

# ETHIOPIA

Enhancing the Role of Parliamentarians in the Interlinkage  
between Population Issues and the 2030 Agenda  
for Sustainable Development - Part II



The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)



# Introduction



Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda) in 2015, which has the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at its core and succeeded the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the year 2016 offers a great opportunity to bring population and development issues into policy dialogue with the G7 meeting hosted by Japan in May and the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) VI in August.

Addressing population issues is one of the most fundamental imperatives in achieving sustainable development, and hence the SDGs. Under the SDGs, transparency, accountability and good governance to the people in respective countries are preconditions for achieving global partnership as common criteria. Given the accelerating pace of globalization and expansion of interdependence among countries, both developed and developing countries should work together as equal partners based on global partnership in order to advance sustainable development and build economically viable, peaceful and just societies.

In past years, the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) implemented Asian-African Parliamentarians' Projects, focusing on enhancing their roles and responsibilities, as representatives of the people, in addressing population and development issues through SDGs. Improvement of good governance, transparency and accountability not only ensures the effectiveness and efficiency of ODA but also helps create the foundation of global partnership for sustainable development.

As the centerpiece of this programme, addressing population issues is crucial for attaining universal health coverage (UHC), food security, regional stability and sustainable development. This will be implemented under the concept of democratic governance and human dignity. Given the nature of population programmes, parliamentarians have an important role to play in acting as mediators between people and the government, promoting their understanding of these issues, and developing approaches that are acceptable to people. Also, addressing population and reproductive health (RH) issues is central to attaining gender equality, empowerment of women, and facilitating the participation of young and other marginalized people in decision-making.

The House of Peoples' Representatives of Ethiopia welcomed African, Arab, Asian and European parliamentarians to the JTF project meeting and study visit which were held on 10-12 August 2016 in Addis Ababa. This project aimed to contribute to this process just before TICAD VI which was held in Kenya on 27-28 August 2016. This programme was linked to the SDGs and aimed to provide Asian, African and Arab parliamentarians an opportunity to further their commitment and actions to population issues and influence their governments to ensure that the population perspective is highlighted in the process of implementing the new SDGs and targets.







# Meeting

## Opening Ceremony



### Welcome Address

**Hon. Teruhiko Mashiko, MP, Vice-Chair of JPFP, Japan**

We express heartfelt gratitude to the Ethiopian Parliament and its Speaker, H.E. Abadulla Gemeda Dago, for generously organizing this conference two weeks ahead of TICAD VI. From the very start of our parliamentarians' activities, our aim has always been to build societies in which people can live with dignity. A cool assessment of the reality will have to acknowledge that the limitations imposed on natural conditions, such as limits of fresh water resources and climate change, which are the basis of food production, are being increasingly challenged. JPFP and APDA wish to continue to collaborate and work together with parliamentarians to address population issues and achieve sustainable development.

### Address

**Hon. Marie Rose Nguini Effa, MP, Vice-President of FPA, Cameroon**

We thank APDA, JPFP and the Parliament of Ethiopia for organizing and hosting this event. In accepting our commitment, African parliamentarians have to serve as the voice for the voiceless to be advantageous for women, men, girls and boys by insuring that they have unequivocal access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH). The SDGs address global development, and we also examine our roles as African parliamentarians in supporting our home base policy and consider the role of the agenda for sustainable development. As parliamentarians we need to work together and advocate putting the lives of the young first.



### Address

**Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, MP, Secretary-General of AFPPD, Thailand**

I am happy that this conference has brought us together. AFPPD focuses its efforts on translating the Programme of Action (PoA) of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and MDGs commitments into meaningful changes for women and young people in the region. Special attention has been given to gender equality and women's empowerment, investing in youth, active aging, UHC and other population issues. I am sure that our recommendations to TICAD VI will contribute to building a prosperous and united Africa.

### Address

**Mr. Faustin Yao, UNFPA Country Representative, Ethiopia**

I would like to congratulate the organizers of this gathering for the topic of the event, which is much more reflective of the 2030 Agenda on country ownership and national priorities in implementing the SDGs. This also goes hand in hand with the work UNFPA is already doing and the ICPD which was held in 1994 and has been affirmed many times. The Agenda 2030 is very much planned around human rights and focuses on the root causes of inequalities. The right to health and addressing inequality must be focused on in order to achieve UHC. This is critically important for poorer and more vulnerable people such as women, girls and young people. UNFPA looks forward to working with you and other partners to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.







## Address

### H.E. Dr. Mustapha Sidiki Kaloko, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs

It is indeed a pleasure for me to speak on behalf of the African Union (AU). The AU Commission also acknowledges the essential role of national parliaments in the advancement of legislation and adoption of budgets and their rulings, insuring accountability for the effective implementation of collective commitment continentally as well as globally. The aspirations of the AU's Agenda 2063, the Africa we want, are inextricably linked to the goals of the 2030 Agenda which aim to ensure that no one is left behind. Platforms for like-minded parliamentarians and experts from all over the world to adjust the world's most critical population and development issues should include natural disasters that are caused by climate change and emerging trans-boundary issues and infectious diseases like Ebola and Zika.

## Opening Statement

### H.E. Abadulla Gameda Dago, Speaker of the House of Peoples' Representatives, Ethiopia

I would like to congratulate APDA for organizing this very important conference in Ethiopia. Needless to say, high economic and social development is unthinkable without addressing population issues and the SDGs. Ethiopia has done a remarkable job in most of the MDGs, the framework of assisting national efforts toward eradicating poverty, improving education and health outcomes, as well as building a common goal to mobilize resources at large. We parliamentarians are representatives of the people and we should demonstrate a proactive role in interlinkages and make contributions to population issues and the 2030 Agenda.



## Keynote Address

### Hon. Hiroyuki Nagahama, MP, Vice-Chair of JPFP, Japan

I would like to begin my address by noting how the Japan Trust Fund (JTF) has been able to achieve some very considerable outcomes from the series of projects it has undertaken to date. Building on these outcomes, achieving the 2030 Agenda will be the main goal for our work as parliamentarians aiming to realize sustainable development. There are several areas we ought to be tackling: population and sustainable development, UHC, investing in youth, infectious disease countermeasures and RH services, global partnership, and food safety and security. It is not enough if people simply exist. If human beings enter into a world that lacks food safety and security, they cannot lead lives that will bring them dignity.

## Keynote Address

### Dr. Margaret Agama-Anyetei on behalf of Amb. Olawale Mayeiguni, Director, AU Commission for Social Affairs

African Heads of State recognize that countries have made significant progress in achieving the MDG targets of improving maternal, new born and child health and ensuring universal access to SRH services, but fell short of meeting some of the expected targets. The number of people living in extreme poverty remains unacceptably high, and we know that poverty is not easy to break. It is well known that the challenges of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) cannot be addressed if gender inequalities remain deeply entrenched. Women and girls continue to be marginalized and discriminated against, particularly in terms of education, employment and health. The revised Maputo Plan recognizes the role of civil society, the private sector and all multisector development partners within the framework of national programmes and has indicators for monitoring progress at various levels. Without the full participation and engagement of the poor and most marginalized, neither the SDGs nor the aspirations of Agenda 2063 can be fulfilled.



## Session 1

### Securing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in Emergency Situations in the context of UHC

Health is a fundamental factor in achieving sustainable development, and to that end achieving UHC will be an important factor. This Session focused on health related topics with presentations by Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien, MP from Vietnam, Hon. Dr. Florian Bodog, Senator from Romania, Dr. Akpaka Kalu, WHO Representative to Ethiopia, and Hon. Andrew Toboso, MP from Kenya.





## Session 2

### **Demographic Dividend and Investing in Youth**

Empowering youth is a key to their bright future and sustainable development. Countries that undergo a demographic transition have the potential to reap a demographic dividend. Promoting investment in youth can not only enable them to develop skills and abilities but also contribute to global partnership and sustainable development based on different generations' perspectives. Presenters Mr. Lucien Kouakou, Africa Regional Director of IPPF, Hon. Jose Tavares, MP from Cabo Verde, and Hon. Dr. Sharif Rahimzoda, MP from Tajikistan, shared their views and recommendations regarding youth policy and demographic dividend.



## Session 3

### **Investment for Sustainability – Food Security and Women's Empowerment**

Women's empowerment and food security play a significant role in building a sustainable society. Experience shows that communities where women's voice and decision-making are respected and ensured enjoy greater advantage to ongoing/ future development, and women's empowerment is an important factor in doing so. Parliamentarians H.R.H. Princess Phumelele Dlamini from Swaziland, Hon. Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu from India, and Dr. Patrick Kormawa, FAO Representative to AU and UNECA, made brief presentations regarding the importance of women's empowerment to ensure food security in their societies.



# DAY 2 Meeting



## Session 4

### **Parliamentarians' Role in Population and Development in Achieving the 2030 Agenda: Legislation, Budget Mobilization and Formulating the Development Agenda**

This session highlighted the roles of parliamentarians in resolving population issues for achieving the 2030 Agenda, by mainstreaming these issues in legislation, budgeting and formulating policies. Three presenters, Hon. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Abd. Khalid bin Ibrahim, MP from Malaysia, Hon. Abeba Yosef, MP from Ethiopia, and Ms. Judy Sankhulani, ZAPPD officer from Zambia, introduced to the meeting's participants their countries' experience of the role of parliamentarians in achieving the 2030 Agenda.



## Session 5

### **Establishment of Mutual Cooperation Mechanisms for Advancing the 2030 Agenda and Parliamentarians' Role in Good Governance, Transparency and Accountability**

Global partnerships will be vital to realizing the new international development agenda: the 2030 Agenda. Realizing accountability and transparency for citizens is also a factor of good governance. This role of parliamentarians holds the key to building a common framework for the new development goals and promoting mutual cooperation, and will become the foundation for realizing a democratic international society. In this sense, parliamentarians' active involvement is crucial to achieving the 2030 Agenda. In this Session three parliamentarians from different regions, Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, MP from Thailand (Asia), Hon. Tagguiche Abdelmajid, MP from Algeria (Arab), and Hon. Marie Rose Nguini Effa, MP from Cameroon (Africa), shared their parliaments' activities and policies regarding establishing mutual cooperation.

## **Session 6**

### **Synthesis of Discussions for Parliamentarians' Policy Proposal for the TICAD and 2030**

#### **Agenda**

The sessions chairs, Hon. Helen Kuyembah, MP from Sierra Leone, Hon. Loubna Amhair, MP from Morocco, Hon. Dingamadji Ngakoutou Moryo Delphine, MP from Chad, Hon. Mariame Traore, MP from Cote d'Ivoire, and Hon. Mohammed Mahmud, MP from Nigeria, summarized the main points of the discussions held in the preceding sessions.

## **Session 7**

### **Discussion for Policy Proposal for Global Partnership: Focusing on Legislation to Improve Transparency, Accountability and Good Governance**

Under the Chairpersonship of Hon. Paul Chibingu, MP from Malawi, various points of views were aired and debated to highlight the issues related to global partnership. The result of the session was the "Policy Proposal", which was unanimously adopted by the participants.

## **Closing Ceremony**

### **Address**

#### **Hon. Dr. Florian Bodog, MP, Romania**

I would like to thank APDA and the Parliament of Ethiopia for organizing this event.

### **Address**

#### **Hon. Eltahir Elryah Abueissa, MP, Sudan**

Sudan suffered for the past 30 years; hopefully, this is a good start and a new page for our parliamentarians' activities.



### **Closing Remarks**

#### **Mr. Sam Ntelamo on behalf of Mr. Lucien Kouakou, Africa Regional Director of IPPF**

Necessary legal frameworks for SRHR should be applied and the governments should adopt them. We should prioritize children's health and women.

### **Farewell Remarks**

#### **Hon. Dr. Toshiko Abe, MP, Deputy Executive Director of JPPF, Japan**

Population and development as well as RH and UHC, which we discussed over the last two days, are the key factors for the sustainable development of Africa. To achieve the 2030 Agenda, global partnership which includes governments, civil society and parliamentarians is in demand.

### **Closing Remarks**

#### **Hon. Abdera Buno, MP, Ethiopia, on behalf of H.E. Abadulla Gemeda Dago, Speaker of the House of Peoples' Representatives, Ethiopia**

We congratulate all participants for the successful meeting and adoption of the Policy Proposal. I hope everybody grasps the concept of the SDGs toward 2030.

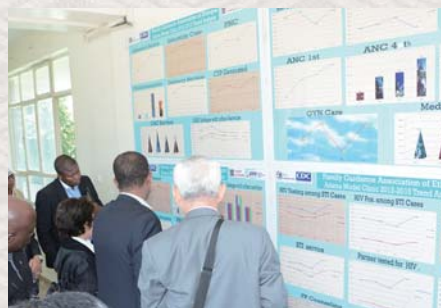


# DAY 3

## Study Visit

### Adama Model Clinic, supported by the Family Guidance Association of Ethiopia (FGAE)

The Adama Model Clinic which is supported by FGAE, a Member Association of IPPF, is located a one-hour drive from Addis Ababa. The Clinic has been providing SRH services for over 30 years, and has recently started to provide care for women in childbirth in addition to the existing ante- and post-natal care. After a brief presentation by the management, participants were given a tour and had a chance to see the Clinic's daily operations. According to the parliamentarians, it was a good opportunity to observe service provision in a rural area.



### The House of Peoples' Representatives of Ethiopia

The Ethiopian Parliament is one of the oldest in the region. The delegates visited the Parliament and were briefed on the role and mandate as well as the composition and structure of parliamentary activities.





# **Enhancing the Role of Parliamentarians in the Interlinkage between Population Issues and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Part II**

## **Policy Proposal**

**August 11, 2016**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

Introduction: We value highly the series of projects supported by the Japan Trust Fund to date. Based on the outcomes of those projects, we welcome the broad-ranging inclusion of outcomes from the Global Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (GCPPD) held in April into the G7 Ise-Shima Summit Leaders' Declaration, and in particular we issue a strong demand for the inclusion into TICAD VI of the recommendations from the Japan-African Parliamentarians' Dialogue held in Tokyo in February this year. Building on these outcomes, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in our capacity as parliamentarians in realizing sustainable development, and ahead of TICAD VI which will be held shortly, we confirm the role of parliamentarians as follows and make the following recommendations.

## **1 Preamble**

- 1.1 Undertaking population programs will be critical for realizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and in order for this to happen, it will also be critical to implement in full the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action (ICPD PoA), which serves as the platform for the SDGs. Equally, the full implementation of the recently endorsed African Health Strategies which include the revised Maputo Plan of Action, is central to attaining the SDGs (in Africa).
- 1.2 Health is a fundamental factor in achieving sustainable development, and to that end achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) will be an important factor. Promoting universal access to reproductive health (RH) and services will be critical if UHC is to be achieved, and at the same time achieving UHC will also have an important role in realizing solutions to population issues. In that sense we confirm that achieving UHC and undertaking population programmes is a complementary undertaking.
- 1.3 In order to achieve sustainable development that 'leaves no one behind', all members of society, including its most vulnerable members, need to be able to benefit from population programmes and UHC that provides basic health services for various health issues to live lives with dignity; and to realize their full potential.
- 1.4 A demographic dividend can be gained from the demographic transition that results from the effect of population programmes. The good health of a country's population will be a precondition for harnessing that dividend for that country's economic development. As well as expanding a UHC system centered on primary health care, it will also be important to invest in young people on the basis of gender equality, in the form of education opportunities and employment creation.



## 2 Prioritizing population programmes

- 2.1 From this perspective, in order to achieve sustainable development the highest priority should be given to population programmes in a way that achieves universal access to RH services. These services include family planning services and services that ensure the health of women and girls, who tend to be relegated to a vulnerable position within societies. These population programmes are to be given a high priority in the national development plans of respective countries, and the budgetary resources are to be allocated to enable those programmes to be implemented.

## 3 Public health

- 3.1 As globalization advances and the world becomes increasingly interdependent, new and recurring infectious diseases are no longer a problem restricted to just one country – they have become a global issue. The lessons learned from the 2014 Ebola outbreak were that a health emergency placed even further strain on the challenged public health systems of many countries; and that as a result of the consequent broad decline in the ability of those countries' economic and administrative systems to function properly, there was a near collapse health system especially in their delivery of RH services, which hold the key to good health for those countries' most vulnerable groups such as pregnant women and girls. This only amplified the negative impact of the outbreak.
- 3.2 We underscore that health systems should be strengthened, including through the implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR) towards UHC that also contribute to better preparedness against public health emergencies. It also highlighted the importance of coordinated campaigns rooted within local communities undertaken by civil society organizations (CSOs) that aim to bring about fundamental change in people's behavior, which lies at the heart of efforts to prevent infectious diseases.
- 3.3 Working in partnership with CSOs active within local communities, health units are to be established to provide primary health care (including RH services), which can also function as a system of prevention against infectious diseases. These units can also serve as bases for collecting the accurate data that will be needed to implement the International Health Regulations (IHR), and also as first response bases to contain the spread of outbreaks of diseases.

## 4 Global partnerships

- 4.1 Global partnerships will be critical for achieving the SDGs. Our activities to date have made it evident that common standards will be needed for realizing these global partnerships, and that the most important element to secure for these standards is to ensure accountability and transparency to the citizens in each country.





- 4.2 We are proud that our activities have led to the enactment of legislation by Uganda and Zambia that mandates the tabling of reports on Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects in their national parliaments. We are calling on countries in Africa, Asia, Arab and Europe that have not yet legislated that requirement to take that step so that it can serve as one basis for global partnership.
- 4.3 For the parliamentarians of donor countries, such a legislative mechanism would ensure accountability, achieving targeted objectives and transparency for the taxpayers of their countries. The presence of such a requirement would help donor countries focus their attention when weighing up where to direct their aid.

## 5 Food security

- 5.1 According to estimates of the United Nations, while populations in most regions of the world will start to decline from 2070, Africa's population alone is expected to increase. This shows the urgent importance of implementing population programmes, and ensuring food security has also become an urgent issue. Simultaneously, economic growth and growing number of young population in Asia and the Arab Region increase food demand. It makes pressure for supply and demand balance for food and it will be able to create food insecurity in future.
- 5.2 In order to address these issues, together with population programmes, it will be important to raise the agricultural productivity of small-scale farmers, establish Food Value Chains in food production, distribution and storage through agricultural extension outreach paying close attention to women's empowerment, and put small-scale farmers on a more organized footing. And to promote food processing industry that can absorb excessive production and to contribute Food Value Chain.
- 5.3 Alongside working to spread modern agricultural practices with their higher levels of productivity, it will be necessary to understand the environmental restriction and the value of indigenous crops varieties and re-evaluate scientifically the function that traditional agricultural products have fulfilled in providing food security.





# Participants' List

## MPs and National Committees on Population and Development

<b>Hon. Tagguiche Abdelmadjid</b> MP	Algeria
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<b>Hon. Marie Rose Nguini Effa</b> MP; Vice-President of FPA	Cameroon
<b>Hon. Moryo Delphine Dingamadji Ngakoutou</b> MP	Chad
<b>Hon. Mariame Traore</b> MP	Cote d'Ivoire
<b>Hon. Hassan Omar Mohamed Kamil</b> MP	Djibouti
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<b>H.E. Dr. Kebede Worku</b> State Minister of Health	Ethiopia
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<b>Hon. Abeba Yosef</b> MP	Ethiopia
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<b>Hon. Manmohan Sharma</b> Executive Secretary of IAPPD	India
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<b>Hon. Teruhiko Mashiko</b> MP; Vice-Chair of JPFP	Japan
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<b>Hon. Paul Chibingu</b> MP	Malawi
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<b>Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathanont</b> MP; Secretary-General of AFPPD	Thailand
<b>Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien</b> MP; Vice-Chair of VAPPD	Vietnam
<b>Ms. Judy Sankhulani</b> Senior International Relations Assistant of the Parliament; ZAPPD Officer	Zambia

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<b>Ms. Eden Begashaw</b> Embassy of Japan	Ethiopia
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## AU

<b>H.E. Dr. Mustapha Sidiki Kaloko</b> Commissioner for Social Affairs	Ethiopia
<b>Dr. Margaret Agama-Anyetei</b> Head of Division, Health Nutrition and Population Department of Social Affairs	Ethiopia

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<b>Ms. Selamawit Girma</b>	Ethiopia
<b>Ms. Zewdenesh Legesie</b>	Ethiopia

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From  
the People of Japan



**Organized by**  
**The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)**

**Hosted by**  
**The House of Peoples' Representatives of Ethiopia**

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**The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)**

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