank you all of you.



“Asian and African Parliamentarians’ Capacity Development on the Integration of Population Issues into National Development Frameworks”-Part II

Statement

13 February 2014

Uganda

We, parliamentarians as representatives of 15 Asian, African and European countries, gathered in Uganda do commit ourselves to strengthening efforts to address population issues and set out a course of action to prioritize population issues on the national agenda and maximize aid effectiveness through this APDA-UPFFSP&D Project towards the 20-year deadline of the ICPD Programme of Action of 2014 and beyond.

I. We reaffirm that:

- 1) Population programmes are the foundation of national development; without stabilizing the population, sustainable development will not be achieved.
- 2) Population programmes facilitate environments conducive to human rights and allow people to make responsible choices for future societies.
- 3) Population programmes including sexual and reproductive health are managed through well-informed choices aimed at improving well-being of individuals, especially of those who live in poverty.
- 4) Population programmes enhance the status and empowerment of women, which contribute to creating social and economic development and eradication of poverty.
- 5) Population programmes are among the most cost-effective interventions which pave way to sustainable development.

II. Based on these facts, we make the following policy recommendations:

- 1) We urge respective governments to mainstream population programmes in the Post-2015 Development Agenda that will be adopted in 2015.
- 2) We parliamentarians commit to lobby in our respective parliaments to review, formulate and popularize policies and laws that promote sexual and reproductive health and population programmes to achieve sustainable development.
- 3) We strive to achieve universal access to sexual and reproductive health through strengthening the framework of Universal Health Coverage.
- 4) We urge respective governments to integrate Universal Health Coverage schemes into national development policies and implementing international assistance programmes as a principal instrument for population and development programmes.
- 5) We request national and international institutions including aid organizations to provide persuasive, evidence-based, concise data to be utilized to formulate policies and programmes, advocate fellow parliamentarians, and create support from the constituents.
- 6) We call for effective cooperation in the field of ICT for achieving Good governance,

Transparency and Accountability.

- 7) For achieving the balance between population and food security, we need to promote proper sexual and reproductive health measures through the universal health coverage and the proper measures to strengthen resiliency of food security such as NERICA (New Rice for Africa).
- 8) We work towards promoting cooperation and coordination as well as sharing good practices at the national, regional and international levels. For this purpose, promoting collaboration with the Regional Parliamentary Fora on Population and Development to participate in the preparation process of IPCI in Stockholm is paramount.

III. In closing:

- 1) In celebration of the success of the APDA-UPFFSP&D project, we express our thanks to the co-organizers, as well as to the Parliament of Uganda, the Government of Japan, UNFPA, IPPF and other partner organizations for supporting this project to prioritize population issues .
- 2) We acknowledge that Parliamentarians' roles, activities, and the platforms where they can work effectively are imperative in addressing population issues at the grassroots based on people's needs. Toward the ICPD 2014 and beyond, we commit ourselves to parliamentarians' activities to address population and development issues.
- 3) We implore international aid organizations' continued support and expansion of parliamentarians' activities such as this, considering the achievements that APDA has made to strengthen Asian and African parliamentarians' activities during the past more than 30 years.

List of Participants

MPs and National Committees				
1	Hon.	Fidelis Molao	Botswana	MP
2	H.E.	Gabriel Ntisezerana	Burundi	Speaker of the Parliament
3	Hon.	Sophie Bigirimana	Burundi	Senator
4	Mr.	Niyongabo Tharcisse	Burundi	Parliament Officer
5	Mr.	Ntirandekura Jean Claude	Burundi	Parliament Officer
6	Mr.	Kamwehubusa Mateso Moise	Burundi	Parliament Officer
7	Mr.	Manirerekana Syldie	Burundi	Chief of Protocol
8	Hon.	Kwasi Agyemang Gyan-Tutu	Ghana	MP
9	Mr.	Samuel Addei	Ghana	Parliament Officer
10	Hon. Dr.	Ram Prakash	India	MP
11	Mr.	Manmohan Sharma	India	Executive Secretary of IAPPD
12	Hon.	Teruhiko Mashiko	Japan	MP; Executive Director of JPFP
13	Hon.	Emiko Takagai	Japan	MP
14	Hon.	Fredrick Outa	Kenya	MP
15	Hon.	Vonekham Phethavong	Lao PDR	MP
16	Mr.	Bounlert Loungdouangchanh	Lao PDR	Executive Director of LAPPD
17	Hon.	Paul Chibingu	Malawi	MP; Chair for Parliamentary Health and Population Committee
18	Hon.	Dante Antonio Tinio	Philippines	MP
19	Hon. Dr.	Florian Bodog	Romania	MP
20	Hon.	Helen Kuyembeh	Sierra Leone	MP
21	Hon.	Sualiho Koroma	Sierra Leone	MP
22	Hon.	Henry P. Leigh	Sierra Leone	Advocacy Coordinator of SLPAGPD Project
23	Hon.	Tissa Karalliyadde	Sri Lanka	MP; Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs
24	Rt. Hon.	Rebecca Kadaga Alitwala	Uganda	Speaker of the Parliament
25	Hon. Dr.	Elioda Tumwesigye	Uganda	Minister of State for Health
26	Hon. Dr.	Chris Baryomunsi	Uganda	MP; Chair of UPPFSP&D; President of APFPD
27	Hon.	Betty Aol Ocan	Uganda	MP; Vice-Chair of UPPFSP&D
28	Hon.	Milton Muwuma	Uganda	MP; Secretary General of UPPFSP&D
29	Hon.	Kasamba Mathias	Uganda	MP; Publicity Secretary of UPPFSP&D
30	Hon.	Sarah Netalisire Kayagi	Uganda	MP; Treasurer of UPPFSP&D
31	Hon.	Nyakikongoro Rosemary	Uganda	MP
32	Hon.	Namara Grace	Uganda	MP
33	Hon.	Kirunda Sulaiman Balyejjusa	Uganda	MP
34	Hon.	Kafeero Ssekitoleko	Uganda	MP
35	Hon.	Alum Santa	Uganda	MP

36	Hon.	Nalubega Mariam	Uganda	MP
37	Hon.	Boniface Mutale	Zambia	MP
38	Mr.	Temwa Nyirenda	Zambia	Parliament Officer
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)				
39	Ms.	Junko Sazaki	Japan	Director of the UNFPA Tokyo Office
40	Mr.	Tapiwa Jhamba	Uganda	UN Joint Programme on Population at UNFPA
41	Ms.	Florence Tagoola	Uganda	Team Leader - Population and Development
International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and Member Association (MA)				
42	Mr.	Sam Ntelamo	Ethiopia	Resident Representative to the African Union & ECA IPPF Liaison Office
43	Dr.	Peter J. Ibembe	Uganda	Director of Programmes, Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU)
Partners in Population and Development (PPD)				
44	Dr.	Jotham Musinguzi	Uganda	Regional Director, Partners in Population and Development- Africa Regional Office (PPD-ARO)
Population Secretariat				
45	Dr.	Betty Kyaddondo	Uganda	Head of Family Health Department
Airtel India				
46	Mr.	Arindam Chakrabarty	Uganda	Project Manager of Airtel Uganda
47	Mr.	Dennis A Kakonge	Uganda	Legal & Regulatory Director of Airtel Uganda
48	Ms.	Charity Rwabutomize	Uganda	Corporate Social Responsibility Specialist of Airtel Uganda
Embassies and Government Officials				
49	H.E.	Junzo Fujita	Uganda	Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Japan
50	Ms.	Sayaka Shingu	Uganda	Third Secretary, the Head of Cultural and Communication Security and Political Officer, Embassy of Japan
51	Dr.	Lukwago Asuman	Uganda	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health
Cooperating Organizations/Observers				
52	Mr.	Brahn Panwar	Uganda	UNICEF Uganda
Uganda Parliamentarians Forum on Food Security, Population and Development (UPFFSP&D)				
53	Mr.	Wamala Buyungo Musa	Uganda	Coordinator of UPFFSP&D
54	Mr.	Kizipo Elvis	Uganda	Staff of UPFFSP&D
The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)				
55	Dr.	Osamu Kusumoto	Japan	Secretary-General/Executive Director
56	Ms.	Hitomi Tsunekawa	Japan	
57	Mr.	Farrukh Usmonov	Japan	
Interpreter				
58	Ms.	Haruko Ota	Japan	Interpreter

