

**The 27th Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on
Population and Development**

The World Population at 7 Billion

18-19 July 2011
Mount Lavinia, Sri Lanka

The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

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The 27th Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development
The World Population at 7 Billion

18-19 July 2011
Mount Lavinia, Sri Lanka

Organized by:
The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)
Hosted by:
The Ministry of Health of the Government of Sri Lanka
Supported by:
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)
Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)

Day 1

Monday, 18 July 2011

10:00 OPENING CEREMONY

Lighting of the Traditional Oil Lamp and National Anthem

Address of the Organizer

Hon. Yasuo Fukuda MP (Japan)
Chair of APDA/AFPPD/JPPF

Official Opening of the 27th APDA Meeting

H.E. Mahinda Rajapaksa (Sri Lanka)
President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Inaugural address

H.E. Chamal Rajapaksa (Sri Lanka)
Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka

Group Photo

11:00 Coffee Break

11:10 Address

Ms. Nobuko Horibe
Director of UNFPA-APRO

11:20 KEYNOTE SPEECH

The World Population at 7 Billion: Challenges and Choices

Hon. Maithripala Sirisena (Sri Lanka)
Minister of Health of Sri Lanka

11:35 Session 1:

Demographic Transition: Impacts and Implications on Society

The Demographic Transition: Opportunities and Challenges – The Case of Sri Lanka

Dr. A.T.P.L. Abeykoon

Senior Fellow at the Institute for Health Policy; Former President of the Population Association of Sri Lanka

Demographic Transition: Impacts and Implications on Society in Vietnam

Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien (Vietnam)

Vice-Chair of the Vietnamese Parliamentary Committee for Social Affairs; Vice-Chair of VAPPD

- 12:45 **Discussion**
Chair: **Hon. Lalith Dissanayake (Sri Lanka)**
Deputy Minister of Health
- 13:30 Lunch Reception Hosted by APDA
- 14:30 **Session 2:**
Urbanization, Migration, and Geographical Change: Impact on Poverty, Health, and Development
Mr. Jerrold Huguet
UN ESCAP Senior Adviser on Population
Urbanization in Asia: Its Implications
Dr. Peerasit Kamnuansilpa
Dean, College of Local Administration of Khon Kaen University, Thailand
- 15:30 **Discussion**
Chair: **Hon. Dr. Muthukumar Malasingam (Malaysia)**
- 16:15 **Coffee Break**
- 16:30 **Drafting Committee Meeting in preparation for the**
Asian Parliamentarians' Statement
Chair: **Sen. Claire Moore (Australia)**
Chair of the AFPPD Standing Committee on Women; Chair of PGPD
- 19:30 **Dinner Reception Hosted by Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka**

Day 2

Tuesday, 19 July 2011

- 9:00 **Session 3:**
Population and Food Security: Adaptation Measures to Climate Change
Dr. Colin Chartres
Director General of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
- 9:30 **Discussion**
Chair: **Hon. Sue Kedgley (New Zealand)**
- 10:15 **Coffee Break**
- 10:45 **Session 4:**
Achieving Sustainable Development and Economic Development in a World of 7 Billion People
Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama (Sri Lanka)
Senior Minister of the International Monetary Cooperation
Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning
Combined Public Private Partnerships and Corporate Social Responsibility for Mutual Profitability
Mr. Rio Praaning Prawira Adiningrat
Chair of PA Group Asia
- 11:45 **Discussion**
Chair: **Cong. Carlos M. Padilla (Philippines)**
Member of the House of Representatives
- 13:00 Lunch Reception Hosted by AFPPD

- 14:00 **Session 5:**
Panel Discussion: Strategies to Achieve Sustainable Development in a World of 7 Billion People
 Panellists:
Hon. Bahusaheb R. Waghchaure (India)
Hon. Song Fatang (China)
 Vice-Chair of the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC
Hon. Sumarjati Arjoso SKM (Indonesia)
 IFPPD Vice-Chair
- 14:45 **Discussion**
 Chair: **Hon. Norman George (Cook Islands)**
 Former Deputy Prime Minister of the Cook Islands
- 15:15 **Session 6:**
Discussion for the Adoption of the Asian Parliamentary Statement
 Chair: **Sen. Claire Moore (Australia)**
 Chair of the AFPPD Standing Committee on Women; Chair of PGPD
- Adoption of the Asian Parliamentarians' Statement**
- 16:10 **27th APDA Meeting Evaluation Form**
- 16:15 **Coffee Break and formatting of the Asian Parliamentarians' Statement**
- 17:00 **CLOSING CEREMONY**
- Address**
Hon. Dr. Anan Ariyachaipanich
 AFPPD Acting Secretary-General
- Address**
Dr. Premila Senanayake
 President of the Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka (IPPF Member Association)
- Address**
Hon. Dr. Sudarshini Fernandopulle MP (Sri Lanka)
- Closing Address**
Hon. Yasuo Fukuda MP (Japan)
 Chair of APDA/AFPPD/JPPF
- 17:30 End of Day 2
- 19:30 **Dinner Reception Hosted by Hon. Maithripala Sirisena, Minister of Health, Government of Sri Lanka**

With Special Thanks to:
The Parliament of Sri Lanka
The Ministry of External Affairs of Sri Lanka
Ministry of Finance and Planning of Sri Lanka
The Embassy of Sri Lanka in Japan

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OPENING CEREMONY
Address of the Organizer

Hon. Yasuo Fukuda

MP, Japan

Chair, Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

Chair, Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)

Chair, Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)

Former Prime Minister of Japan

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank you most sincerely for your presence at the 27th Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development.

The world's population will exceed 7 billion this year, with most of the increase noted in the second half of the 20th Century. All of us here are witnesses and part of this global population increase.

As you know well, international parliamentarians' activities on population and development started here in Colombo in 1979 with the first International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ICPPD).

The successful outcome of the Colombo Conference led to the Asian Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ACPPD), which took place in Beijing in 1981. It was there that the principle was adopted: "The population issue cannot be forced. The issue cannot be resolved unless Members of Parliament, who represent our people, play our roles".

Recognizing that Asia will hold the key to the

outcome of the world's population issues, it was resolved that the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) be established.

I draw your attention to the fact that this year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the launch of AFPPD, the world's first regional forum of parliamentarians. Since then such regional parliamentarian groups have been created around the world, collaborating closely with each other in addressing global population issues. It is our great pleasure to hold this APDA Meeting during this commemorative year in Sri Lanka, where parliamentarians' activities all started.

Allow me to express my deepest gratitude to Your Excellency, President Mahinda Rajapaksa, for graciously accepting our proposal to hold this meeting in your country, to which the Speaker of the Parliament, Minister of Health and Minister of External Affairs readily agreed and generously rendered support.

I also express my profound gratitude to the support provided for this meeting by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

As previously mentioned, it was the Sri Lankan Members of Parliament who played an important role in establishing AFPPD. Today, AFPPD has established national committees in many Asian and Pacific countries and is continuing to carry out its dynamic activities. Unfortunately, here in Sri Lanka, AFPPD's site of inception, the national committee of parliamentarians on population and development has taken a hiatus.

Your Excellencies, Mr. President – under your strong leadership and with strong support from Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Health, and the Minister of External Affairs, I hope that you will revitalise the Sri Lankan Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, and once again join us in this important mission to address global issues.

The theme of this Meeting is: “The World Population at 7 Billion”. Thirty-two years since the last Colombo Meeting, the world population has increased from 4.5 billion to seven billion. During this time, many Asian countries have exerted their efforts to move ahead in demographic transition. However, significant differences remain in the state of progress, thus Asian population issues are becoming evermore diverse.

In Japan, after the completion of demographic transition, death rates have already exceeded birth rates and the population is now shrinking. The increase in the number of seniors and rising social security costs are becoming major challenges. Sri Lanka was one of the first countries in South Asia to address the population issue and simultaneously promote social development, such as improving the national literacy rate. Sri Lanka has become the most advanced in demographic transition in

South Asia, and I have learned that aging has also become an important issue here.

In contrast, there are countries where there has not been much progress in demographic transition, and where the rapid population increase is of concern.

In our world of seven billion with diverse patterns of population, other issues that surround us are becoming diverse as well. Take South Asia alone – it is said there are more than 1 billion people who live under US\$2 a day; while people in the urban areas enjoy a high quality of life in high-rise buildings. Here, again, there are unprecedented gaps and differences.

Furthermore, our global environment – on which the growing population depends – is deteriorating, causing global warming and shortage of fresh water resources.

As some countries in Asia have experienced demographic transition, its downsides – such as aging, fewer children, and increase in social security costs – have been highlighted. There is, however, something that must not be forgotten: there is no bright future for a society that continues to increase its population, given our earth's finite resources. There is also no other peaceful way to stabilise the population than to succeed in demographic transition.

Addressing population issues is decisively important as a foundation on which to build our future. With that understanding, what should we, as elected representatives of our people, do for the future of humankind? I have a few propositions.

First, we should have a clear vision of how we can achieve sustainable development. In order

to do so, we should come to grips with the issues facing us from a long-term and panoramic perspective. We must understand that the issue of population is inseparable from resource issues such as food security, the environment, energy, and water.

Second, we need to reaffirm that without resolving population issues there cannot be sustainable development. To achieve that, we must bring to mind our Cairo Agreement and achieve universal access to reproductive health services. This is the first step for disadvantaged people to realise a decent life as human beings – and is in compliance with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that the United Nations adheres to.

Third, we must find ways to harmonise economic growth with sustainable development. This requires the development of new alternative energy sources that do not cause environmental degradation or do not have resource constraints, as well as the development and dissemination of energy-saving and resource-saving technologies. There is a pressing need for the training of human resources to be engaged in research and development in this field. Moreover, it is imperative that gains from economic development are not concentrated into a few select hands, but rather reach every person in the world.

Achieving any one of these points is not easy. We, Members of Parliament – with opportunities to participate in the governing of our countries, and committed to addressing and understanding the essence of these issues – can build a hopeful society.

As elected representatives of our people, each one of us, with a sense of ownership, needs to exchange our thoughts genuinely and learn from each other through serious and thorough discussions.

It will be most gratifying, as an organizer, if this meeting proves useful in formulating your policies that will lead to a bright future for our next generation.

I am confident that over these two days, you will engage in important deliberations and contribute to great outcomes.

Lastly, may I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to you all for your kind assistance that Sri Lanka and all other Asian countries have provided to Japan after the March 11 Earthquake and Tsunami. Still now your assistance has been reaching people in the affected areas, encouraging them, and giving courage for reconstruction. Once again, thank you very much for your governments and people for your support.

Thank you very much.

OPENING CEREMONY
Official Opening of the 27th APDA Meeting

H.E. Mahinda Rajapaksa

President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Hon. Yasuo Fukuda, Chairman of the Asian Population and Development Association,

Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka,

Hon. Maithripala Sirisena, Minister of Health,

Hon. G.L. Peiris, Minister of External Affairs,

Hon. Ministers and Honourable Members of Parliament,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Sri Lanka and to this important conference at this beautiful location of Mount Lavinia.

I hereby declare open this 27th Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development.

I wish you all success in your deliberations and trust you will take away the best memories of Sri Lanka.

Thank you very much.

OPENING CEREMONY

Inaugural Address

H.E. Chamal Rajapaksa

Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured and privileged to be invited to address this august forum, the 27th Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development, which is being convened under the banner of "The World Population at 7 Billion".

On behalf of the Parliament of Sri Lanka, let me extend a warm welcome to Honourable Yasuo Fukuda, Member of Parliament and APDA Chair; Honourable Members of Parliament from other Asian jurisdictions, and distinguished delegates who are attending this conference.

We are happy to have your presence in our country at a time when we are enjoying the dividends of peace and tranquillity after a prolonged period of violence and turmoil caused by terrorism.

Our people have now begun to shake the anguish of the past and move forward to the future with a sense of hope and expectation. I am sure you will see much evidence of this during your time here. We wish all of you a pleasant and memorable experience during your stay here in Sri Lanka.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen – it is only fitting that I say a few words about our distinguished Chairperson, Hon. Yasuo Fukuda. Hon. Fukuda has been a close and sincere friend

of Sri Lanka. He is also the Honorary President of the Japan-Sri Lanka Association, a position he has held for a long time. Mr. Fukuda has always extended his generous support to Sri Lanka, especially at times when we were going through difficult periods in our recent past. Let me take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to Hon. Yasuo Fukuda for the support and assistance extended to our country, and also for the recognition bestowed upon us by selecting Colombo as the venue for this important conference.

I must also express my deepest appreciation to His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksa, the president of Sri Lanka, for the encouragement and support generously extended by him for all parliamentary-related activities. His firm commitment to democratic values and traditions has put our country on firm footing towards development and prosperity.

I am happy to note that the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) was established in 1982 with the objective of addressing population and development-related issues and to build a sustainable society where every person can live with dignity.

The challenges posed by a rise in population, combined with scarcity of resources to sustain seven billion people play a decisive role in the success of the endeavours to uplift the living standards of all of our people. In my view, this

forum could play an important role in addressing issues relating to the population rise, as it comprises of parliamentarians who are the actual representatives of the people.

The population rise poses to other societies a multitude of challenges. The natural resources that are available to sustain the population of a country are limited and therefore, population stabilisation is a must for sustainable development. Poverty reduction and prevention of environmental degradation are related to the increase of the population that have catastrophic effects, including water and food shortages, and climate change. There is an urgent need for universal access to reproductive health, and family planning information and services – especially for young people.

Women's education and empowerment play a key role in social and economic development, which in turn have a positive influence on population stabilisation. Reproductive health and rights offer women greater choices and opportunities, and the ability to be active in communities and governance.

Every minute, a woman dies of pregnancy-related complications, including unsafe abortion – almost all of them in developing countries. Access to information and services relating to reproductive health also reduce maternal deaths and unplanned pregnancies.

In order to address reproductive health issues, adequate technical and financial support need be provided to strengthen the health system to face the challenges of the present-day demand. I am of the view that civil society can play a major role in addressing population, reproductive health, and sustainability issues.

Acting as a conduit between the government and the society, parliamentarians can play an important role in enacting necessary legislation, disseminating information, securing funding, and coordinating services for the benefit of the people they represent.

International conferences of and for parliamentarians such as this one serve as an important platform to discuss solutions to those challenges before us, as well as to update parliamentarians on population and development issues, promote exchange among parliamentarians, and activate parliamentary initiatives on population and development.

As the theme of this conference depicts, the world population is likely to reach the figure of 7 billion in the near future; however, it is heartening to note the total fertility rate in Asia has dropped from 4 to 2.5.

I must congratulate the Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development for its future contribution to population and development issues in Asia. I shall leave other technical and statistical issues to the experts who will lead discussions during the course of this conference.

In conclusion, while thanking the organizers of this conference for having invited me to address this forum, let me congratulate the parliamentarians of the Asian region for the excellent work they have already performed, and wish them good luck in continuing with our efforts in meeting the challenges relating to population issues.

Thank you very much.

OPENING CEREMONY

Address

Ms. Nobuko Horibe

Director of the Asia and Pacific Regional Office (APRO)

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

The world population is reaching seven billion this year, and approximately 60% of them live in Asia and the Pacific.

The UN Secretary-General stated in April 2011 at the Commission on Population and Development in NY that “although the rate of population growth has been declining since the late 1960s, each additional billion has been added more rapidly than at any other time in history, with the last two in a record of 12 years each”.

The question we ask is: Are these 7 billion people of today happier than the 6 billion of 1999? Are we living in a better condition than 12 years ago? The answer is, if I may, yes and no. Yes for some people, and no other for people.

Globally, people are living longer and having healthier lives. Fertility levels declined in almost all countries in our region. Still, due to the population momentum, Asia and the Pacific region is projected to add more than a billion people in the next forty years, with a large increase in young people and the elderly. This can be both a challenge and an opportunity.

Declining fertility and mortality, and increasing mobility are changing population dynamics that underpin development prospects and long-term

sustainability.

An unavoidable consequence of reduction in fertility and mortality is population aging. In Asia, the median age will increase from 29 years in 2010 to 46 years in 2100; that is, we will become 17 years older in the next 90 years. Yes, it is far into the future but it is important to consider long-term implications of aging in rural and urban areas when we think about socio-economic development and social protection.

High fertility countries are mostly concentrated in South Asia and some parts of Southeast Asia. In these countries, increased investment to reduce the unmet need for family planning and provide adequate maternal and newborn care is vital.

Child marriage is still prevalent in South Asia, and progress has been slow in spite of the legal age set in law. Many adolescent girls are deprived of schooling; tend to have more babies at young age; and are more likely to die in childbirth.

We know that promoting smaller families is key to break the inter-generational cycle of poverty and improve the wellbeing of families.

In countries with medium fertility, continued investment in human capital – especially in child

health care, family planning, girls' education and skills training – is essential. Population aging is still slow in these countries, as the young population continues to grow for some years to come. They can benefit from the demographic window of opportunity due to the low dependency ratio, which can accelerate economic growth for the current and future generations.

Now, in countries with low fertility and with below replacement of fertility, we will have to start thinking about the demographic impact on the labour market, family structure, schooling, the health care system; including subsidies, pension system and social welfare systems. In these countries, we also need to pay special attention to women, as they tend to live older and are more vulnerable to poverty and social isolation.

The next one billion people will also live in cities. Asia has the fastest rate of urbanization. Many young people are unemployed and sexually active in those cities but reproductive health services are not always available to them. The lack of policies to support the provision of contraceptives to unmarried young people deprives them of their rights to health,

education and work. It also exposes them to the risks of abortion, HIV infection and reproductive morbidity.

For small island countries, migration has a large impact on all aspects of life and ensuring the rights of migrants would require wider regional cooperation.

Whether or not we can live together on a prosperous planet, or in an impoverished world, will depend on the choices and decisions we make now.

Reducing inequities, protecting the vulnerable, and ensuring the wellbeing of people living today – as well as the generations that follow – will require new ways of thinking and cooperation.

We look forward to our discussions on these issues over the next two days. Let us work together to raise awareness on the implications of 7 billion people on earth and to achieve equitable, inclusive and sustainable development for all of us.

Thank you very much.

KEYNOTE SPEECH
The World Population at 7 Billion: Challenges and Choices

Hon. Maithripala Sirisena

Minister of Health of Sri Lanka

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege and pleasure to welcome you to the 27th Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development, organized by the Asian Population and Development Association .

We are gathered here today to reflect on a very critical subject global population, development challenges, and choices facing the Asian countries. Let me begin with my own country: Sri Lanka. Within an area of 65,000km², we have a population of 21.5 million people with a density of approximately 310 people per km².

Sri Lanka gained independence in 1948. The sustained public welfare programmes, investment in the health and education sectors led to the achievement of a high quality of life among all our people.

In 1948 our population was approximately 7 million and now it is around 21.5 million people, an increase of 14.5 million people during the period of 64 years. The average life expectancy in 1948 was 43 years; the current life expectancy is 73 years. As a result of this achievement, we are left with a large youth and aging population. The population increase brings about considerable pressure on the limited resources of our country.

The global food demand is predicted to double by 2050. All natural disasters so frequently in

this place indicate a relation between humanity and nature and the importance of natural resource management. As politicians, we invite you to discuss these issues and submit your solutions to meet the challenges posed by the population increase for our consideration and implementation. What you decide can make the world population at 7 billion a blessing in disguise.

Before I conclude, I wish to say a word of appreciation to our Japanese friends. Sri Lanka has had friendly and cordial relations with you over a long period of time. We were sad when your country and people underwent serious harm recently, due to the earthquake and followed by the tsunamis and other disasters. We are confident that your people have the ability and potential to recover and rebuild the country within a relatively short period of time to be the economic super power that you were before the recent destruction.

I would like to thank APDA for selecting Sri Lanka to host this Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development.

Finally, I thank all the delegates who came from far away to attend this conference. I am sure you will enjoy your short stay and carry back with you happy memories of our beautiful paradise island of Sri Lanka.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 1

Demographic Transition: Impacts and Implications on Society

The Demographic Transition: Opportunities and Challenges – The Case of Sri Lanka

Dr. A.T.P.L. Abeykoon

Senior Fellow at the Institute for Health Policy (IHP)

Former President of the Population Association of Sri Lanka

Curriculum Vitae:

Dr. A.T.P.L. Abeykoon is Senior Fellow at the Institute for Health Policy and former Director, Population Division of the Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka. He was the President of the Population Association of Sri Lanka during 1998 to 2002. He holds a Master's in Population Studies from Cornell University and a PhD in Population Planning from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Dr. Abeykoon has contributed immensely to the field of demography in Sri Lanka and in the formulation and implementation of population policies and strategies. His research has been published in many national and international journals. Dr. Abeykoon has also served as a Population Expert to the governments of Bangladesh and Vietnam, and as Consultant to the Population Division of UNESCAP.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

As this is the session on demographic transition, I would like to take a few minutes to present to you a picture of global demographic transition before I move on to the situation in Sri Lanka.

There are many different reasons for demographic transition but the simple definition is that it is a transition from an undesirable state of slow population growth where mortality and fertility rates are high, to a desirable state of slow population growth with low fertility and mortality levels.

Generally, demographers tend to describe the transition in four stages. In the first stage, the transition took more than 100,000 years. Mortality levels were very high as man was unable to overcome epidemics and famines; thus, fertility also had to be kept at a high level

to ensure the survival of the human species. The population, therefore, grew very slowly at a rate of about 0.1% to 0.2%. In fact, during certain periods, mortality was higher than fertility which is why certain societies perished entirely.

Subsequently, around 400 to 500 years ago, the entire world was in an economically undeveloped stage. Around the year 1700, as a result of the agricultural revolution and industrial revolution, mortality was decreasing and fertility was at a high level – the population was increasing due to the gap between the birth rates and death rates.

It is important to look at the age structure of the population. The age structure of the population is generally at a pyramid stage and it even becomes much broader. Around 50% of the population is under 15 years of age – that is a

very serious situation.

In the third stage of transition, we are faced with a kind of age structure which is a more ideal situation for economic expansion. Unfortunately, however, you cannot halt the age structure at that stage and gradually it stabilises with a pyramid structure where population aging eventually takes place.

The fourth stage of transition is, again, where the growth of population is slow or can even decline; the birth rates and the death rates are low.

When looking at the global population situation, the number of years to add a billion people has decreased substantially; even the next billion will be added in only 13-to-14 years' time. Subsequent billions will take a while because many of the developing countries by that time will reach what is called "replacement fertility". This clearly shows that in the last five decades, most of the growth has taken place in less-developed countries; there has hardly been any growth in the more developed countries, which will be the case in the next 40 years as well. But by 2050 most of the growth will be in the developed countries.

If we look at the growth, between 1950 and 1970 both the African and Asian countries had high growth rates. As these countries move into the second phase of demographic transition, we now see growth rates declining in all the countries. In 2050 most of these countries will have growth rates of less than 1%, or near 0% – except for Africa, which will still grow by a little less than 1.5%. With regard to fertility it is very clear that it will decrease in almost all regions, except for Africa, to a "replacement rate average" of two children.

There has been tremendous improvement in life expectancy. In 1950 European and North American countries had higher life expectancies. By 2010, most of the other countries – bar African countries – have also narrowed the gap between the more developed and less developed. By 2050 it will become even better except, again, in Africa where it will be much lower.

Evaluating the distribution of the world's population, around 60% of the population live in Asia. That proportion will gradually decrease to 55% by the year 2050 and the African contribution to the total population will increase; whereas the population in European and North American countries will be proportionately lower.

With that briefing, we move on to the demographic transition in Sri Lanka. There was a very sharp decrease in death rates between 1945 and 1950, and the death rate has continued to gradually decrease since then. With the aging population, however, the crude death rate will increase to around 10 by 2050.

The birth rate increased slightly between 1945 and 1950 as a large number of deaths took place in Sri Lanka due to maternal mortality, as a result of contracting malaria during pregnancy. The situation was rectified in 1946, increasing the birth rate. The natural increase was gradually declining, but we notice a slight increase in fertility during the more recent period.

Life expectancy is on the rapid increase. It is important to note that the life expectancy of males was previously higher than that of females. This changed in 1964, when female life expectancy became higher than that of males.

The gap between male and female life expectancy in Sri Lanka has increased, and that gap is around 8 years.

What are the factors that contributed to the mortality transition in Sri Lanka? One can arrange it into three main areas: institutional factors, programme factors, and socio-economic factors.

Regarding the institutional factors, the first health unit that provided primary healthcare was established in 1926 and those units subsequently increased in number. By 1950, the number increased to 91; in 2010 there were 330 units covering the entire country. In 1925 the medical and sanitary resources were combined and brought under one agency, which also helped in the reduction of mortality.

There are also many institutional changes that took place. The Department of Health Services was established in 1952 and in 1954, the health administration was decentralised to the sub-national level. The political devolution of administrative power for health services to the provinces took place in 1987. In 1992, it was further decentralised to the sub-district level. In addition to that, there has been strong political commitment and active participation of people in preventative health services, which has also contributed to the mortality decline in Sri Lanka.

If we look at the programme factors, it is clear that the gradual decline in mortality began in the 1920s with the organized effort to provide public health services. The introduction of dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) in the malaria control programme resulted in the eradication of malaria in 1946, and the crude death rate declined sharply by 30% between 1946 and 1947.

Other key statistics include:

- The number of health units providing maternal and child health services increased threefold between 1940 and 2010
- During 1946 to 2008 the infant mortality rate declined from 141 to 8 per 1000 live births
- The number of medical institutions providing facilities for the delivery of births increased substantially from 187 in 1940, to 470 in 2010
- The maternal mortality ratio declined from 1,650 maternal deaths per 100,000 in 1945, to 33 in 2008
- In 2006, 98% of annual births took place in institutions
- The number of trained midwives has increased more than 10-fold between 1950 and 2010
- Immunisation against vaccine-preventable diseases commenced in 1886 and universal coverage of child immunisation was achieved in 1989; today more than 95% of Sri Lankans are covered for all immunisation vaccines
- The number of hospitals providing curative services in Sri Lanka has increased fourfold between 1948 and 2010

Moving on to socio-economic factors that contributed to the mortality decline, one important factor was the improvement of environmental sanitation, particularly after gaining independence in 1948. There has been a rise in the educational attainment of the general population, particularly that of females; the literacy rate of females increased from 44% in 1946, to 90% in 2006.

There has also been distribution of rice free-of-charge to the entire population for nearly three decades; and the supply of subsidised food for low-income families, which has also contributed to the decline of the mortality rate. The general improvements in the living standards of our population has aided

with the country emerging from a low-income level to a lower-middle income status – which, again no doubt, has contributed to the mortality rate decline.

The total fertility rate has decreased continuously and in more recent years, as previously mentioned, there has been a slight increase. In this fertility transition, it is also important to note that many right decisions were taken at the right time in Sri Lanka and the right people were appointed to the right jobs. That, to a great extent, facilitated the fertility transition in Sri Lanka.

In 1954 the government recognised the work of the Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka (FPA Sri Lanka), established in 1953, by providing FPA with an annual grant. In 1958, there was a period where the population growth rate was very rapid. Although there was no direct State intervention to reduce the rate of population growth, the governments of that day took many actions to ensure that there is some control. An agreement was signed between the governments of Sri Lanka and Sweden for cooperation in a pilot project on family planning to see whether there is a demand for family planning, and also to see whether there was religious opposition. The report indicated that, in fact, there was demand for family planning among married couples, and there was not any religious opposition.

The need to reduce the rate of population growth to improve the standard of living of the people was stressed in the Ten Year Plan of Economic Development, presented in 1959, in order to ensure an economic growth rate.

In 1960, with rising unemployment rates, it became evident to policy makers that the

population growth rate in the country needs to be brought under control. Therefore, in 1965, family planning became a national programme and was integrated with the Maternal and Child Health Programme of the Ministry of Health. Sri Lanka recognised the importance of integrating family planning with other reproductive health (RH) services such as maternal and child health three decades before ICPD.

In the census that was taken in 1963, it was clear to both the policy makers and economic planners that if a country faces this situation it will face serious economic problems. Not only was it a pyramid shape, but it was also a pyramid with a base that became quite wide. Therefore, in 1968, the Family Health Bureau was established to implement the maternal and child health, and family planning programme.

In 1971 there was youth unrest with unemployment rates reaching 20% of the labour force because of the large increase in population in the 1950s. As a result of that, in 1972, the Five Year (economic development) Plan (1972-1976) stated that if the fertility rate prevalent at that time were to continue, Sri Lanka would have 27 million people by the year 2000. The Plan gave high priority to the diffusion of family planning services among the mass adult population.

In 1977 – again, right decisions were taken at the right time – the subject of population policy formulation and coordination was assigned to the Ministry of Plan Implementation which functioned under the President of Sri Lanka. In 1979, a Population Division was created in the Ministry of Plan Implementation to coordinate and facilitate the national population programme. In 1982, the President of Sri Lanka appointed a Parliamentary Advisory Committee

on Population (PACP) to advise the government on appropriate policies on population and family planning. During this decade, information, education and advocacy programmes took place through the government and the NGO sector.

Towards the end of the 1980s, the population programme transformed from a demand-creation phase to a service and supply-oriented one where family planning service delivery became the key issue. Therefore, another important decision took place in August of 1989, when the government decided that the function of population policy formulation and implementation should be reassigned to the Ministry of Health. As a result, the Population Division of the Ministry of Plan Implementation was moved to the Ministry of Health to strengthen strategic planning and implementation of population activities. Service delivery at that time became the key issue. In 1991, the government issued a policy statement to achieve replacement level fertility, at least by the year 2000. Later, in 1998, a comprehensive Population and Reproductive Health Policy and Action Plan were formulated.

Regarding the programme factors, when the government made a policy to include family planning as part of the national programme, the Swedish government came in a big way to support the Sri Lankan Government's family planning programme in 1966 – providing contraceptive supplies, as well as the training of medical personnel for family planning services.

Subsequently UNFPA also came in a big way to support the national programme in 1973 by signing an agreement with the government to further strengthen the population programme with 11 projects – both within and outside the Ministry of Health, in various other government

departments.

In 1980, financial inducements were provided to those who underwent sterilisation as a method of family planning; in 1998, the maternal and child health, and family planning services, were broad-based to include other elements of RH through the network of existing primary healthcare facilities.

The contraceptive prevalence rate, as a result of the initiatives, increased from 34.4% in 1975 to 70.2% during 2006/7. The proportion of the population in Sri Lanka using permanent methods of contraception reached nearly 50% in 1987 with the introduction of the (previously mentioned) incentive payments in 1980. And by 2006, those with no education or with primary education had the highest rates of contraceptive use. This indicates the high level of accessibility to family planning services. The proportions have now gradually decreased because of the number of women at fertility age with a large number of children.

Referring to the contraceptive prevalence rates by education attainment (below), the highest levels of pregnancy rates are those with no education, and then those with education only at the primary level.

There are socio-economic factors that contributed to the transition. The rising education levels of females in the reproductive ages have been a crucial factor, both in the mortality decline and fertility decline. In 2001, 47% of females in the age group 15-44 had nine or more years of schooling.

A large percentage of females are now working outside of the agricultural sector; this went from 30% in 1971 to 70% in 2001. Subsequently,

there has been a rise in per capita income, which has increased from US\$469 in 1990 to US\$2,368 in 2010.

There are many opportunities afforded by the demographic transition, such as that the proportionate share of the absolute number of children aged 0-4 will decline in the future. This will place less pressure on primary healthcare services, which would enable the improvement of the quality of these services. With population growth rates declining further, economic growth will be facilitated as well as per capita income growth.

Another window of opportunity is the “youth bulge” of 5 million young people in 2010; 5 million is one-fifth, or 20%, of the total population. This “demographic bonus”, as demographers call it, needs to be wisely utilised for economic development with further investments in human capital. Improvements in the productivity of labour and capital would further accelerate economic growth.

The young population between 15 and 29 years old will remain quite high for now, but will decline in 2030. This “demographic dividend” is not automatic and will be realised only if appropriate policies are in place; if not, the demographic bonus will be wasted. Economically advanced countries in the region such as Japan and South Korea have already reaped the benefits of this demographic dividend by building appropriate human capital in young people. In Japan the “demographic window” opened in 1955 and closed in 1985; In Sri Lanka, it opened in 2005 and will, most likely, close in 2030.

The current age structure in Sri Lanka is neither very broad at the base nor wide at the apex and

is, therefore, ideally suited for rapid economic expansion. But it will not happen continuously. The dependency ratio is currently at its lowest point. It would, however, increase gradually in the future and at a faster pace beyond the year 2030 due to population ageing; thus there is a lead-time of around two decades to put the appropriate policies in place.

What are the future challenges? The numbers in the 5 to 14 years old age group will increase during the 2010 to 2020 period. This requires additional resources to maintain primary and secondary educational services during this decade. This increase in the younger age groups is due to the slight rise in fertility from 1998 to 2007. The female population of reproductive age will increase during 2020 to 2030, and decline thereafter. The demand for RH services in Sri Lanka would nonetheless continue to increase.

The current bulge in the young ages poses a challenge to health educators to provide the necessary information and education on good health practices, particularly with regard to RH. If not, the disease burden is likely to increase by 2030 when the young people of today become middle-aged.

By 2030, while the current youth population move into their middle-aged years, there will also be another youth bulge which has both positive as well as negative implications. The positive factor is that there still are resources to invest for economic development. The 45 to 59 years old age group will also increase in the future at a faster rate beyond the year 2030. This would impose greater pressure on health care services as the degenerative process of the human metabolism begins at these ages. The older age groups, 60 years old and over, will

increase in absolute and relative terms – and could result in significant implications for health and welfare services.

With six decades of free education and health care for the entire population, Sri Lankans reaching the age of 60 today are much healthier and are more educated. Thus greater attention should be focused on the older segments of the population, such as programmes to take care of the elderly.

Given their higher life expectancy, females will live longer than males. This is clearly evident when one compared the sex ratios at the more advanced ages; it suggests that there will be more widowed women. The State will have to play an important role in providing health and welfare services to elderly women, particularly those in low-income households.

With that, I would like to conclude.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 1

Demographic Transition: Impacts and Implications on Society

Demographic Transition: Impacts and Implications on Society in Vietnam

Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien

Vice-Chair, Vietnamese Parliamentary Committee for Social Affairs

Vice-Chair, Vietnamese Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (VAPPD)

Curriculum Vitae:

Honourable Dr. Nguyen Van Tien received his Medical Doctorate in 1979, a Master's in Public Health in 1994 from Mahidol University in Thailand, and a PhD in Public Health in 2000 from Hanoi Medical University.

He has been the General-Secretary for the Vietnamese Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (VAPPD) since 1994, and the Vice-Chair of VAPPD and the Vietnam International Medical Parliamentarians Organization (VIMPO) since 2006.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

I will cover four issues on Vietnam. The first will be general geographic information; secondly, the demographic transition; third, the implications of the demographic transition; and I shall conclude with giving recommendations for parliaments and UN agencies.

Vietnam is situated in Southeast Asia and we are in close proximity to many countries. Over the past 10 years, Vietnam's economic development rates have been between 7% and 10%; economic growth in most parts of the world is going slowly, but it is strong in Vietnam.

The Parliament of Vietnam is currently in its 13th term; there are two 45-day sessions per year; and it celebrated its 65th year in 2011. The House has around 500 Members of Parliament (MPs), of which 25% are women, and all are directly elected by the people for a 5-year term; around 30% of the MPs work full-time.

Our committee, the Social Affairs Committee (CSA), is one of 10 Standing Committee in the Parliament of Vietnam. The CSA deals with health issues, population, reproductive health (RH), and labour. This committee is also the patron for the Vietnamese Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (VAPPD), a member of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD).

The second issue I would like to address is the demographic transition in Vietnam. Vietnam is the thirteenth most populous country in the world, at 85 million people. Ten years ago, Vietnam stood ahead of the Philippines, but the Philippines' population is now larger than that of Vietnam.

Vietnam's population has increased by around 2.5 times over the past 50 years, from 30 million to 85 million people. The current population growth rate, however, is decreasing – as well as the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) and the crude birth

rate. The crude mortality rate is at a very low level: around 6 or 7 per 1000 and the infant mortality rate is 15 per 1000. A few decades ago, the crude birth rate was 32 per 1000; now it is only 17 per 1000.

Over the next 40 years, Vietnam's population will increase by only 32%, compared to 250% over the past 50 years. During the past five years, Vietnam has already reached the TFR replacement rate of around two children per couple.

We have also seen a change in the population pyramid over the past 40 years. There were many children but the amount decreased after 10 years, and even more after 20 years. Within 15 years' time the older population will be significantly larger.

What are the implications of demographic transition for Vietnam? The TFR in Vietnam is around 2 children which is higher than other Asian countries such as Japan, Taiwan, Korea, and Singapore and Thailand. Predictions are that the number of women at reproductive age will peak by the year 2025. It could even cause a second "baby boom". If every couple has two children only, the number of children will increase given the number of women at reproductive age.

The percentage of families bearing a third child, in relation to the educational level of the mother in 2008, have not had as much education compared to the families with two children, who have had more years of education. The TFR in Vietnam differs per province. Some delta communities and cities have only 1.5 children per couple; in the mountainous areas and other provinces, the TFR is double.

The last census, conducted in 2009, revealed that only 30% of the population live in the urban regions; in 1999 it was 23% – a 7% increase in 10 years. This indicates that urbanization will increase even more in the future. In the region of Ho Chi Minh City, the rate of urbanization is very high at 60%, compared to the mountainous regions in the north where it is only 15%.

The net migration rate over the past 5 years has been completely different. The net migration rate in the Ho Chi Minh City region is very high, while in other delta province regions and mountainous areas there is negative net migration. This signifies that the majority of people come from the rural areas to work and live in the urban areas, and that the populations in some rural provinces have reduced considerably over the last 10 years due to migration.

Another implication of demographic transition is that the sex ratio at birth is increasing, which could pose a big problem for Vietnam in the future. Normally the sex ratio gap is at 1, 0.5, or 0.7, but recently in Vietnam it is 112 or 111 boys to 100 girls. In some regions even, the sex ratio is in order of birth-by-birth; the first is around 110 boys/100 girls, but often more people want to have a son by the last birth. Research has indicated that nearly 70% of pregnant women in Vietnam know the sex of the foetus.

The sex ratio by birth by socioeconomic quintile in 2009 shows that son-preference is more common among the rich. We estimate that by 2030, a million men will not be able to find a female partner given the high sex ratio at birth. Of the 10 provinces with a very high sex ratio at birth, the majority are in the plain areas and the

Red River Delta in the north, where traditions and cultures are deeply rooted in society.

The other implication of demographic transition in Vietnam is the figures of the elderly population; the census of 2009 concluded that 9% of the Vietnamese population is elderly. The life expectancy at birth has increased over the last 40 years – from 66 to 73 years old. In comparing other Asian countries, Vietnam's elderly population – meaning 60 years old and over – is around the same as Indonesia's and Malaysia's. This age group in Vietnam is increasing by 3.2% and the number of children is reducing by 1%, annually. This means that the replacement rate has been reached over the last 20 years.

When comparing the aging rate, the percentage will double over the next 35 years – from 7% to 14% – meaning that Vietnam does not have much time to devise strategies to cope with the increasing number of elderly persons. The dependency ratio has also decreased over the past 30 years. In 1979, the dependency ratio was 98%; last year it was only 51%, and this includes children and elderly.

The year 2010 saw the start of the “demographic bonus” in Vietnam and Indonesia; Malaysia's was in 2005 and the Philippines' in 1990. We are now in what is called a “golden period” which will last until 2035, after which will be the “aging period”. The labour force in Vietnam has increased due to the demographic bonus but when we look at the labour force by sector and by region. In some regions the majority of the labour force is in agriculture but the numbers have decreased due to the urbanization and industrialization in Vietnam. Due to the effects of urbanization and industrialization, the unemployment rate over

the past 15 years is decreasing – though it is still at a high rate of 5% to 6%. Given the current “golden period” the labour force is large, meaning there is more development.

The health and social indicators are at very good levels in relation to the income per capita, which is only US\$1,200 per person. We believe that the demographic transition rate in Vietnam is quite healthy and it has largely to do with Vietnam's health policy in which the government and parliament have invested a lot of funds. The immunisation rate for children, for example, is almost 100%, which has helped to reduce the infant mortality rate (IMR).

It is very important that we follow the ICPD PoA and that we promote family planning and reproductive health services, which has been one of the main factors for demographic transition in Vietnam. We estimate that, through the implementation of family planning, we have been able to avert around 6 or 7 million births.

However, Vietnam still faces many challenges. The large and high-density of population over the next 10-to-20 years, coupled with mass urbanization and urban migrants, will create many social challenges. The population-aging period is also happening before the population has the opportunity to become rich; there are not a lot of finances but there are many families who need healthcare, which creates problems. Even with the “population bonus”, skilled labour workers comprise of only 26% of the entire labour force, and 70% still work in the agricultural sector.

Reproductive health services are limited in the remote areas; therefore, the MMR, IMR, and malnutrition rates are high in the mountainous

areas. In addition there is also a pressing need for increased RH services for adolescents, as indicated by the high percentage of unsafe abortions.

There have been many changes in the pattern of diseases in developing countries over the past years. It is predicted that the amount of cases of communicable diseases will decrease in the future, but that injuries and non-communicable diseases will increase. This puts pressure on the government, reinforcing the need for the improvement of healthcare – and the need for better health services for the elderly. Almost 30% of the elderly population need support aids for hearing and reading; 22% of the population, for example, cannot hear.

Just as in other countries, women are living longer than men which means they also face more disabilities than men. Nearly 60% of women in Vietnam are widows, compared to 16% widowers; 18% of elderly women live alone, compared to only 9% of men. In addition, the aging population has also meant an increase in the number of Alzheimer's cases.

I wish to conclude by giving recommendations on the roles of the parliaments and UN agencies.

Firstly, parliament should play a large role in law and finances. They should elaborate on- and issue appropriate laws to, for example, keep the TFR at the replacement rate in order to avoid another population explosion. We must also close the gap between the urban, rural and mountainous areas with regard to RH services, in addition to the imbalance of sex ratios.

We must improve the quality of the population through simple strategies such as the reduction

of the malnutrition rate, and taking advantage of the golden period by providing more vocational training. We must also warrant that urbanization goes in the right direction; halting the development of mega-cities will help to avoid the emergence of slums.

More provisions need to be made in preparation for the ever-increasing aging society, such as long-term care. Parliament should draft laws on social security and health insurance, whilst also ensuring the efficiency of the budget for population issues.

Secondly are the recommendations for the roles of UN agencies and International Organizations. They must cooperate and provide support for the parliamentary associations and fora in each country and region to facilitate advocacy among MPs on appropriate laws and policies for population and development-related issues such as RH, safe abortion, maternal health, domestic violence, migration, urbanization, aging, and HIV/AIDS.

Over the past 30 years, AFPPD and APDA have been the pioneers in organizing parliamentarians during the population explosion. We strongly encourage them to maintain their key role during this new period while many countries are completing their demographic transition. To focus on the new challenges and new areas, AFPPD and APDA should continue to organize meetings such as this one, inviting prominent experts to provide and popularise best experiences on population policies to MPs.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 1

Discussion

Chair: **Hon. Lalith Dissanayake**

Deputy Minister of Health of Sri Lanka

[Chair]

Thank you very much. The floor is now open for discussion.

[Hon. Sumarjati Arjoso SKM, Indonesia]

May I congratulate Vietnam, and also Sri Lanka, for their successful family planning programmes.

I have a question for Vietnam. You mentioned that the TFR in the delta region is much lower than in the mountains. Why is this? Is it because of the climate in the mountainous region, or is it because of the remoteness and lack of public education for family planning?

[Hon. Chandra Bahadur Gurung, Nepal]

My question goes to Dr. A.T.P.L. Abeykoon, You mentioned that 60% of the world's population is in Asia. In our world of seven billion people there are 10 countries that are highly populated, five of which are situated in Asia. Given this, how can the Asian continent bring down the rapidly growing population, which is affecting our social and economic sectors?

[Hon. A.H.M. Aswer, Sri Lanka]

Dr. Abeykoon came out today with the startling fact that the female population is increasing in the world, will continue to increase, and that women will live longer than men.

Even in Sri Lanka I think that this imbalance is

developing in population growth. The female figure now is 52%, and the male 48%. It is difficult to predict what will happen with the ratio over the next 30 years, and I think it will create a terrible social problem – but nobody can help this.

The destiny is as such. Could someone on the panel of experts please tell me how to balance this imbalance, and at least find a method to keep the ratio at 50/50?

[Hon. Serik Ospanov, Kazakhstan]

Demographics play a role inside of the country, as well as outside the country. As we can see, the population continues to grow in Asian countries at a time when the population of European countries is declining; it is going to cause an imbalance in the population.

In Kazakhstan's case, the population is currently decreasing. In a statement given by the president of our country on the issue of developing quality and quantity of population, strengthening social stability and security was a prominent issue. Our goal is to increase the population by 10% by the year 2020, and the life expectancy – which currently stands at 68 years old – to 72. In the list of our goals we have a systematic programme for strengthening and developing families and developing the living standard.

Kazakhstan takes fourth place among countries

of the former Soviet Union in population, after Russia, the Ukraine and Uzbekistan. And it takes second place, after Russia, for landmass. We are striving to improve our economic situation.

[Hon. Bhausheeb R. Waghchaure, India]

My question is to Dr. Abeykoon. Population growth is decreasing and the aging rate is increasing. How do we bridge the gap between the young and old population?

My second question is to Vietnam. How are you dealing with people's health problems in the mountainous areas?

[Hon. Muthukumar Malasingam, Malaysia]

We all fully understand that the population is aging. While it is going to have a big impact on our socioeconomic issues, would it be wise on our part perhaps to engage this aging population with forms of employment, so that they too can contribute towards the economic situation in their respective countries?

[Chair]

We shall now respond to the first question from Indonesia to Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien.

[Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien, Vietnam]

Indonesia noted that the TFR in the mountainous areas is higher, and why is this so. Most of the people in the mountainous areas are disadvantaged, have a low level of education, and are primarily engaged in agriculture. The infrastructure in that area is also less developed compared to the urban and delta regions, thus the access to healthcare is more difficult. This is one of the reasons why there are more births in

the mountainous areas.

The infant mortality rate in the mountains is higher, perhaps even double, than that of the urban and plane regions. The IMR is closely related to the TFR; if more children are dying, more children will be born to replace those who have died.

Regarding the question from India, how is Vietnam dealing with health problems? There are many ways to reduce the MMR; one is to introduce more reproductive health services and pregnancy checks. Pregnant women in Vietnam are checked 2.5 times on average during their 9-month pregnancy. This means that the women are checked almost three times at a health station to monitor their pregnancy.

There is also the programme supporting pregnant women's nutrition. It provides vitamin and iron supplements, which helps to reduce the chance of disease during pregnancy. In addition, pregnant women receive tetanus injections to help with a healthy delivery. We believe that this is one of the major factors which has helped to reduce maternal mortality.

The majority of deliveries are facilitated by birth attendants that are nearly 100% trained. In the urban areas most births are attended by medical staff, while in the mountainous and remote areas it is attended by an experienced person who can ensure a healthy delivery.

[Chair]

Dr. Abeykoon, please.

[Dr. A.T.P.L. Abeykoon]

If I understand correctly, the question was why

Asia has the largest proportion of the population and why it will proportionally decline in the year 2050.

Asia does have the largest proportion of the world's population. It has the two big giants: India and China. The population of both those countries added together equals nearly 2.5 billion. And why the proportion in the future will decline is that, particularly in South Asia, fertility is expected to decrease over the years to come; therefore, the proportion will decrease as well. According to UN projections, the proportion of the world's population living in Asia is expected to decrease from 60% to around 55% by the year 2050.

The question from Sri Lanka was about the imbalance of the country's sex ratio. At birth males actually have an advantage over females. At birth there are generally around 105 males to 100 females, which is biologically determined. From birth to the advanced ages females have lower mortality than males, which is also a biologically determinant factor.

How can we change this imbalance? Migration could be one factor. Also, as we see in Vietnam, there are sex-selective abortions, which I am sure is not a good practice. But if that continues it could also create some kind of balance because males would have the advantage at birth, as many of the female fetuses are aborted. Personally, I do not think this is a very good strategy but it is one hypothetical way of how these imbalances could be changed.

With regard to the question from India on aging, aging is of course an inevitable outcome of a positive demographic trend – and there is not a lot we can do about the actual aging. However, we can take Sri Lanka's example of how to cope

with aging, being that those at age 60 in the country today are more healthy and more educated – and they can continue to participate in economic activities. The same would be the case for Malaysia. Malaysia has good health systems and high education levels. In Malaysia, they can certainly – within the 60 to 70 year-old age group – encourage greater participation. This is a political decision for politicians to take.

[Hon. A.H.M. Aswer, Sri Lanka]

There were more males than females around 50 years ago. Why has there been such a change in the proportion over the years? How does it take place? Is it because of certain social reformations where, for example, more females are employed?

[Dr. A.T.P.L. Abeykoon]

The proportion was probably around 47/53, with males being the higher figure. That was because, as I mentioned in my presentation, males had a higher life expectancy in the past than females in Sri Lanka, and that shift took place around 1960. Females were dying during childbirth and maternal mortality rates were very high; therefore, males were the majority. That has changed; now females are living much longer than males.

[Chair]

We have come to the end of this session. Thank you, Dr. Abeykoon and Hon. Dr. Tien. I also thank APDA and others for giving me the opportunity to Chair this session.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 2
**Urbanization, Migration, and Geographical Change: Impact on Poverty,
Health, and Development**

Mr. Jerrold Huguet

UN ESCAP Senior Adviser on Population

Curriculum Vitae:

Mr. Jerrold Huguet holds a Master's Degree in Demography from the University of Pennsylvania. He worked for 27 years in the population programme of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in Bangkok.

Since retirement from the UN, Mr. Huguet has been based in Bangkok and has worked as a consultant on population and development, with a primary focus on International Migration.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to begin by thanking APDA for giving me the opportunity to participate in this 27th Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development.

I am a demographer, thus I will be presenting a lot of numbers. I will set out some of what the key messages are, and then I will provide the data tables which will back up these points.

In most countries in Asia, urbanization is now proceeding steadily, if not rapidly. By 2025, the region will be 50% urban. And in Asia as a whole, rural-to-urban migration accounts for around half of urban growth. The converse of this is that, except in South Asia, rural populations are now growing very slowly – and in many countries the rural population is declining. Seven of the largest urban agglomerations in the world are found in Asia. Yet at the same time, about half of the Asian urban population lives in smaller towns of less than a half-million in size. It is worth remembering that the rates of

poverty are significantly lower in urban areas than in rural areas. East Asia is more urbanized and the rate of urbanization is faster than the other sub-regions in Asia; Southeast Asia and South Central Asia are less urban.

For Asia as a whole, 50% of the population will live in urban areas by the year 2025; in East Asia, already 50% of the population is urban. South Central Asia, however, is again significantly less urbanized than the other two sub-regions.

If we look at specific countries, we see a very wide range of urbanization trajectories. Clearly the city states of Hong Kong, Macau, and Singapore are 100% urban. Outside of those countries, the Republic of Korea is the most urbanized at 83%; Japan is also highly urbanized.

It is significant to look at the rapid rate of urbanization in China, for example, which went from 36% urban in the year 2000 to 47% in 2010. I think that rapid urbanization is coming, not only from rural-to-urban migration but also

from the re-classification of rural areas into urban areas. Given China's size, it makes up most of the East Asian population; thus, when we look at the statistics for East Asia, they are largely representing China. The levels of urbanization in South Asian countries are considerably lower.

The flipside of rapid urbanization is what is happening with the rural population. In Asia as a whole, the rural population has almost stopped growing. In East Asia, it has been declining for the past 20 years but in South Central Asia the rural population is still increasing by about 1% a year – there are wide discrepancies across the region.

We can get an approximation of the contribution of rural-to-urban migration to urbanization by comparing national population growth rates with urban population growth rates, and looking at the difference. In Asia as a whole, the urban population is growing at 2.3% a year but about 1.2% of that, or roughly half, is coming from the net rural-to-urban migration.

We can also see that in Indonesia, Korea, and Thailand the rural-to-urban migration accounts for approximately half of urban growth. Bangladesh is an exceptional case, the urban population is growing very rapidly at 3% a year and 2% of that is coming from rural-to-urban migration.

I have made some back-of-the-envelope calculations but if we apply this net migration rate to the size of the urban population, I can estimate that net rural-to-urban migration in Asia as a whole equals around 19 million people a year.

In India, approximately three million people

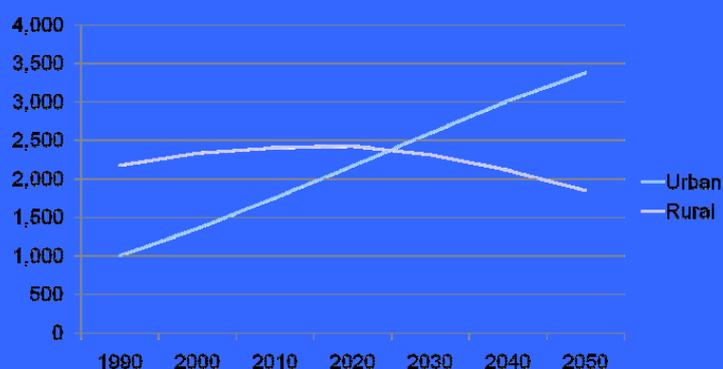
migrate from rural to urban areas annually. The figure in Bangladesh is more than 900,000 a year; in Indonesia, it is almost 700,000; and in Pakistan it is almost 800,000. There are massive flows from rural-to-urban areas in many of the Asian countries.

As development spreads across the national landscape however, we might expect at some time that the rural-to-urban migration would slow down. This might be the case for Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka has a very low level of urbanization – officially about 14 or 15%. An explanation for that has often been that social services and infrastructure are spread very widely across the island so that it is less necessary for poor people in rural areas to move into the city in order to avail themselves of healthcare, of education, of employment, and so on; or they could commute from rural areas into the city fairly easily and return to the rural area in the evening.

The National Statistical Office in Thailand conducts an annual survey of internal migration and we see that from the year 2000, the annual number of internal migrants has been declining each year. Again, I believe the explanation for this is that development in Thailand has now spread away from Bangkok to the provinces and even into the rural areas around some of the provincial cities.

The graph (below) shows the total urban population in Asia. The line which is steadily increasing is the urban population and the line which is bending downwards is the total rural population. You see that they cross in 2025, when the region will be 50% urban. If we look at the line for the rural population we can see that it is essentially level and it is expected to decline very rapidly after 2020.

Total Urban and Rural Population in Asia, 1990 – 2050 (millions)



All the statistics that I am presenting come from the United Nations Population Division. They produce a report every two years called “World Urbanization Prospects”, and all of these data are on the United Nations website.

Among the 10 largest urban agglomerations in the world, seven are in Asia. Let us call attention to Dhaka, which the UN projects will increase in size of about 15 million in the year 2010, to almost 21 million in the year 2025. During that period, Dhaka will leapfrog Shanghai, Calcutta, New York and Mexico City in size.

Although Asia is home to many mega-cities, and even what are sometimes called “mega urban regions”, it is important to remember that most of the urban population actually lives in relatively small towns. Around half of the urban population in Asia lives in towns of less than half a million in size, and only about 11% live in the mega urban cities of more than 10 million people.

Clearly, rapid urbanization and large-scale migration from rural areas to urban areas can lead to a number of social problems: difficulties in urban planning, providing social services, and providing employment, etc. but we should not overlook the fact that poverty rates, as measured by national poverty lines, are still much lower in urban areas than they are in rural areas. The only exception is the case of our host country, Sri Lanka. I hope

that during the discussion period after the presentations, one of our colleagues here from Sri Lanka can elaborate on why that may be the case.

The organizers told me that in the title of the discussion, “migration” means both internal migration and international migration; thus, I will make a few minor points on international migration as well.

Clearly the statistics on international migration are massive. Asian countries officially deploy

Percentage of Population on or under National Poverty Lines (World Bank data)

| Country | Year | Rural | Urban | National |
|-------------|--------|-------|-------|----------|
| Afghanistan | 2007 | 45.0 | 27.0 | 42.0 |
| Bangladesh | 2000 | 53.0 | 36.6 | 49.8 |
| Cambodia | 2004 | 38.0 | 18.0 | 35.0 |
| India | 2004/5 | 28.3 | 25.7 | 27.5 |
| Mongolia | 2002 | 43.4 | 30.3 | 36.1 |
| Nepal | 2003/4 | 34.6 | 9.6 | 30.9 |
| Pakistan | 2004/5 | 28.1 | 14.9 | 23.9 |
| Philippines | 1997 | 36.9 | 11.9 | 25.1 |
| Sri Lanka | 2002 | 7.9 | 24.7 | 22.7 |
| Viet Nam | 2002 | 35.6 | 6.6 | 28.0 |



about four million migrant workers a year. Other millions are going informally outside of the formal government channels. Those migrant workers, comprising of both the low-skilled and high-skilled professional migrants who are overseas, remit over US\$100 billion a year to Asian countries. In spite of those very large numbers, I believe that international migration has little impact on poverty alleviation because the poorest persons cannot afford the very high cost of international migration, especially to those destinations where the earnings are highest. That might be a debatable point, and one we could discuss during the discussion period.

We could see that the impact on the world economic slowdown, which began late 2008, would have on the deployment of migrant workers. Bangladesh appears to have been the most severely affected. In the first nine months of 2009, deployments were down by 47% – virtually cut in half over the same period one year earlier. I have recently seen the figures for 2010 for Bangladesh and they indicate a continuing decline in the official number of deployments.

It appears the deployments were also down in China, Nepal, and Vietnam. The Philippines is perhaps the only country that, in spite of the world economic slowdown, continued to increase the number of workers that it was deploying abroad in 2009.

Remittances are massive. Estimates from the World Bank for 2009 show the remittances of India at nearly US\$50 billion; to the Philippines US\$20 billion, to Bangladesh more than US\$10 billion, and so on. In terms of percentages of GDP, remittances to Nepal are more significant where they are equivalent to 24% of the GDP.

They were also equivalent to 12% of GDP in both Bangladesh and the Philippines; 8% in Sri Lanka; and 7% in Vietnam. Remittances are very important for the families of migrants, for the communities that they live in, and for the national exchequer, but I believe not very important for poverty alleviation, which may be a different issue.

This rapid migration from rural to urban areas, the increase in size of urban cities, and the mega urban regions that are developing with populations of well over 10 million in each of them, raises a number of policy issues. A recent publication by ESCAP and UN Habitat, called “The State of Asian Cities: 2010-2011”, look at many aspects of urbanization. I think it is a very valuable report for people who are interested in urban planning and urban policy. I will just summarise some of the points regarding, particularly, urban governance and management which are made in the report.

Effective urban governance can help cities increase their contribution to national economic and social development. The report reminds us that the highest rates of urban growth are still found in smaller cities and towns; therefore, it is important that those towns be empowered to manage their own development meaning some degree of decentralisation is necessary. The report argues that by stimulating growth in smaller towns, there will be a spill-over effect, and that will help development in the adjoining rural areas.

The report also talks about city cluster development, the idea being that often there are clusters of cities of mixed sizes so that a couple of large cities, many intermediate cities, and many more smaller cities will be clustered together in a region or an area. When that is the

case, there should be some form of integrated urban infrastructure and services. It may be difficult to work out the management issues, but effective urban management requires the integrated management and urban planning for a group of cities together.

In the mega urban regions, mixed systems of government are required. What we mean by this is that a large urban area will be governed by the central government but then also by regional governments, by provincial governments, by city governments, and sometimes even district governments within the city. There are then three, or four, or five tiers of government that are trying to manage the same area.

A conclusion of this is that new urban planning and governance structures are necessary in many cases. They are very complex government issues of having three, or four, or five tiers work together efficiently and effectively. If they are to be effective and sustainable, some devolution of power to the lower levels of government is important; a degree of decentralisation is essential. The report recommends that cities

should promote city-city cooperation.

In examining the complexity of urban planning and urban management, we can look particularly at health provision. I think that in each country there will be variants and the central government has the paramount role for policy and financing.

The regional government or metropolitan government may well provide the key health infrastructure through metro-level hospitals. Many functions are shared between the metro-level and the more local government, including management and financing. At the lowest urban government level, local health clinics will be provided and there is always the role of the private sector in service provision.

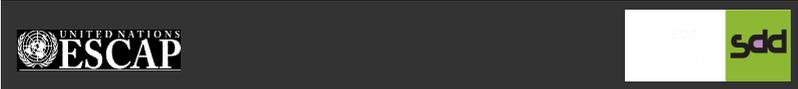
After we hear Dr. Peerasit's presentation, I will be happy to engage in the discussion on migration and urbanization with the honourable participants here.

Thank you very much.

Allocation of Responsibilities for Health Provision in a Mixed System of Regional Governance

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Central government | Policy and financing |
| Metropolitan government | Metro-level hospitals |
| Shared by metro & local | Management & financing |
| Local urban government | Local health clinics |
| Private sector | Service provision |

Source: ESCAP and UN Habitat, *The State of Asian Cities 2010/11* (Fukuoka: Habitat, 2010, p. 224).



SESSION 2
Urbanization, Migration, and Geographical Change: Impact on Poverty,
Health, and Development
Urbanization in Asia: Its Implications

Dr. Peerasit Kamnuansilpa

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Curriculum Vitae:

Dr. Peerasit Kamnuansilpa is Dean of the College of Local Administration of Khon Kaen University in Thailand. He obtained his PhD in Demography and his post-doctoral studies in population and health management at the University of North Carolina in the United States.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

My presentation will focus on three points. The first will be population growth; next, the structural change caused by the declining fertility and the increase in proportion of the aging population; lastly, the spatial distribution of the population, caused by the rapid degree of urbanization and the high rate of migration. I will focus more on the policy implication of these demographic phenomena.

Throughout the history of mankind, the size of the world's population had been very small. It was stabilised by a high level of fertility and mortality, and it was not until the 16th century did we see some signs of population increase. The increase was very small and gradual until mid-20th century, around 1950, when we saw that the populations of the world were around 2.5 billion. Approximately 30 years after that it doubled its size to 5 billion – and now we are about to mark a total of seven billion people in the world.

The TFR, until about 1950, was on average

around five children per woman. That number stayed the same for nearly 20 to 25 years, after which it declined gradually until today to the level of slightly over two children.

The pattern of mortality would decline more rapidly than the fertility and that explains the high increase of the population. With the declining fertility and the declining mortality, the world population has become more elderly. In 1950 around 8% of people were aged 60 and over; now it is around 12% and it is predicted to be between 20% and 24% by the year 2050.

When we compare the proportion of the aged population by level of development, we see that there is a positive correlation between the level of development and the proportion of the population aging. This means that there is more of an older population in the more developed countries, or around the more developed regions, and there are fewer elderly persons in the less developed countries. I think that might work out nicely because our world might have been in much worse shape than now had it been the opposite.

Reproductive Health services have made major progress since they were first brought to Asia. The most rapid progress was made particularly in the first three decades after 1950. However, reproductive health services were introduced at a time when Asia was still a predominantly rural area. The proportion of the population that lived in the urban areas was very small. This in the proportion of the population that lived in the urban areas increased gradually up to slightly over 40% of the population that live in urban area now.

When we focus on Asia, we see that the proportion of the population in the urban areas has gradually grown since 1950, when there were 1.5 billion people in the region. Of them, less than 10% lived in the rural areas; now the proportion of the population who live in the urban areas has increased to the level of approximately 50%.

Looking at the percentage of urban and rural populations by region, we will see that East Asia and West Asia have a higher degree of urbanization than South Asia and Southeast Asia. The high rate of urbanization can be caused by four factors.

First – and at the very initial stage – urbanization will conventionally be the population of the urban places and will be mainly by natural increase, meaning the number of births minus by the number of deaths.

Later on the country becomes more urbanized, from natural increase to migration – but this is contained largely within internal migration. The stream of migration will come mostly from the rural areas to the large cities. Only at the later time, when there is a clear disparity of the level of development among the region, will then the

migration shift and change its pattern from internal migration to international migration. This is what happens first, especially in Europe and North America.

Another factor which may have caused the rapid urbanization is the reclassification or annexation of an area from rural into urban areas, a phenomenon more common now than before. Take Thailand as an example; when we redefined “urban area” and “rural area”, some areas were upgraded to a “municipality area”. By changing the definitions, the urbanization of Thailand has increased by more than twofold.

The urbanization of Asia is the largest population movement that we have seen in the world. In the past 60 years Asia’s urban population grew from 234 million to around 1.8 billion and we expect that by the year 2050 it will be increased to around 3.5 billion. This is an increase of 14 times within one century, which is very rapid. In comparison, European urbanization took as long as 250 years and it involved growth from 120 million to 527 million people which, an increase of only 4.5%.

The speed and magnitude of Asian urbanization represents a massive improvement in human welfare, which means that people live longer because of the improvement in human welfare and services. At the same time, because services first were located in the urban area, more and more people will migrate to urban places. But this also poses challenges to sustaining and extending human welfare, which also includes RH services.

Demographers and policymakers were much more concerned about the problem of population growth around the mid-20th century. At that time the policy advocacy was to reduce

the population growth rate but now, about half a decade later, the problem of population has changed in nature – from high fertility to more rapid urbanization. We should, therefore, pay more attention to the problem of urbanization now.

There are many good reasons as to why we should pay more attention to the problem of urbanization:

- Cities are where knowledge and information is stored which promotes human development
- Cities are where the political administration exists
- Cities are where commercial activities and economic development take place
- Cities are where new ideas are originated or disseminated to other countries
- Cities are where civilisation and religions are born

This is more or less from a historical point of view but still, to a lesser extent, all new ideas and philosophies are coming more from the urban areas than from the rural areas.

While there are positive implications, there are also negative implications that policymakers should be wary of:

- Urban lifestyles tend to consume more resources which cause potentially serious socioeconomic and environmental problems
- Cities consume more water, causing water shortage, air pollution and degradation of the environment
- Cities cause sanitary problems and diseases
- There are more social problems in the urban areas than in the rural areas like slum areas, crime, and poverty

Other implications include the increasing need

for all types of services, including social and health services. In addition, more finances should be allocated for basic education and educational development in urban areas where the population is much larger. We also need to care for the increasing proportion of the aging population in the urban areas, as well as providing clean and safe water to reduce the mortality rate in the urban areas.

India led in policy focus at the time in 1952 advocating to reduce population growth by reducing fertility. UNESCAP later promoted this policy to all Asia around 1960; Latin America followed in 1970; and Africa has now also adopted the policy of lowering fertility.

One lesson we learned from all the Asian programmes is that the great success stories were of the activities initiated by local administrators. Foreign donor agencies may have also helped to some extent but the local administrators should be the leaders in this new initiative of tackling the problem of urbanization.

Having said that, I would like to call your attention to the new trend of urbanization. In the past the focus was more on the problem of urbanization in megacities; cities such as Bangkok, Beijing, New Delhi, Manila, and Tokyo had received the most attention, while very little attention is paid to the small and medium-sized cities. I think that when we talk about rapid urbanization now, it is because there are more new trends in urbanization, particularly in Asia. There is a larger proportion of small and medium-sized cities, rather than megacities, and this calls for the attention of policymakers and parliamentarians to pay close attention to promote and to advocate the policy of development in the small and medium-sized

cities, as it represents a large percentage of the urbanized population around the Asian continent.

This coincided with the wisdom of the UNFPA Executive Director of at that time, Mr. Rafael Salas, who helped to develop a network of cities, particularly among the medium and small-sized cities. He convened three regional meetings for city mayors; the mayor for Mexico City, Rome, Barcelona, and Kobe met together and came up with the idea to facilitate the establishment of a network for cities in the 1980s. At the meeting, however, there was more talk than serious actions. Fortunately Kobe responded to this idea of creating and promoting a strong network of cities by building what we call an “institutional network” of cities with the acronym AUICK, the Asian Urban Information Centre of Kobe.

The funding came largely from Kobe City, with around two-thirds of the operational budget coming from them, and the other third coming from UNFPA. The main objective of this network was to help develop management capacity of these small and medium-sized cities, in order to better help with population and development issues in the urban areas.

This network was trying to disseminate and share Kobe’s information and experiences with other Asian cities. At the same time they were trying to promote the exchange of experience and the information among the nine medium and small-sized cities: Kobe, Chennai, Chittagong, Danang, Faisalabad, Khon Kaen, Olongapo, Surabaya, and Weihai.

The lesson that Kobe tried to impart was that we should not try to emulate the development of expensive infrastructure such as building

roads and infrastructure. Instead we should promote and support more citizens’ participation and tackle the problem of urban population; we should listen more to the voice of the citizens and let them do their own work within their own cities. Some examples have been shown such as peer group counselling for youths, community-based programme for the aged, and community-based solid waste management. These are the kind of ideas of management that the nine cities learned together through the facilitation of Kobe city.

There has been an attempt to promote more and better dialogue from North-to-South and between South-to-South especially in these nine medium-sized cities. AUICK also promotes an intra-country dialogue. Surabaya, Indonesia, conducted a seminar to invite the members of AUICK member cities to participate in their own programme. At the same time, they also invited other small and medium-sized cities in Indonesia to come together and learn from each other. In the future we are aiming to promote not only North-to-South and South-to-South dialogue, but also South-to-North dialogue.

AUICK tried to advocate that there should be better and more effective communication among city managers, while promoting strong citizen participation and learning from other cities. In today’s context all Asian cities should come together and form a consortium of cities, particularly the small and medium-sized cities, and work our own strategy to cope with the problem of the rapid urbanization.

I would like to talk a little bit about the Khon Kaen experience, since I come from Khon Kaen – one of the medium-sized cities which is a member of AUICK. Khon Kaen benefited a lot from the AUICK network, which included a

community-based programme for the aged to promote inter-generational communication. We know that the proportion of the aged population has been increasing. If we are working under the same notion of trying to provide welfare and help the elderly, that will not lead us very far because sooner or later we will be dry up our budget. The new idea now is to promote not just communication but also inter-generational relationships among the family members to see if it is possible to bring families of more than two generations to live together to provide good care for the aged.

In Khon Kaen we also have a recycling programme for waste. We also have a management information system programme to improve and enhance the efficiency of management. This programme was carried out in collaboration with Khon Kaen University, under the project name “Khon Kaen City Partnership University Programme” (CUP).

In summary I would like to say that urbanization, whether we like it or not, is unavoidable. It has positive and negative consequences. We have to capitalise on the positive side, and try to come up with a new strategy to deal with negative side. We have to pay more attention to small-sized cities.

For more balanced and sustainable development, we have to develop population and development programmes, taking into account the unique urban setting, especially for young and migrant workers who come to town. We have to help develop the administrative

capacity of small and medium-size cities for more balanced development, as in the efforts of AUICK in collaboration with UNFPA.

As parliamentarians, all of you can play a critical role in this endeavour. We should now try to come up with a more sustained strategy. I see that sustained strategy lies in, what I call, “management potential development” which means that we should come up with strategies to help these small and medium-sized cities to be able to work better with the idea of cost-recovery. Because small and medium-sized cities usually have their own financial problems and when the population has been increasing rapidly such as the phenomenon of today, it is very difficult to expect that a medium-sized city will have enough budget to provide such a welfare services and social services to cover their own population, so cost recovery will be the first one that we have to look at.

Along with that we should look at ways to force good governance among the medium and smaller-sized cities. We have to promote more and more civic participation, including a sense of good citizenship. No development programme can be successful without the participation of the people, and tackling the problem of urbanization is no exception. We need more contributions, more participation from people at all levels.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 2

Discussion

Chair: **Hon. Dr. Muthukumar Malasingam**

MP, Malaysia

[Chair]

Ladies and gentlemen it is time for Q&A. Those of you who would like to ask questions or make comments, please mention your name and country.

[Dr. Osamu Kusumoto, APDA]

I would like to pose a question to both of the resource persons. In demographic terms, urbanization means the rate of the population who live in the urban area. But now, urbanization has another implication. Urbanization means changing the attitudes and values in so-called "lifestyles".

Even if someone is living in the rural area, they see the urban lifestyle on the television. Within this globalized society, someone who is living in the rural area also has urbanized attitude and values. I think this phenomena is very important for policy making now. I think that we can see this phenomenon as global urbanization.

In order to create proper policies, we must pay attention to aspect of global urbanization. I would like to hear the approaches we could take from the two resource persons.

[Hon. Sue Kedgley, New Zealand]

I wonder if our two speakers would like to comment on the negative consequences of the massive rural-urban migration we have been talking about.

Food security – already we have acute food shortages, we are having difficulty feeding the world's population, and the global food system is fragile. How are we going to feed the world's population with this continuing urban migration, and how are we going to feed all these people in the cities? Surely one possible consequence of problems with food security is that we are going to have to start considering reversing rural-to-urban migration. Or, at least encourage much greater and more effective food production in order to feed all these people.

[Hon. Dr. Sumarjati Arjoso SKM, Indonesia]

I have a question for Dr. Peerasit. You mentioned that there are many negative implications of urbanization; what is the implication of urbanization on poverty? Are poverty levels increasing or decreasing? Is there any data on this; if urbanization raises by so much percent, how much percent does it have on poverty? Indonesia is experiencing a lot of urbanization, but there is not any real data on it.

I would also like to ask Mr. Huguet about poverty measurements. The poor are the ones who have a per capita of US\$2 a day. Is there any data on this before 2000, the start of the MDG campaign? Now, 10 years after the start of the MDGs, how much has poverty decreased?

[Mr. Rio Praaning, PA Group]

Urbanization requires of course an enormous

amount of energy and metals. If you put on every person who is currently not living in decent housing the total volume of water, energy, metals required to have a quality of life you will end up with a number. For instance in China and other countries it cannot be found so there is obviously a point where the sheer volume will start to be a problem. Can I have the view of the speakers on where and why you think that that is?

[Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien, Vietnam]

There are many MPs of the Parliament of Vietnam that are raising the issue of the country taking a lot of agricultural land for urbanization. They are asking the government to set a red line so that agricultural land can be safe in the future. Do you have any data or experience from other countries that have set a red line to keep agriculture land?

[Hon. Norman George, Cook Islands]

My question is actually directed to both of the resource persons – the answer can come from either. I would like your comment on the effects of urbanization and migration, relative to climate change and natural disasters. Has there been any research conducted into this area where, inevitably these are occurring in rural areas, you are going to have spontaneous movement.

Have there been any thoughts on the natural yielding of the young people leaving the rural areas to go to the bright lights of the cities?

[Sen. Claire Moore, Australia]

I have a question to both the speakers and it has to do with the movement of people from rural

areas into urban, whether they create any kind of people gathering together of different socioeconomic backgrounds so that you have smaller communities within the larger cities that do not mix, creating a “ghetto” effect.

In the Western areas in the cities, people are coming from areas that have their own network and moving en masse into the city, creating further divisions into the larger cities and actually creating smaller cities within the larger cities with people who don’t communicate or get on.

[Unknown Speaker]

The question to both of you is how many successful stories do you know to stop migration from rural-to-urban?

[Chair]

I will ask Mr. Huguet to start, please.

[Mr. Jerrold Huguet, UN ESCAP]

First let me thank all of the questioners for what I think is an exceptionally good set of questions. The answer to most of them would require a week in a graduate course on urbanization because they do involve a lot of the philosophy of what urbanization is about. I will try to give some short answers, which probably are not fully satisfactory but hopefully can stimulate discussion.

The first question is from Dr. Kusumoto, about urbanization as a way of life. He is correct in that with modern communication and transportation, many of the aspects that we think of urban life now spread throughout the geographical area of a state or a country. Even

people living in small towns or rural areas can have access to good education, to markets, to communication, everyone has a cell phone, etc. The distinction between urban and rural is not nearly as wide as it used to be and that is a very important point to make.

I agree with his concept of global urbanization. This extends beyond national boundaries to around the world. There are hundreds of examples, but it seems like everyone in the world is familiar with certain football teams and can name most of the players.

There was a question on the negative aspects of rural-to-urban migration for food security. I think that part of the answer is that it is not the migration per se which is leading to perhaps lower production or lack of food security. But what is stimulating the migration?

These are very complex issues. Let me say first of all that in the United States, 3% of our population is farmers. They produce plenty of food so that most Americans can eat very cheaply relative to their income, and there is still a lot of food for export. It does not take a high number.

I think we also have to go into issues like the EU's Common Agricultural Policy. If the more developed countries, including the North American and European countries, would agree to import food from developing countries – without restrictive quotas, etc. – I think it is probably the single thing that we could do to promote development in the third world. In a way, it is not only cost-free but it will actually also benefit the consumers in Europe and America. There are many complex issues but I do not think it is the migration out of rural areas which is the underlying cause of food shortages.

Should we reverse rural-urban migration? It would only happen if people could earn more money in rural areas than they can earn in urban areas. Currently they cannot. On the other hand, we do know that the most efficient production of food is on small holdings; in other words, farmers who have one hectare of land and farm it right up to the border. They put in a lot of layers so that more intensive small-scale agriculture can, in fact, be productive – but then the markets have to be there and that is one of the issues. If the richer cities, or the richer countries, are not buying from them there is no point in extra production. So the questions are much more complicated than rural-urban migration per se.

Regarding the question from Indonesia, one part was, “since the MDGs, has poverty gone up or down”? I don't know the specific numbers but it is very clear that in the world as a whole, and in Asia, the number of people living in poverty has been reduced tremendously over the past 20 years. Asia is a real success story. Now, it is harshly true that China dominates the statistics and they have reduced poverty a lot over the last 20 years. It is also true in large countries such as India and Indonesia. Poverty levels are also much lower in urban areas than in rural areas.

That leads partially to the fourth question which was pointing out that people living in the urban areas naturally require more resources. A house in an urban area uses a lot more resources than a house in a rural area. It is also true that governments can provide services much more cheaply and efficiently in the urban areas just because of the concentration of the population. Clearly it is a lot cheaper to provide broad-based healthcare, education, electricity, employment – every government service can be provided more

efficiently in a town than it can to a population that is spread over a vast rural area. So there are trade-offs.

Economists spend a lot of time trying to find the optimal city size. But they also feel that beyond a certain point – one million, two million people – maybe the negative externalities start to come into play. The ideal city could be something like half-a-million or one million.

We still do need the megacities for reasons that Dr. Peerasit pointed out; it is in the megacities where policymaking and where research and development take place, where new infrastructure new technologies are developed and used – megacities are still very important for that.

The question from Vietnam, “have any other countries red-lighted agricultural areas so that they cannot be converted?” I am not aware of this, but a lot can be done with tax policies. In most countries agricultural land is taxed at a rate which is significantly below the taxes on land which is used for production for factories, ideally for golf courses and sometimes even for housing, so there is a tax incentive to keep land in agriculture.

The question from the Cook Islands on climate change and rural-urban migration; a good example is the very rapid urbanization in Bangladesh. Much of that urbanization is being driven by extremely high population densities in the delta area, but these are areas which flood on an annual basis and are very susceptible to typhoons. Basically the very dangerous areas to live in and – if sea-levels are rising, and it is not only the water itself, but salinisation of the soil and so on – increasingly more people from the delta area of Bangladesh are moving to Dhaka,

so that explains the high rates of growth there and we are going to see a lot more of that around the world in the next 10-20 years.

The question on “do migrations to urban areas cluster together and perhaps continue with certain divisions”? Yes, when migrants move to cities they do tend to follow networks and settle in areas where their friends, relatives and villagers have gone before. There also is a positive way of looking at this in that it gives new migrants, both to cities and overseas, a secure setting in which to start out.

If a migrant moves to a city of 10 million with no friends or relatives, they are probably going to be lost; they do not know how to get around; they do not know how to find a job; they do not know how to register; they do not know how to seek healthcare. But if they move in an area of the city where a lot of their friends and relatives from the rural area already are, that gives them a natural cushion and helps them to acclimatise to the city. I think that these clusters, whether they are ethnic groups or social classes or even religious groups, can be seen in a positive way.

Finally, are there any success stories to stop rural-to-urban migration? In my own mind, if you stop rural-to-urban migration, it is not a success story simply because all evidence is that people in urban areas have better healthcare, much better education, longer life expectancy, more productive employment, and so on. We are not yet at the point where we would want to stop rural-to-urban migration – and if we do, we will slow down the rate of national development.

[Dr. Peerasit Kamnuansilpa]

On the last point, during the 1970s there were

some countries that tried to formulate what we call the “Reverse Migration Policy”, by resettlement and discourage people from migrating from the rural to the urban areas. Of all those programmes, neither one of the countries were successful. If my memory is correct then Malaysia did have a similar programme. I think this is a good example of how we can better cope and deal with the problem of urbanization in a more positive way, without creating anymore disparity between the urban and the rural areas. All these strategies have to be win-win situation; it is not going to be a lose-and-gain strategy.

I was asked whether I have the data to substantiate that there was poverty in the urban area. My answer to that question is that, in general, we all know that the per capita income in the urban areas is higher than those in the rural areas – that is definitely true. But we still talk about poverty in the urban area in the context that urban places are where people who are attracted by the higher level of development of the urbanized area come, and generally from the rural area, and view better opportunities in urban areas. When they migrate to the urban area they have to live on, what I would call, a somewhat marginal income, taking housing rent and the higher cost of living into consideration. At the same time, they receive a lower wage than their counterparts in the urban areas. Those are the main contributors to poverty in the urban areas.

This is what we call monetary poverty. Many of those people will be better off with their “real income” which will be higher in the rural areas than when they come into the urban areas.

My thinking at this time is that, if we know that there is a large stream of migration from the

rural areas to the urban areas, a programme should be formulated in such a way that we would improve the working skills of those in the rural area before they go to the urban area. It is not a matter of preventing migration from the rural area to the urban area, but it is a matter of improving human capital and human capacity before they are embarking on a journey to the urban areas.

[Hon. Porapan Punyaratabandhu, Thailand]

I would like to ask what criteria you use for defining “urban” and “rural” areas. Also, what are the criteria for reclassifying an area into an “urban” area?

[Dr. Peerasit Kamnuansilpa]

I think there are several definitions; there is no one single definition of “urban” and “rural” areas. Some countries, such as Thailand, use a political definition. Thailand defines a municipality as an “urban” area. Some countries use economic definitions, some countries use more of a “population density” definition.

[Mr. Jerrold Huguet, UN ESCAP]

When the UN compiles definitions and data for all countries, mostly because it has no other choice but to rely on national concepts and definitions, they realise that these definition are not directly comparable.

For example, the Philippines is listed as 50% urban but it uses a very generous definition: any town of 5000 or above is considered “urban”. Thailand, until recently, used a much more restrictive political definition and excluded a lot of growth which took place directly outside of city boundaries; for all practical purposes it was urban, yet it was not counted as such.

The UN can give recommendations but it is simply not in the position to try to statistically smooth out all of these differences. The UN simply has to rely on what the national definitions of what “urbanization” are. Korea and Japan use relatively strict definitions. A “city’s” size must be at least 50,000 people. If you use the more generous definition, Korea would probably be more than 90% urban.

[Chair]

I wish to add a point before I conclude this session. Dr. Peerasit was telling us about Malaysia’s situation. There is a move by the conglomerate that looks after plantations. Many of our workers who shifted from the rural to the urban areas, work from the plantation side. We shifted our citizens from the plantation to the urban areas and brought foreign workers to

their plantations. They are trying to modernise the plantations and provide good housing – later they can own these houses – proper electricity, water, good primary and secondary schools, and proper infrastructure. They also provide scholarships for the workers’ children who excel in their studies, and the children who face academic challenges are absolved back into the plantations. The minimum salary that they promised them is around 2,000 to 3,000 Malaysian ringgit per month. With these types of incentives, they hope that our citizens will come back to the plantation side. Well, we shall wait and see.

Let us give a big round of applause to the speakers for their resourceful presentations.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 3

Population and Food Security: Adaptation Measures to Climate Change

Dr. Colin Chartres

Director General of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

Curriculum vitae:

Dr. Colin Chartres is the Director General of the International Water Management Institute. Dr. Chartres has played a leading role in alerting the world to the emerging water crisis that will impact on all water users and food security in many developing countries. He was, for many years, the Chief Science Advisor to Australia's National Water Commission, and he has recently co-authored a book titled: "Out of Water".

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you very much for invitation to come and speak to you. Before I give my presentation I should just explain what the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) is and why it is here in Sri Lanka.

We are one of the 15 centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), which is funded by the World Bank and by a group of about 64 international donors, including Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and India – amongst those of you present.

We are kindly hosted with our headquarters here in Sri Lanka by the government, for which we are very grateful. We also operate in around 25 to 30 other countries in Asia; that includes in Laos, India, China, Nepal, Pakistan, and several countries in Central Asia. In the past we have worked in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Malaysia – we have fairly widespread experiences in Asian conditions.

What I want to talk about today is about the impact that population growth and other global

drivers will have on water and food production. I will touch as well on climate change, and talk about the real paradox we are facing about growing more food with less water.

It is not all a gloomy story. I want to talk about the fact that there are solutions and ways out of this problem which both involve technology and investment in that technology, but also governance reform and governance adaptation.

There are a number of very significant challenges facing us. We have already seen the food crisis of 2007/2008 which would have been experienced in some Asian countries. We are seeing the impact of climate change; energy crises will become more prevalent in the future, water scarcity – which I will be talking about in detail – urbanization, and dietary changes. On the environmental side we are seeing a collapse in fish stocks, deforestation, erosion, exhaustion and pollution, and so on. There are some very difficult and critical challenges that we need to face.

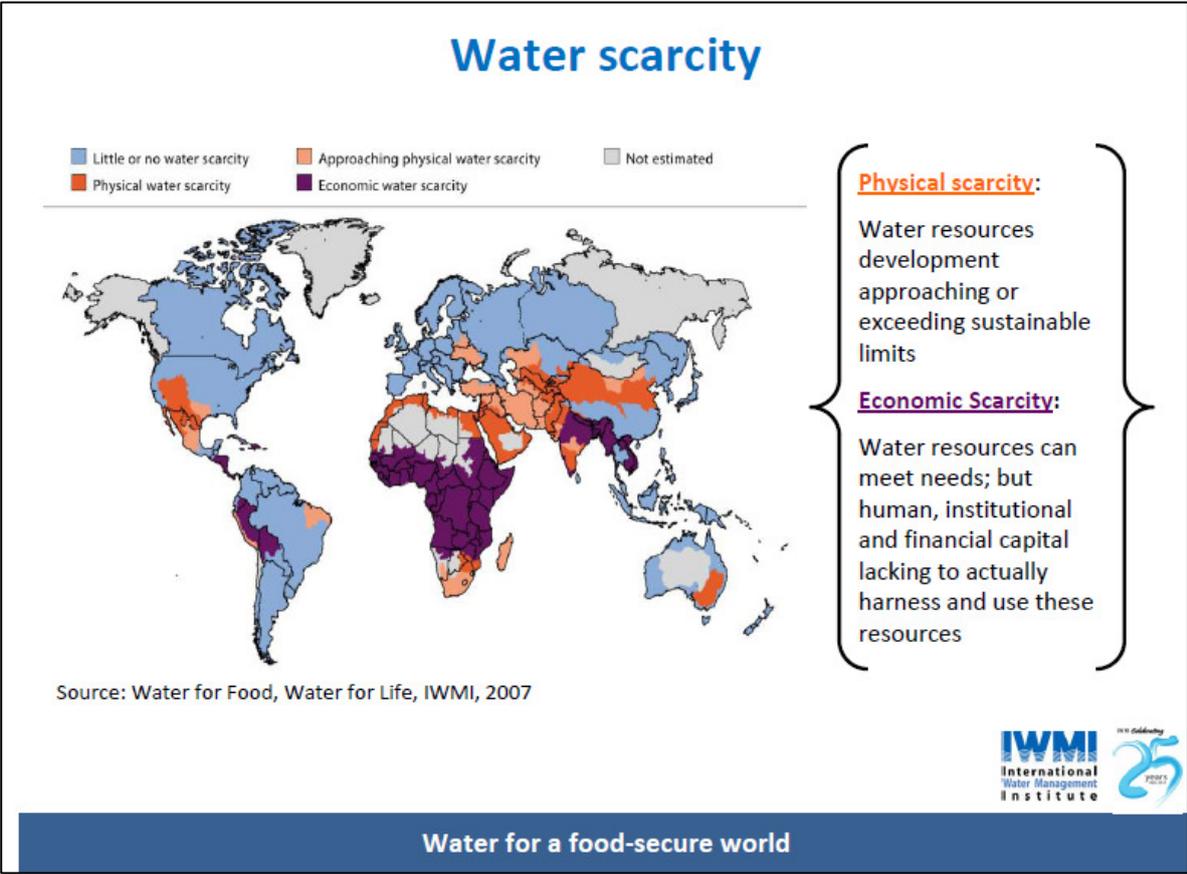
However, if we look back to the green revolution that commenced in the 1960s and

1970s, which probably saved around one billion people from starvation, we see a number of very significant changes on how we operate at the regional and at a global level. We see tremendous growth in the BRIC countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China, and a number of emerging economies – and we see a private sector which is growing and taking more responsibility for tackling some of these issues. We also see tremendous advances in e-communications and networking of science so that we can get information and communication out just as quickly as the news travels around the world today. There are increasing challenges, but also probably increasing opportunities in the ways in which we can deal with them.

Water scarcity is, in my view and in the view of many others, one of the most critical challenges we are going to face if we are going to feed everybody in the world in 2050 when the population will reach around nine billion.

The map (below) demonstrates two types of water scarcity. The areas in orange/brown are where we have already physically reached water-scarce conditions, meaning that we have used-up at least 75% of the total available water resources. You will see that where I come from in Southeast Australia, we have hit that mark in the Murray-Darling Basin; the same with the South West in the United States. There are big swaths of countries and regions – from right through Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, North Africa, and parts of Southern Africa – where physical water scarcity is a major problem. We are going to need very innovative solutions to deal with that properly.

The purple-coloured areas are different. They are areas where there is enough water but there has not been enough investment in getting that water to the people, the agriculture and the industries that need that water. We define those areas as “economically water-scarce”. And again, they pose a series



of very different problems and issues than those in the “physically water-scarce” areas.

When we look at water consumption, to survive we need about two to five litres of drinking water a day depending on the way we work, where we live and so on. In terms of household use 20 to 50 litres is used, depending on how long we spend in the shower in the morning, how much we water our gardens, and so on. But to produce 1kg of grain, requires somewhere in the orders of 500 to 2,000 litres of water to be evapotranspired by plants. A kilo of meat, particularly if it is grain-fed in a stall, can take up to 15,000 litres of water. All of us consume, in terms of our daily food consumption, about 2,000 to 5,000 litres of water per person from the vegetables, cereals, and the meat that we eat every day. If we do a very simple equation and say there is going to be another 2.5 billion mouths on the planet in 2050, it means we are going to require a further 3,000 to 6,000 km³, which is a vast amount of water to grow the required amount of food.

If we look at water scarcity and food security, population growth is the most critical driver of demand for water and food. We are close to seven billion people today; and if the estimates and predictions are right – and they might be underestimating population growth – will be at least nine billion by 2050.

What has also happened is that there has been a major change in diets, in the way that and the effect that this has on food production. Essentially we are moving more and more towards diets which require more water to produce than the simple diets of our ancestors.

Urbanization is creating great competition for water. Cities are growing, particularly in Asia.

Megacities have a very significant water demands. Cities have political power, they have money, and they can easily get the water required from other uses, which prominently are agriculture. Globalization affects the way we source and produce goods, the way we trade goods all have impacts on water, both positive and negative.

Another issue is biofuel production, and the impact of climate change. I will look quickly at all of these to give you examples of how they impact food security and water.

As shown in previous presentations, most of that population growth is going to be in the developing countries. The growth rates in Asia are slower than in Africa, where we are expecting the population to double, but we are still talking about significant increases in many Asian countries.

If we look at where poverty is distributed, you see that whilst the focus is on Africa in terms of poverty, the largest numbers of poor people on less than \$1.25 per day are still in South Asia and, to an extent, in Eastern Asia. So we still need – from the point of view of aid and development, and dealing with water and food issues – to look very closely at these areas. It is not only food which is very important but also the importance of lifting people’s livelihoods in agriculture to get them out of this poverty trap.

I mentioned diet as a major issue and major driver of water demand. The graph (below) shows the meat consumption in kilograms per person per year from the y-axis, and the longer bottom shows the GDP per capita. GDP is an indicator of development. We see that in China meat consumption has risen about almost three times over the last 40 years – a very significant

increase. In India we do not see that probably because of the vegetarian diet. But China is tracking up towards the levels of meat consumption in the USA.

We are talking about not only the fact that there are a lot of poor people who do not have enough to eat, but we are also having to deal with a lot of people who are now eating too much. Ismail Serageldin, who was Vice-President of the World Bank and the Head of the CGIAR, said we have two problems to deal with. He said that we have the problem of the bottom billion and we have a problem of a billion fat bottoms because of the number of people that are over-eating. That is going to be as difficult to deal with as dealing with the food supply for the poor.

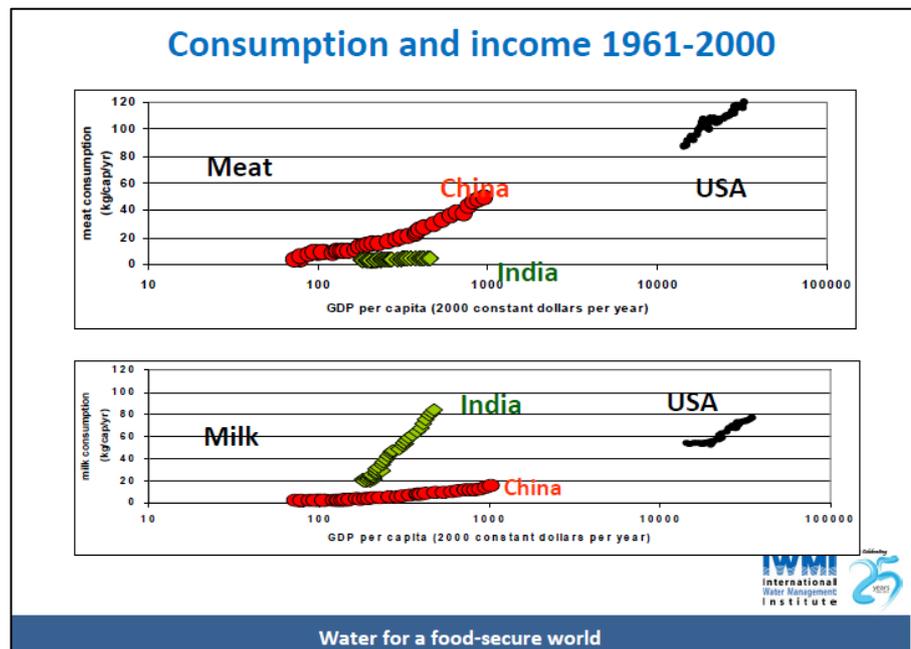
If we look at milk, we see a slight difference between India and China. India has a ravenous appetite for dairy products which is increasing very dramatically, higher than we have in the USA now. China has a much slower increase, but the key point is that both meat and milk require a lot more water to produce than do most cereals and most vegetables.

competition with food. It is a factor which we have already seen happening in China, India, and many other countries.

We need a cautionary word about this because many people say that in Brazil, for example, ethanol is a very significant component of the fuel supply but things are fine, in fact they are reasonable in Brazil. Only around 200 litres of irrigation water goes into production of a given amount of biofuels there in terms of the fact that most of Brazilian biofuels are not irrigated. The biofuels in Brazil are grown in rain-fed areas, and they are derived from sugarcane – and in Brazil, land is fairly plentiful. If we look at China and India, far more irrigation water is being used to produce biofuels and that is competing very much with food production which can have quite serious impacts if we get to the stage where there is drought and food insecurity.

So with biofuels we need to look very closely at what is being produced, how that is being produced, and what competition there is for the water for with food before we make definite conclusions about whether biofuels are good or bad. These are first generation biofuels, not the

Biofuels have also had a fairly significant impact. When we see countries mandating 15% of ethanol or bio-diesel going into their fuel and energy supplies, we consider that it can have another further major impact on water. This is in terms of the fact that these fuels need water to be grown and this has



second generation which may be derived from cellulose digestion and other techniques.

A couple of years ago the consultancy group McKinsey & Company became very interested in issues associated with water scarcity and food supply. They used IMWI data for India and made a simple growth projection in terms of water demand, based on food demand and based on industrial and domestic demand. They showed that by 2030, there would be a 50% aggregate gap between water demand and supply. This will be happening very soon and it is a very large gap. India has already started to do some serious thinking about where it is going to get the water to fill this gap. Obviously a lot of it has to come from productivity increases in terms of crops, it has to come from re-use of water, and it has to potentially come from potentially some river-linking schemes, which would maybe be the choice of last resort. Whilst we do not expect this scenario to necessarily come to pass, it is a very important type of planning tool for waking up policymakers, politicians, scientists, and the general population as to what may confront us if we do not get the story right about water and take adaptive measures.

If we then look at the amount of food that is going to be required by 9 billion people, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has done recent work which suggests that we are going to need to produce at least 70% more food stuffs by 2050. This is to take into account population growth, dietary change, wastage of food, and the fact we are eating a little bit more in terms of calories and getting a bit fatter.

If we start to think about how we can adapt to this threat – and we start looking at how we can be more productive with water use, how we can re-use water, and so on – work we did across

the CGIAR in a publication called “Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture”, suggests that we can probably grow the required amount of food with less than 9000 km³ of water, which is achievable. It does very much depend on whether we can change the modus operandi of the moment. It is going to require a lot of leadership, a lot of policy change, a lot of institutional change, and a lot of capacity building as well as investment in technology – a very hard overall task.

In addition to the issues associated with water, we also have to face depleted soil resources and soil degradation which compounds the challenge ahead. We have seen very significant areas of the world go out of production or have production reduced by 40% because of depleted soil nutrients, degraded soil structure, and so on.

In my view, we have a very great challenge – and, in fact, a paradox. We have to feed more people, probably with less water than we have now, in an era of climate change which might have major impacts. I say less water from now because competition for that water from biofuels, from urbanization and cities, and decreasing water availability from climate change in some areas means that we probably will not have more water to produce the required amount of food. This is probably the defining challenge for agriculture and for mankind in this century.

Touching on the major concern of climate change, the graph (below) shows data from the city of Perth in Australia, which looks at flows into the reservoirs and dams in Perth over the last 100 years. The first green line is the average up to about 1970; then we see a step-wise

decline, and a further step-wise decline. This year, it has been drier still. The total runoff into these reservoirs decline by three to four times in the last 40 years.

Whether this is climate change or climate variability is relatively immaterial; it has happened and it represents the kind of challenge that we are going to have to face in a number of areas.

With the latest models from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change (IPCC), and with more and more scientists looking at what the impacts of climate change will be, we are starting to get more precise predictions of what the impacts of climate change will be in various regions.

In Sri Lanka we have done some vulnerability mapping, taking into account all factors of

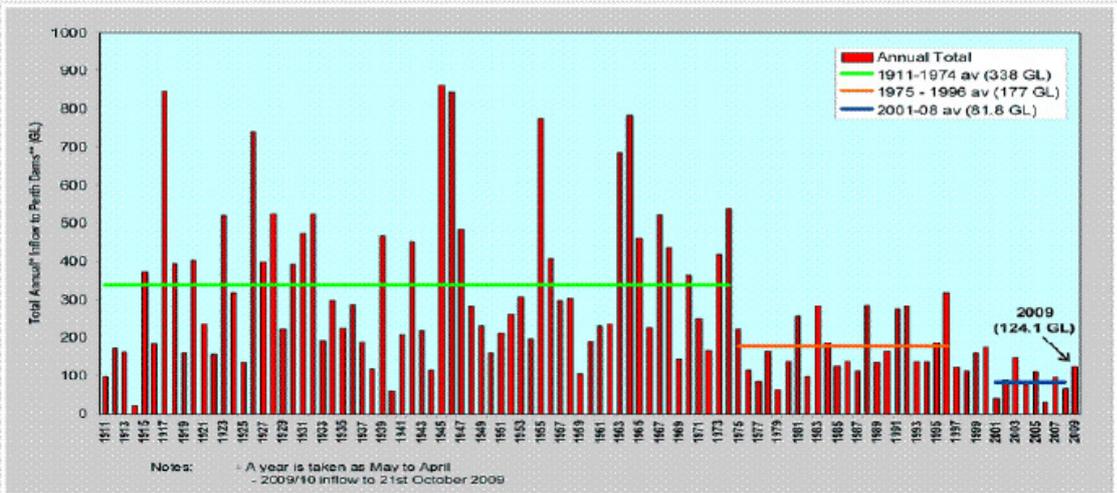
where people might be worst affected – and that is in a country which is considered pretty moist and pretty wet. Still there could be major impacts on people’s livelihoods.

My colleagues in India at CIMMYT, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, have done work on looking how wheat will be affected in India. They predict that we will see US\$15 to US\$20 billion worth of losses per annum by 2025, and by 2050 up to US\$48 billion in losses per annum. There is a 10% yield of potential loss for every degree increase in temperature and this is particularly because wheat does not like high temperatures, which we are getting on the climate change scenarios.

Not only are we going to have problems with water but we have to look carefully at where we currently grow and where we can grow these major staple crops in the future, particularly

How will climate change impact water resources?

Impact on Water Availability - WA Reduced Inflows to Dams



Water for a food-secure world

wheat and maize. Maize is becoming a very significant crop in food production at the global-level.

We also, under the climate change scenarios, look to be expecting more flood disasters which are going to impact food production. We need more detailed work on how we can mitigate these, how we can map where they are going to occur, and how we can protect people's livelihoods. In Africa we see that small changes in temperature will have big effects on river flow. We will see average river flows and water availability increase by 10% to 40% in some regions; while in others, there will be a decrease of between 10% to 30%.

Some people say that biotechnology will save us, that we will be able to breed crops that can withstand high temperatures and can withstand droughts. I am sure that we will make major steps in those directions but I think – as was said by Melinda Gates and Jeff Raikes, the head of the Gates Foundation – drought and water shortages are going to cause major challenges that we will have to overcome as well. We need both better varieties and better breeding, but we also need to be able to overcome the water scarcity issue.

We need to move towards adaptive water management, and we need to take into account the global climatic models and existing policies. We need to look at how changes will affect river water availability and ground water availability in the basins; what that is going to do, how we share and allocate water, and what we have to do to ensure that we maintain or increase productivity of that water under these kind of scenarios.

I would like to come to how we adapt to these

challenges, and give just a few simple examples based around technology investment and governance and institutional changes.

In many countries, particularly in the African region but not exclusively, water storage in reservoirs and dams is extremely low. Kenya and Ethiopia, which are facing droughts at the moment, have little capacity or little insurance against the drought because they have very little storage. Ethiopia has stored only 43m³ of water per head. In Australia and in the US we are talking about around 5,000 to 6,000m³ of water stored per head, but even that has not been enough for the big droughts in Australia.

Storage is very important, and it is one way we can deal with impending shortages. But we are not just talking about large dams. There are many ways we can improve water storage. They range from looking at how water stored in natural wetlands, improving the management of soil moisture, storing water low groundwater in aquifers and sometimes artificially recharging those aquifers, building ponds and tanks to provide supplementary irrigation, as well as the reservoirs.

We have seen a tremendous shift towards the use of underground water in Asia – India in particular. That has been made available because of access to cheap electric and diesel pumps, but it does not come without a cost. It comes with the fact that the system is difficult to regulate, and difficult to govern and manage; thus we need governance and educational systems to make sure we can sustain groundwater usage, which is unlikely in some states of India already. We need to be careful and measured with how we develop groundwater sources. It is not a panacea. We need to look very carefully at what will work

where, how we can invest, and what the benefits will be. Governance and the economics of water management are critical issues in water and institutional systems.

For far too long water has been considered a “free good”. This is often pushed at UN-level by the fact that water should be free, because everyone has a right to water; in fact, there was a charter signed last year. That is fine in terms of drinking water but it does not apply in view in terms of water for beneficial uses and for agriculture. We need to look at that and make sure that people start paying for water where they can afford it for major development.

Water governance is often divided between agencies and sectors. You have one agency managing groundwater and another agency managing service water. Institutions are not changing with the times. In India there is still a greater focus on surface irrigation and there has even been a major change to groundwater irrigation.

We often do not consider how much water is needed for the environmental services that we rely on, particularly fresh drinking water. There are also many other issues associated with biodiversity, pollination, fish habitat and so on. We must ensure that the poor and marginalised groups are represented and we need to take this into account in decisions about water. So, there are incentives and disincentives. Water is a free good to a greater and lesser extent but there is little incentive as to why it is used. We need to make sure that everyone is aware of how important it is to save and conserve water.

Water pricing has been effective in some places, but the model might not apply everywhere and there are political and social concerns. Demand

management tools are rarely used because there is the conceptual feeling that we have plenty of water, but in reality we do not.

One example is that of Gujarat in India where there was the over-pumping of groundwater because of subsidised electricity. We suggested a solution which separated the electricity supply from the villages to the pumps. This was done at a major cost of several hundred millions of dollars. The outcome was that there was much less electricity used because they could turn off supply to the pumps. Less groundwater was used, agricultural yields did not decline, and there was an auxiliary benefit of improved power supply to domestic users. This was truly a win-win solution using innovative thinking and innovative governance.

In the Ferghana Valley – an area bordered by Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan – climate change is having a big impact. There is great competition for water, and irrigation systems are in decline. We are starting to get solutions, which are not perfectly implemented yet because of conflict between the states, looking at management transfer to water-user associations and getting better institutions but it is a work-in-progress – it is not completed.

Finally, I will try to summarise what we need to do to deal with all these issues of water scarcity. I think we can narrow it down to six points:

- We have to have more investment and more access to better quality data via improvement measurement – and that access needs to be free for everybody. This is really critical and it is not something that should be locked away in government institutions. If we are going to get good and wise decisions, that data has to be made publicly available.
- We need to deal with outdated governance

and institutions.

- We need to see agriculture as being in harmony with the environment, instead of competing with the environment. This way we can use agriculture to even help clean dirty water and re-use waste water.
- We need to revitalise agricultural water use.
- We need to have much better management of urban and industrial demand in cities, and we need to reuse water from cities back into agriculture.
- We need to particularly empower the poor

and women in decision-making in water management.

With that I hope that I have outlined the very serious – and major – issues and problems. I also hope that I have given you some cause for hope in the fact that there are solutions but they are things that we need leadership for from parliaments and policymakers so that we can implement them right across the board.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 3

Discussion

Chair: **Hon. Sue Kedgley**

MP, New Zealand

[Chair]

Thank you very much. The floor is now open to questions on the very stimulating address by Dr. Chartres. Australia.

[Sen. Claire Moore, Australia]

Can you tell us whether there is any international agreement, particularly through the UN, of the differentiation between free access to drinking water – which should be an individual and personal right – and the issue you raised about the importance of having a value for water for other purposes? It is an issue in Australia and I know it is one that is being discussed around the world. I would just like to know whether, within the UN context in which you operate, there is a clear understanding of those two levels of water access.

[Dr. Colin Chartres, IWMI]

Thank you for the question. This is a very complex area and from my memory there was a UN treaty signed on water rights for all last year. I do not know the full details of that treaty but it was basically to do with the fact that there is a right to have enough water to subsist on in terms of drinking water, water for domestic use, and so on. The real issue is that there is nothing beyond that in terms of whether or not water should be a free good or whether it should be charged. I do not think many countries actually view the fact that there should be a very high charge for water but water provision for

irrigation, for cities, and for factories requires quite considerable investment. Much of that is sunk-cost investment but there is a service charge which is often levied on water provision. It is only in one or two countries that water has been charged at a, I would not say commercial, but at a higher rate.

The Murray-Darling basin in Australia is one of those, where water is valued and has a market operating around both temporary and permanent trades. I think that those concepts are being thought of and taken up – certainly the service level charge concept is quite common.

Even in Nepal, where there is a lot of poverty, water-user associations have levied a service charge. It is a real issue of trying to recoup money to try to maintain systems and maintain structures – I do think that we need to seriously consider that. One of the blocks to that is that we have to change the mentality about how we provide water. In many institutions, it is a supply-side-dominated activity. That is, the governments provide it when it is convenient to them to manage it; whereas, if you are a farmer, you need water on very specific dates to maintain your crop production and sustain that production and get high yield.

There is a real demand-side to the equation. I think that if water is being managed towards the demand side, people will be happier to pay the service charge for water. This, however, is a

very complex area which will vary tremendously between jurisdictions and countries, and there is no one-size-fits-all solution. It depends on the social, political, and economic systems and capacity to pay – and the benefits which will arise.

[Unknown Speaker]

It is interesting when we discuss about food security with regard to biofuel for energy. It is contradictory. India, Indonesia and Malaysia produce biofuel from Crude Plant Oil (CPO). In this case the price should be high; for example, energy commodities like corn, rice, cassava, and others should be high. Is it food security or biofuel for energy?

Oil energy is very limited, thus we should use natural sources to create “green energy”. For example, sugarcane, cassava, and corn can be used to make biothermal energy. The problem is that all those commodities consume water. Water is still very important for energy and for food security.

[Dr. Colin Chartres, IWMI]

My view is that food security must come first for a number of reasons. I think that the mandating of percentages of biofuel production has had adverse consequences on food production for two reasons. One is that it has created competition and the other is that it has put up prices, which have impacted the poor.

We believe that in the one of the factors that may have had some impact on the 2007/2008 food crisis around the globe was the fact that the Chinese at the time went into the market for corn and soybeans in a big way because they were starting to produce biofuels. IWMI had

done some work showing that this was competing with food production in China. They disagreed with our analysis but they went into the market shortly after we pointed this out.

This coincided with droughts in Australia and very low total amounts of food in storage around the world. We had a number of events such as biofuel production in some countries, drought, and lack of stored food triggering a food crisis. I think we will see the same thing happening again. My colleagues think that the conditions are brewing and we will see a perfect storm in terms of a food crisis sometime again in the next 15 years but it could be a lot sooner, depending on climate impacts. We need to be thinking very carefully on a country-level about what policies are going to ensure that we have sufficient food reserves; are we able to trade, to bring food in when the situation gets really tough and when food prices go up, and to what extent will increase in biofuel production impact that pattern?

One of the opportunities is to use our waste much more effectively. We are starting a programme looking at resource recovery of both water and solids from sewage, and we think that one way you can make a very successful business operation out of this is by recovering the solids, producing biogas, and so on. This is an innovative method. The current processes tie up a lot of land and a lot of irrigation water to do so.

[Hon. A.H.M. Aswer, Sri Lanka]

There are sustained work programmes covering the whole world. Whether it be through Asian or other countries or the agencies of the UN, remedies have been found to retain water. Sri Lanka is lucky because there is rain right

throughout the country; yet still there are water springs and sources going dry for two to three months. How are we going to tackle this problem? Water is the most important element for sustaining life

With regard to water management, earlier we did not restrict water in Sri Lanka. It was readily available even in taps supplied by government institutions, municipalities and other local bodies – it was all free. We also went one step further; there were taps installed on the roadways for poor people to make use of water. Over the years, we found that it was very difficult to continue that free distribution of water. Meters now have been installed in domestic as well as commercial institutions, and money is being charged.

There is a great King called, Parakramabahu from Anuradhapura. Our kings adopted a fantastic irrigation system. There has been an irrigation culture for our civilization. Many tanks supplying water in tonnes of litres for agricultural purposes were built by kings. The tanks are very big in size and built without any modern equipment. The king declared, "let not one drop of rain water go to the sea without benefiting man".

Throughout the year Sri Lanka gets rain but all of it goes to the sea. Don't you think, Dr. Colin, that some method should be adopted in order to retain and store the water in some form? I think the government alone cannot do without foreign aid and assistance. One ministry is looking at it but that is not sufficient. In Sri Lanka every attempt has been made to retain water. Is there a method with which every country would be given the highest knowledge about the retention of water so that every country will be rich in its own agricultural

pursuit? Thank you.

[Chair]

Thank you very much for that question. I saw the water tanks in the national museum – very fascinating to see. This is a very ancient technology here in Sri Lanka.

[Dr. Colin Chartres, IWMI]

The saying by the King is actually in our foyer, so I know it very well. IWMI was established in Sri Lanka because of this tremendous history that Sri Lanka has in terms of irrigation practice, which I think does offer solutions for the rest of the world.

As the population has grown and as there has been deforestation and more water is used, we have seen some of the problems in Sri Lanka that are faced elsewhere. How do we adapt to that? I think we have to look very carefully at to what extent we can rehabilitate some of these tank systems which are not being used. We need to think very carefully about treating waste water, recharging groundwater, and reusing waste water so that not a drop does get to the sea without it not only being used once, but being used twice or three times.

Where we do have seasonal dry conditions and we need to be looking at whether or not we can safely use groundwater. There are some problems in Sri Lanka with arsenic and other contaminants in some of the dry areas, but elsewhere that may be very possible. We need to instil in everybody the fact that we need to be very careful about how much we use; we cannot leave taps running, because there is pressure on the system.

At the risk of being a slightly controversial, I think it is probably time that Sri Lanka had another look at – as many other countries need to do – developing a national water policy. In this country, it was abandoned because of fears that it was going to lead to water being sold to everybody, but I do not think that is the idea behind a water policy. The idea behind a good, coherent water policy is to manage the water resource well, to bring the various departments together, to make sure that we understand how much there is; and that we have the information and data on it to make good planning decisions about where water will be needed, where it will be used, how it will get there, and how much will go into agriculture. In my mind some types of policies are going to help very much in that regard.

[Hon. Chandra Bahadur Gurung, Nepal]

Global warming has affected the world. There is now the serious problem in Nepal that the Himalayas are melting day-by-day. Because of that, my country is going to be desert. It is also affecting the Maldives because the Himalayas' melting water is raising the water level and could sink the Maldives. What would be the best plan in policy and programmes to save Nepal, as well as the Maldives? Thank you.

[Dr. Colin Chartres, IWMI]

That is an extremely difficult question to answer within the space of a minute or two. You are right, we fear very considerable changes of the flow regime in rivers as the Himalayan icecap retreats and melts. There may be more water initially but, in time, there may be less as the icecap becomes smaller. I think some of the things I talked about in terms of adaptation and better storage are going to be vital for many

countries in the Himalayan region.

In terms of sea level rise, I am pessimistic in the sense that I personally believe that there is so much carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that we are definitely seeing temperature rises which cause further melting of the Arctic and Antarctic icecaps. The rise in sea level will continue, thus that becomes a very difficult question for countries on low islands that are going to need international response. This is far beyond the limit of myself or my agency to talk about other than to indicate that there may be short-term measurements in terms of water harvesting and water-use on those islands which can help them, but in the long-term there are very serious concerns.

[Chair]

India may pose the last question.

[Hon. Bhausheeb R. Waghchaure, India]

There are many silver factories in my rural constituency. Underground water has become polluted, affecting drinking water and crops. The same is happening in the industrial and urban areas. What solution do you suggest for this situation?

[Dr. Colin Chartres, IWMI]

I think that when we look at reusing waste water, we can reuse water which is basically domestic sewage affluent but we definitely need to look at legislative solutions to point-source pollution. We have to bite the bullet and start to really look at legislations against those contaminants, and also try to help through research and development methods which can help treat that water on-site and get it back into the system with far less

contamination.

[Chair]

I have just been told we have more time for discussion.

[Unknown Speaker]

How do you evaluate the value of the research and methodology for the use of seawater?

[Dr. Colin Chartres, IWMI]

We see many countries around the world that have installed desalination plants, particularly in the Middle East but also in Australia. These desalination plants are very energy-intensive, so there is a carbon penalty to pay – unless you use renewable energy. My own belief is that, if we put aside the energy questions for a moment, desalination can be a very effective measure in the coastal cities, in that the cost of desalination has come down to under US\$1 per 1000 litres. This is certainly within the realms of

what urban consumers in many countries are prepared to pay.

However, if we look at it in terms of agriculture, I think that cost becomes prohibitive and it is not really a solution at the moment for agriculture. There are technologies which are looking at making the process more effective, efficient, and cheaper, and there have been suggestions that the price might come down to about US\$0.20 per 1000 litres.

If we can deal with the energy question, we need to look at these as opportunities. And maybe in the future there will be a niche for that technology in some smaller high-value agricultural production systems.

[Chair]

We will bring this session to a close. Dr. Chartres, thank you very much for your thoughtful and stimulating address and for the very interesting and lively debate that it generated.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 4

Achieving Sustainable Development and Economic Development in a World of 7 Billion People

Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama

Senior Minister of the International Monetary Cooperation of Sri Lanka

Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning of Sri Lanka

Curriculum Vitae:

Honourable Sarath Amunugama is a Senior Minister of Sri Lanka for international monetary cooperation. He was Minister of Finance and Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs. He has a global outlook and for a number of years, he served as a consultant at UNDP, after which he was at UNESCO in Paris for five years. He has a BA in Sociology from the University of Ceylon, his PhD from the University of Paris, and he is a Visiting Fellow at Harvard University.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am greatly honoured to be present here this morning and I would particularly like to thank His Excellency, Hon. Yasuo Fukuda, for extending an invitation to me to be here today.

I would also like to greet my fellow parliamentarians and to wish them a fruitful and happy sojourn in my country.

We have just emerged from a fruitless terrorist war which was launched by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). With the defeat of that terrorism, Sri Lanka has now become one of the safest places in Asia. You realise when you go about our city that it is a clean, efficient, and safe city. I wish you a good stay in Sri Lanka. I hope that you will not only enjoy your stay but come back several times.

On the subject before me, I would like to say a few words about the Sri Lankan situation and then make some observations regarding the

global challenges that we would encounter as we confront the planet of seven billion people. My country has a good record in family health, which is now the buzzword for “population control”, and we have now reached a very desirable position of 1% growth. There are several reasons for this, which I will go to later.

Sri Lanka’s economy has been growing at a very satisfactory rate. For the last five years we have had an average 6% growth and during the last two years we have reached 8% growth. We hope to continue that growth trajectory this year as well as in the next couple of years so that we could come into the 8.9% GDP growth trajectory.

This type of information is not only provided domestically. We have an arrangement with IMF that conducts periodic reviews and we have had very good positioning in all those reviews. I would like to say that yesterday we released the news that rating agencies Moody’s and Standard & Poor’s have both upgraded Sri Lanka

quite substantially into a favourable position, just as we are launching our one billion bond issue in the next few days.

From the point of view of both population growth and economic growth, Sri Lanka is in a very fortunate position in the sense that our youthful workforce will continue for the next 25-30 years. That demographic window is open to Sri Lanka.

In the global scenario, there will be a population of seven billion, which is double the number of people who lived on this planet just 50 years ago. It took 12 years for the world's population to be increased by one billion, but now there is a slowing down and it is expected that it will take 14 years from 2011 for the world's population to reach eight billion, in line with the decreasing growth rates of the world.

Now, we must also note that there are 2.6 billion people on planet earth who live in poverty – and that number is increasing. Most of the population growth is country-specific, depending on various socioeconomic factors. If you take the developed economies, in the UK the rate is 0.2%; in Germany it is Zero Population Growth (ZPG); and in France 0.4%. Some countries that have negative or ZPG compensate by recording overall positive growth rates due to in-migration. I

In contrast to that, many Asian and African countries have high population growth. To give an extreme example, Afghanistan has a current growth rate of 4.8%, representing a doubling time of 14.5 years. India and China have reached the one billion mark so it is in the context of these, shall I say “unprecedented”, triggers of people living on this planet that we have to take into consideration the problems of

sustained growth.

There is still a high population growth rate in the developing world and these factors have to be taken into consideration when we think of economic growth in the coming decades. We can take Sri Lanka as an example of what is happening in Asian countries. We have had a very steep decline in population growth. There are two factors which are of global application and certainly of regional application.

The first is the debate regarding coercion and persuasion in population growth. Countries such as China, at a certain time India, and at a certain time Singapore, followed the coercion route. The one-child policy in India was unsuccessful in a short period before the emergency and attempted to intervene by force on population growth. Sri Lanka is a very good example where we did not follow the coercion part and this is, I can say it because I was a public servant at that time, largely to do with the very enlightened policy that it should be done by mega communication programmes and providing of facilities so that the public could be made aware and would voluntarily engage in population control.

Those who followed the coercive approach may have got certain cohorts, though it may have registered some satisfactory results in regard to those cohorts in early years. In the long run, today, I think many of them regret that. China for example, because of the one-child policy, has now had to face the problem of aging in a very big way, as well as Singapore. I think there was enough public opinion in India to compel the governments of that time to resist the coercive approach.

The figures are clear and the sentiments are

clear that people now prefer the communication strategy and persuasion method over the coercive method because the coercive method has created more problems than it has attempted to solve.

Then there is another important issue that all of us in Asia must address that is very fundamental to the question of population control. Of course we can call it “family planning” or “family health” but basically we are talking of population control. The other is to further the communication strategy not to use language which will frighten away people, particularly politicians. The crucial factor is the status and role of women. When we talk of population control in Asia, I think we have to look into the question of the role and status of women.

There are excellent examples of where empowering women has led to a correlation of population decline. To take Sri Lanka, we are a country which has universal literacy. There is no difference between, or a very slight difference between, male literacy and female literacy. I think the slight difference is in favour of female literacy, thus we have a highly literate female population.

We also have a population which has universal franchise. There is no distinction whatsoever on the use of the vote. Of course this does not explain why we have so few female parliamentarians. They are all agitating that there should be a larger number of female Members of Parliament, which we all agree.

For that disparity, as far as facilities are concerned, I think there is an equality of status. In Asia it starts almost from puberty at a very low level, from between the ages of 13 and 14 to about 28 years old. That is basically the

at-risk age when women can be impregnated. What has happened recently is that the at-risk age has shrunk considerably with high education and high employment rates for women. There is a lot of graduate employment in Sri Lanka, and I think there is almost a 50/50 graduate ratio between genders in the universities of Sri Lanka. Women tend to postpone marriage and child bearing, thus the at-risk age is very narrow and consequently it has a direct bearing on the fertility pattern. Dr. Abeykoon also mentioned this, and it is very clear coming out of most of the studies of fertility in our region.

If you look at Sri Lanka the best parallel to that is Kerala in India which has more or less the same profile as Sri Lanka: high education rates, out-migration rates, and empowerment and employment of women. One of the fundamental things we have to do in the coming years, between the seven billion to eight billion mark, is empower women so that the gap between the growth is extended.

We have to make a very strong commitment and strong statement in our discussion that in our region women should receive more education, should be given more facilities, given employment, and they should find ways to enter universities. That could be a much better way than just preaching and talking about population growth. The more women are underpowered, the more women are poor; the more women are not brought into the vortex of decision-making, than you can bet your boots that there will be high population growth – there is a clear correlation. This is very much in Sri Lanka and I believe it is the same in many other countries. It should be one of the recommendations that we make.

If we go into the area of economic growth, in the coming decades with seven billion people, one thing is absolutely clear: the focus of attention is shifting from the “have” countries to the “have not” countries.

I want to read a paragraph to you from *The Economist* of 9 October 2010, which clearly describes the shift; what one could call the “seismic shift” that is taking place in the global economy today.

“Ten years ago, rich countries dominated the world economy, contributing around two-thirds of global GDP after allowing differences in purchasing power. Since then, that share has fallen to just over half; in another decade, it could be down to 40%.

The bulk of global output will be produced in the emerging world. The pace of the shift testifies to these countries’ success. Thanks to globalization and good policy, virtually all developing countries are catching up with their richer peers.

In 2002-2008, more than 85% of developing economies grew faster than America, compared with less than a third between 1960 and 2000 – and virtually none in the centuries before that. The rising of the rest is a remarkable achievement, bringing with it unprecedented improvements in living standards of the majority of people on the planet”.

Now we must consider the implication of this seismic shift. In particular, the rapid growth of the BRIC countries; in our region it is China and India. We have to remember that growth in India and China is lifting millions out of poverty – literally millions – which could not have been achieved previously.

Some referred that the Hindu pace of growth in previous economic philosophies, or the Buddhists pace of growth, could not achieve that reality of lifting millions and millions of people out of poverty. Three hundred million people in India have been lifted out of absolute poverty. This is a great change that is taking place in India and China, in BRICS countries and also in the other countries in our region. This is a tremendous achievement that we have to think of.

With that comes many attendant changes. One is the impact on fertility that we discussed. The second phenomenon is the growth of a new middle-class. This is a phenomenon which we will see as we go into the future; the middle-class in India and the middle-class in China are transforming many of the economic structures that we think of.

I will give a short example. Tourism in India and Sri Lanka was dominated by Western tourists, mostly charter tourists, in the past. Today, over 50% of the tourists are the Indian growing middle-class who can catch an airplane and be in Sri Lanka one hour later. We used to joke that it takes parliamentarians longer to come from our constituencies to Colombo than to go from Colombo to Bangalore or Chennai. Even a flight to Delhi, only takes three hours; sometimes it takes us four hours to get to our electorates. So, the situation is changing; a new middle class is emerging and we have to be very positive that there is a chance of growth in our region which will compensate for this rapid growth.

I would like to look at the aspect of growth. I want to dispel a little bit of the fear we have that these large population movements can create economic crises. I am referring to an article by Mr. Justin Lim, who is the Chief

Economist of the World Bank.

He tells us that in an entire decade, we have jumped so far into the future that the rapid sustained increase in per capita income is a modern phenomenon. Studies by economic historians such as Mr. Angus Madison show that the average annual per capita income in the West was only 0.05% before the 18th century, jumping to about 1% in the 19th century, and reaching about 2% in the 20th century. We are living in a decade of phenomenal growth.

There are two basic elements in growth. It is not the only thing but if you cut it down to two elements, the first is investment and the second is output – those are the two elements that we cannot avoid. If we can maximise these two, a country will automatically be on the growth path. Now, for the first time, because of the new era of scientific growth, we are on the cusp or beginning of an output revolution which will more than compensate for the increase in population.

We must also concentrate on the question of science and technology. Parallel to this population growth, we must be able to see progress in science and technology in new directions which will improve output; therefore, we must maintain equilibrium and try to go beyond the equilibrium in the science and technology sector. That is the crux of the problem.

How do we increase output? Investment will happen because today we have cross-border investment. In era of globalization, not only capital but also labour is moving freely. All developing economies today have migrant labour. Developed economies are short of labour. Demographic predictions clearly show, in

countries like Japan, that there will be the need for more workers in the future. They will most probably be migrant workers who come to spur growth in that country. But these countries are now looking at the problems of aging and zero population growth, thus the trans-boarder movement of people and investment will be a given.

To give one example, today there are 1.3 million Sri Lankans working abroad and they send about US\$5 billion in remittances. India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Thailand, Philippines receive substantial remittances. Whatever traditional economists may say, remittances have become a large component of our inflows. As a comparison, Sri Lankan workers abroad remit US\$5 billion and our stable export is bringing us only a maximum of US\$1 billion. We can see how important this new globalization is for Sri Lanka; how it provides employment and how it brings in inflows of capital. Our IMF stand-by arrangement is US\$2.6 billion but our inward remittances are US\$5 billion a year so, you can see how much we depend on it. Those are taking bigger profiles in our economy and these matters must be considered.

There are many challenges that will come to us in a world of seven billion people, particularly from the point of view of developing countries. I have identified three challenges as food, energy, and environmental crises. The developing of these three elements can jeopardise the growth trajectory that I mentioned earlier. These things crop up in different forms during your discussions.

If you take the food crisis, conventional wisdom was not to bother with the agriculture sector; go for the service sector, go for manufacturing sector. Today, however, the world is rethinking

this because with the growth in China, India and other developing countries – and with the growth of the middle-class – consumption patterns are changing, and changing for the better. Disadvantaged people in Sri Lanka who previously only had one meal a day, are now having two or three meals a day. Children are better fed and there is less malnutrition.

There is a big demand for food. As you know onions, chillies and potatoes are hot stuff when it comes to politics both in India and Sri Lanka. If you deprive your people of onions, chillies, or potatoes, there is a strong chance that the government will collapse. My Indian colleagues will remember this onion and chilli crisis from some time ago. Sri Lanka asked India for chillies but India was unable to do so because they would be depriving their own people from the ingredient; the government would be punished in the polls. Consumption patterns are changing and countries must look at how they are going to feed their people, which is a big problem in these developing countries.

Latin America and the US are frontrunners in growing biofuels. When the price of oil goes above US\$50 a barrel, people turn to maize and the lands that were producing food for the population is now producing ethanol. This is becoming a serious problem as oil prices rise; more and more arable land is being dedicated to producing ethanol. While the demand is expanding for food, arable land is being reduced. This contradiction could lead to disaster.

President Rajapaksa of Sri Lanka and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India have clearly stated that we must have a second green revolution, otherwise there will be trouble. There needs to be much more domestic agriculture, in China, in India, in Sri Lanka,

Thailand, and anywhere where we have been good producers for food for our people. We are coming back to that and very clearly you must send out a message that we must have a second green revolution.

Several decades ago, the production of staple foods made a quantum leap because of the green revolution. There were a variety of fertilizers, best practices, better seed types and the whole package brought much better agriculture returns. That was the first green revolution. The time has now come for land reform and a new green revolution.

We come to the second matter that is energy. This problem is going to emerge as a very strong challenge. Three billion of the seven billion people are energy poor – they have no access to energy provided, thus they waste a lot of natural resources. We have to confront the debate, which is now emerging, between fossil fuels and other sources of alternative energy. Questions of energy and the environment are matters of life and death.

We see on television that three crises have come together in parts of Kenya and parts of Somalia. The food crisis, energy crisis, and environment crisis has all come together in Sub-Saharan Africa, leading to tremendous distress.

Lastly, we come to the environmental factor. For conceptual purposes I am separating these; food, energy and the environment. In reality, the poor see this as one huge global and existential problem. They do not have food, they do not have energy, and the environment is against them. I hope all of us agree that this should not be the vision of the world with a seven billion population.

These are some of the points I want to make and I hope that you will be able to incorporate some of these ideas in the final conclusions of your meeting.

I want to again thank you, particularly Hon. Fukuda, who is a great friend of Sri Lanka. We welcome him and we have a great affection for

him. I also want to say that our hearts go out to the people of Japan, who have been our steady friends, at the recent tsunami and earthquake. And also our heart goes out to our good neighbour, India, who had to face this terrorist attack.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 4:
Achieving Sustainable Development and Economic Development
in a World of 7 Billion People

Combined Public Private Partnerships and Corporate Social Responsibility for Mutual Profitability

Mr. Rio Praaning Prawira Adiningrat

Managing Partner of PA Group Asia

Curriculum Vitae:

Mr. Rio D. Praaning Prawira Adiningrat is founder and Managing Partner of PA Europe, PA Asia, PA Russia, PA Middle East and PA CSR. In 2004 he established the Public Advice International Foundation (PA International) through which elder statesmen and former top business executives provide advice on international socioeconomic and cultural issues, on a non-profit basis. Mr. Praaning advises various governments, multinational companies, (non-governmental) organizations and foundations.

Over 20 years of experience in the area of strategic advice for more than 400 clients in all parts of the world taught Mr. Praaning that Corporate Social Responsibility, if possible in combination with Public Private Partnership policies, are crucial for a company's 'license to operate' and for an effective resolution of regulatory, socioeconomic and political problems.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

The consequence that I will raise to my presentation to is an issue that is purely practical and still refers to what we have focused attention on at this conference; the issue of water, the issue of drought, and the issue of poverty and consequential malnutrition.

At the invitation of the Chinese Government, I travelled through Yunnan, a beautiful province. I went to a waterfall that was dark brown, gold in colour. I was amazed and thought it was beautiful but someone tapped me on the shoulder and said, "actually what you are looking at is a horrible hue". What was so horrible about a golden brown waterfall? The water actually scraped all the fertile earth and

pushed it out of the agricultural area, causing a degradation of the environment, which within 30 years will rob farmers in that area of their jobs. Added to that, there is about a six-month dry period in Yunnan. The same problem has occurred in many other provinces in China and elsewhere.

I am privileged to have represented the Sultanate of Oman in Europe for many years already. There are serious rains in the south of Oman, but in other parts none at all. There is a serious water crisis brewing, not only in Oman but in other Gulf States as well. Of course, no water means no food. So, how are you in the Gulf, as a government, as parliamentarians, creating food security for your people? You may have money because you have oil and gas, but you will not be able to produce food.

This brings me to a preparedness example. Many crises in this world you cannot see coming; you cannot prevent the eruption of a volcano. It can be studied how you can actually preserve rain when it falls. An MP from Sri Lanka said earlier that we have ancient methods to preserve water under the ground. In China and in the Middle East you have the so-called “fallout system”, preserving water and providing the water to communities thousands of years ago.

What can we do today? Technology is, indeed, one of the most important things. In situ research in China and Europe has already created a technology that will allow us, hopefully in the next few years, to create giant underground lakes. How is this done? If rain falls, it goes through two upper layers and then it hits to the crust – the rock bottom. But there are cracks in the rock bottom, and water goes through the cracks and disappears into the sea. What we can do to avoid that is to inject soil with a certain food which is a special feed for microorganisms. Biotechnology, as referred to by previous speakers, is going to be crucial for this.

Microorganisms already play an important role around the world for food production and so forth. Microorganisms that are fed with a special feed will excrete something which will glue earth together into stone, and that will actually block water from disappearing. With this technology, we can create giant underground lakes in the rainy season that can be used when it does not rain.

We have close cooperation with another scientific institute in Beijing. This is an organization that specialises in bamboo. Now, for instance in Japan, bamboo is seen as one of

the worst things that can hit a farm because when you plant bamboo it does not stop growing; if you plant it in your garden, your neighbour will start complaining because it will also land in his garden as well and it will continue and continue. That is a actually a perfect plant to do three things with. It can produce food. In China and Japan for centuries people have been eating bamboo shoots. We have been researching through a Japanese firm what that bamboo food can actually do. It appears to be one of the richest sources of protein and there are also many vitamins and minerals.

We have found out through our work that lots of bamboo can be used for construction materials with the lowest possible carbon footprint; much lower than cement, much lower than bricks, and when there is an earthquake, it will not kill your children in a school. On top of that you can make shirts, trousers. In the very poor province of Yunnan, where the average income per year could be around US\$200 to US\$400, you can create such mechanisms, as well as in other provinces and countries.

We are now at the stage where we are going to have the first large-scale test. We hope that with the authorities of China, with the Sultanate of Oman, the Netherlands and a number of scientific institutions – including the institute with which we have created the large lake in China – to create a new technological basis to fight drought and decrease poverty.

Let me go back to where I should have started originally. We have had a lot of talk about poverty. As you all know, you have lies, damned lies, and statistics – so, let us not dwell too much on numbers. The view you see here projected, is a very sad range of numbers. What

can be done to fight poverty?

Now if you look at the traditional disbursements of Official Development Assistance (ODA). This is into the US\$3 billion to US\$5 billion stock. If you look at trade; all of a sudden you see US\$710 billion and US\$169 billion. Then we look at the investments; US\$455 million and so forth. What does that tell us? This tell us that trade and investment are a multitude larger than any development assistance will ever be.

What is the conclusion? Firstly, the vast amount of trade and investment dwarfs the amount of development aid, and it suggests a much better relationship between the two. This brings in industry. As it was just suggested, it is indeed industrial investment that is the machine of the world's economy. If it stops, you are going to have a real horror story.

How have industries and the international community and local communities behaved? The best, after a long ideological debate about multinational enterprises and their responsibilities, was the UN Global Compact. It is 10 principles divided over four subjects: Human Rights, Labour Rights, Environment, and Corruption. Frankly – having visited, worked in, or lived in many countries – I ask myself the question, “is it realistic for managements of native companies to involve themselves in such highly political issues?”

Let us try to de-politicise issues. Our organization invented a number of academic charts and we got the very best thinkers in Europe, the US and Asia together to study for two years what CSR should be. For practical purposes, but also from a purely legal point of view, the conclusion is that: Corporate Social Responsibility starts where laws and regulations

end.

This leads to an entirely new definition that we presented last year in December to the Indonesian Government. Why Indonesia? Because three Indonesian universities, combined with other universities, delivered after intense research this result, based on practices in Indonesia: “Corporate Social Responsibility starts where all existing laws and regulations end. It is an organic link between enterprising, profit-making and social development that is conducted as a win-win solution in areas where a company requires something from society that cannot be bought; in other words, you must first introduce a structure or institution that can produce something for the company and then you buy what that structure produces. That requires investment in society through a double business plan”.

The double business plan is the trick. As you know, no company survives without a business plan. Why not a second business plan for local society, providing local society with an incentive to produce a service or a good that is needed in situ where you invest? We have exercised this with many of our clients and it is actually successful.

What is then the role of the government? This is where the acronym PPP, Public-Private Partnership, comes in. The unfortunate thing is that in Europe, PPP is understood totally differently from Asia, and differently from the US, and again differently from many other parts of the world. We thus try to combine all of the excerpts into one strong definition that identifies how governments that do not have the money or capacity to build roads, build schools and operate schools, build the

infrastructure that is absolutely required for economic growth, can facilitate industries to do exactly that what it apparently has not been able to do so far.

The definition is as follows: “Contractual profit-oriented collaboration between the public and private sector in order to fulfil the public sector’s responsibility in providing public services to the citizens, while acquiring reduced corporate rates through a combination of Corporate Social Responsibility and Development Aid/third-party funding”. Sounds a little bit difficult, but when you exercise it is not difficult at all – and frankly, it works. So this means that you integrate development aid, business planning, and government planning.

Allow me to rehash a little bit what the real down-to-earth, key elements of CSR are. “CSR is an *integral* part of a successful and sustainable business strategy, pre-empting social and environmental problems while optimising conditions for long term profitability”. “It is an *organic link* between enterprising, profit-making and social development; the more *organic* this link is, the more long-term profit is secured”. I just want to reemphasise the word “organic”. Unless the business creates an organic link with society, whatever that business is going to do for society, it is not going to be sustained. The business would have to fall back on humanitarianism – there is nothing wrong with that but it will not help society move forward.

We are working with the World Food Programme (WFP), but there are unfortunate moments when WFP simply runs out of money. Projects that are very important for people’s society stop; no more money, no more food, and people starve. This particularly hurts children. If children are not fed in the first 1000

days of their lives, they will drop out of school later, their lives will be wasted, and they will be a burden on society instead of contributing to it. They will also be a burden on themselves, and the diseases that they will have will be a huge cost for society. From a purely economic view, the stupidity of not feeding ourselves is an enormous cost. It is cheap to feed people and prevent this, and it is actually much more expensive to fight the consequences if we do not feed our children.

So, who benefits from CSR? Private companies and its shareholders, and society at large benefit from CSR. This brings me to my second conclusion: “Double business plan-based CSR ensures sustained long-term corporate and societal profitability; Governments of South can facilitate together with Governments of North through new forms of PPP/CSR-oriented development aid”. This is actively supported in Sri Lanka by the International Finance Corporation.

The third conclusion is: “Governments from established and emerging economies may wish to connect their ODA/regional development budget and programmes to industry’s CSR ‘double business plans’”. What this suggests is that government and industry seek new forms of consultation, at large-scale and at any level.

How do you connect, in practice? “Top-down” through structured cooperative government/business inspired frameworks, and “bottom-up” through business/civic society-inspired and research-based local and regional plans and projects. This will all be an element of result-driven ongoing reporting, and an analysis system that is required to strengthen both the top-down and bottom-up. Nothing in what is said here is actually new. There is no

new element to it. We just have to reorganize the way we do things. We have rehearsed it with multi-billion mining programmes and with small-scale factories; it works in the same way.

In detail, the alignment of CSR per project is like this (slide below). Now, is CSR applicable to crises? Yes, it is, through preparedness. If there is an earthquake in Indonesia, is it really a surprise that there is an earthquake in Indonesia? No. Can you prepare for it? Yes. Can you prepare as a government or should you prepare as a government and industry, knowing that industry will be hurt terribly by an earthquake? You can do that, and it should be done. We have learned from Haiti's case that we are having a hard time learning our lessons. We must concentrate on a better relationship between government, international and local businesses.

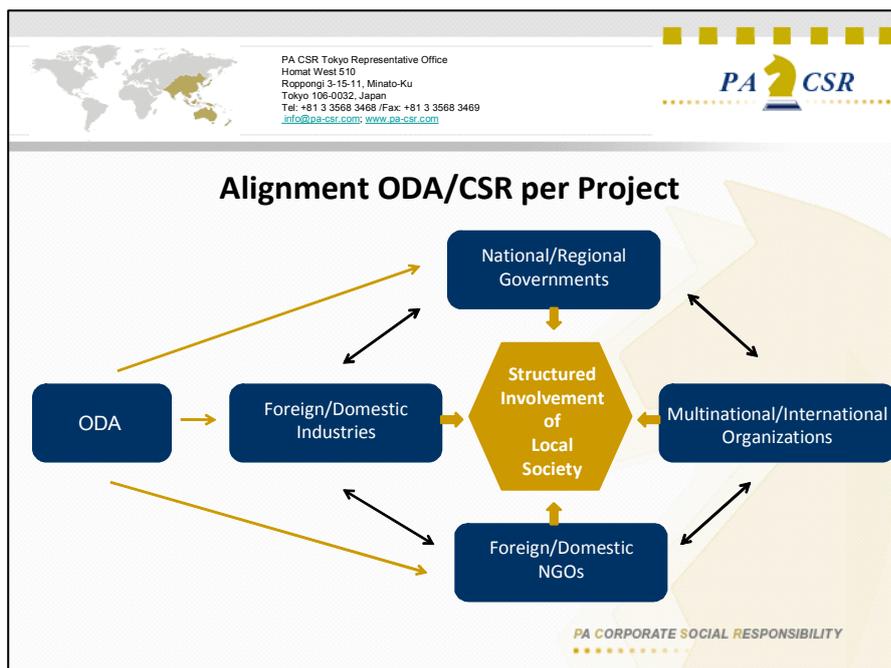
“Prevention” is another very important word – “prevention” in terms of disease. Why would we wait until people fall ill? It is much cheaper to prevent than to defeat, and it is much cheaper to prevent crisis that we can see coming easily.

I have had the bad luck to have been in about eight crises, such as tsunamis and earthquakes, personally involved with my shoes in the mud. Subsequently when I look at these crises, I can see that things at the very small-scale could be done much better through alliances between foreign industries and local industries and investors.

I was privileged to be at a conference of the United Nations University (UNU) in Tokyo. There were six speakers who were all addressing emergencies. Interestingly, the six presentations – all of very high level and very well-structured – all missed one word: “industry”. How is it possible that the plan for fighting a crisis after an earthquake or after a war without the word “industry” in the text? May I remind you, and I say this from personal experience and you have the experiences here too, that the last person to leave an emergency area is the owner of a shop; the first person that returns to the area is the owner of a shop. Why can we not get to a better relationship with industry?

One country was accused by the European Union that its fish contained too much heavy

metals. Unfortunately, that country did not really respond to it, so at a certain point in time the EU told them that their fish would be banned from the EU market. In situ research demonstrated what could have been done fast to prevent a ban. An alignment between government, buyers and sellers could have been set up without



much money spent because the buyers in Europe wanted to have the fish. If they would miss out on the fish from that country, prices of fish in Europe would go up. There was thus a lot of interest among industries in Europe to prevent the ban actually taking place. The industries that bought fish in Europe sent their best people to that country to work together to radically improve all measurement instruments; there was a massive investment in training and education. As a consequence, not only did the quality of the fish suddenly improve, but today there is a 30% higher export of fish from that country into the European Union.

In travelling to Sri Lanka I read as much as I could. In being here, I must say it is one of the most beautiful countries that the world has – with a flabbergasting history. If you look at the possibilities that Sri Lanka, in view of what I just said, may have or may be using, much can be done. I have tried to put a few key words as possible examples. Use a regional cumulation between southern trade groups to lower import duties (tax) into the EU. This is a new facility of the EU. For instance, if Indonesia sells something to Sri Lanka and Sri Lanka sells that material that has been upgraded to EU, you can get the so-called “Regional Cumulation Facility” of the European Commission. This means that a 26% import duty level will drop to 9%. That is not bad at all. You will not earn the money directly, but you have much more money left to invest and, as a consequence, you can export more. That new facility, and I am saying this coming fresh from a meeting with the European Commission on 15 July 2011, may assist trade in a very strong way.

The second option is to replace import by local production. We advise our clients consistently to invest in local society so that as much as

possible is produced locally. If it is not produced locally, then you create a new structure or a new facility so that it can produce precisely what you require.

Let me give you an example involving the Sultanate of Oman. The three largest investors in one specific town have combined their efforts. Instead of buying their food elsewhere, the three investors are investing in local facilities, providing food, clothes and many other materials for over 12,000 people. It may not sound very grandiose but it will deliver an enormous amount of jobs. Many new facilities are required for training and education, which is easy to do; creating value-adding production facilities is a key issue.

Combating malnutrition is possible through PPP/CSR food production projects. This is something that the Indonesian Government is considering at this moment; a special way to produce new kinds of foods which are better than whatever is on the market but cheaper with the facility of the government and tax reduction. The key issue is that if the consumer buys that food, they know that a percentage of that food is going to be put into a fund. That fund will buy the same minerals and nutrients that you would wish to have, and that the children do not have, and that can be distributed with NGOs to schools. Then industry requirements can be connected to the education systems with PPP/CSR support. This sounds very simple; is your educational system focusing on what the industry requires? If not, please check; and if it does not, re-do it. This a very practical example that is currently being worked out by the Presidential Envoy for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Indonesia.

We are privileged to assist a company here in Sri Lanka, which produces tobacco for cigars. It provides jobs for 1,100 people and it has invested seriously in capacity to actually produce the boxes for the cigars locally, in Sri Lanka. The company that is now producing the boxes for the cigars can do the same boxes for any other products – and that is where the real gain is.

Every country has strengths and weaknesses. My company is specialised in creating SWOTs (Strengths, Weaknesses/Limitations, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis. We tried to draw a SWOT of the Sri Lankan economy, and we see that Sri Lanka has enormous strengths. When we compare what the country has in terms of water and food with Gulf States, Sri Lanka is much better off. Perhaps there are a number of things that this country could consider for each of the sectors – agriculture, energy, manufacturing, and services – to make the best of the advantages.

“A problem is a shortcut to a solution”. Thankfully there are problems because without

problems there is not any progress. Looking at the food security problems that have been addressed, there are many things that this country can already do in doing better for itself in terms of relieving the malnutrition problems elsewhere, or in relieving the pressure on food markets. What is does need is better seeds, more influx of agri-technology, better storage, manufacturing, and better packaging.

Looking at energy, infrastructure, services, and – particularly – investment, there are things that have been done by yourselves and many other countries already; it is just a matter of improving this focus.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have tried to give you a few insights from the point of view an advisor to governments in the EU, the Middle East, and throughout Asia. As I said, “there are lies, damned lies, and statistics”, so I will be very privileged to have your criticism and corrections.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 4

Discussion

Chair: **Cong. Carlos M. Padilla**

Congressman, Philippines

[Chair]

Thank you for that interesting lecture on a subject seldom discussed in conferences such as this.

The table is now ready for your observations and questions. China, please.

[Chinese Delegation]

China is a developing country with the largest population in the world. China's population, if not controlled better, will not only prevent the sustainability in China but also pose a huge and severe challenge to the world. For that reason China implemented the family planning policy. Over the past 50 years, China has controlled its population; developed countries have not been able to achieve this progress for over a century. In 1980 China's population accounted for 22% of the world's total, and recently that percentage has been lowered to 19%.

In China's family planning work, especially in the recent years, the country has adhered to the "people first" concept. We have put more emphasis on the service, on the supply, and on advocacy. Nowadays, family planning has become a voluntary action of every citizen.

I hope that our Sri Lankan colleague can introduce some specific practices of your country in your family planning actions, and the facts of your family planning policies.

[Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien, Vietnam]

The first question is for Sri Lanka. You are right that economic development is very important. However, population control is one of the issues we should be concerned about because experience shows that in Asia, especially in Southeast Asia, demographic transition is contributing to the GDP growth of about 1% to 2%. So, I think population control plays an important role.

You also mentioned the importance of gender issues. I agree but this is only one part of the matter. Take the Philippines as an example, for example; the Philippines had a female president which created more gender equality but population control is still a big problem.

The second question is to Mr. Praaning. The PPP scheme, especially public health and education, is being widely discussed in the Parliament of Vietnam. Over the past five years a lot of private investment has been put into public hospitals. The provision of medical technical instruments in our hospitals is increasing, so that Vietnam can catch up to other countries. The big issue, however, is how to split profits between the hospitals' private investors and the government. Some MPs want to halt private investments public hospitals.

What are the experiences from other countries and from your work on this issue?

[Hon. Porapan Punyaratabandhu, Thailand]

My question is to Mr. Praaning. You mentioned that CSR is mostly concerned with cooperation between companies and governments. What about the community surrounding the company or the environment itself? They should also be included as part of CSR, because most of the times the community is negatively affected by the activities of the companies.

Could you site an example of a company that has implemented good CSR practices? Do they have double business plan and work successfully alongside community?

[Hon. Sue Kedgley, New Zealand]

One of the speakers touched on the drought in Somalia and Kenya, where there are 12 million people on the brink of starvation. Ethiopia is one of the biggest recipients of food aid from the WFP because so many of the people are food-insecure, suffering malnutrition, etc. Yet, the government of that country has leased hundreds-of-thousands of acres of land to other countries, governments and corporations around the world who are exporting the food they grow in Ethiopia to their own countries. Of course that is happening in other countries as well, particularly in Africa.

Do the speakers have any comment on that; whether perhaps there need to be rules on this, and whether this is ethically acceptable?

[Chair]

Australia, please.

[Hon. Claire Moore, Australia]

My question is following that from Thailand to

Mr. Praaning. It is to do with the linkage between the CSR aspects of companies going into nations that are seeking help, and the transparency of the work that is being done to the response of countries getting special business arrangements or approvals within the country that they are working in.

I use the example of mining, which is a big one for Australia and parts of Africa. There, companies are working very effectively with the local community to develop their areas if they need land for mining. That is in response for the need to get the approval to get the mining in the first place. Where do you draw the line on something that is purely advantageous, working with governments and co-actively working with community? I am not saying it is wrong, but it should be transparent.

[Chair]

Thank you. We shall now hear the initial reactions from our resource persons. The Minister from Sri Lanka will respond first.

[Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama, Sri Lanka]

I just want to respond to that very interesting intervention by the distinguished colleague from China. The population policy certainly had positive effects on the economy. From comprising of 22% of the global population down to 19% is a tremendous advance – and now you have taken a more liberal policy.

You wanted to know how Sri Lanka tackled this matter. I refer to the question of the empowerment of women, and the equally important question of our network of health workers right down to village-level.

There is a multiplicity of approaches to a family planning programme. Education, democracy, and changes in the health system contribute to success; one that worked very well in Sri Lanka was having a very good rural health network. Almost every village is now covered by health workers, particularly midwives who help women with a series of assistance. In addition, it has been important to provide contraceptives and provide advice; maternal healthcare, providing extra food for pregnant mothers, and rural hospitals for of pregnant mothers' treatment and care after the birth.

For almost 70 to 80 years, Sri Lanka has had a very good rural health system, one that can be adopted by many countries. For example, a Sri Lankan woman wanting contraceptives can go to the village health worker who has a stock and array of contraceptive methods available, even at the village-level. There is a whole series of projects such as giving bonuses for male sterilisation.

The second question was posed by Vietnam on the role of women. Yes, the Philippines had a female president. Sri Lanka has had both a female Prime Minister and President. That alone, however, is not enough; it is symbolic. You must have the structures, particularly the structures that reach down to the village-level. There must be free access to family planning, maternal health, and rural health. Hon. Dr. Sudarishwiri Fernandopulle of Sri Lanka has handled some of these programmes. We have what is called the "cafeteria method" with which every person can choose from a range of methods, particularly contraceptive methods regarding population control.

The delegate from New Zealand raised the question of starvation, even when there is great

production in their own country. I must say that at one stage, even the World Bank and various people who gave prescriptions regarding growth, took up a laissez faire attitude; "well, you can grow, you can sell, and buy your food". I must say that is not the present attitude of the World Bank. That is one concept that I attacked in my presentation because changes of consumption patterns, changes in environment, and the energy problem all come into confluence. As a result, the old World Bank prescription, that you produce whatever you want and you buy in the open market, is not valid anymore because no country is willing to give food now for love or for money.

These are the points I would like to raise. Thank you.

[Chair]

Now Mr. Rio Praaning will respond to the questions raised.

[Mr. Rio Praaning, PA Group]

These are very good questions. I will group them in four different issues.

When you go to shops, buy products and you eat them, you are not going to worry too much about whether you are going to be sick after buying and eating. Why is that? The international global trading system is very huge. How is it possible that we get food from Africa to Europe, and no one doubts the safety and efficacy of the food? This is because all industries understand that if they do not absolutely guarantee that you will eat safe food, you will never buy it from them again.

Governments and industries must do a good job in transparency and honesty for the sake of the

consumer and, indeed, the voter. If you look at the entire process from the land where you produce the potato to the consumer thousands of miles away, you go through an enormous production, storage, and selling process. A multitude of smaller enterprises appears to be taking part in the entire food chain, the explicit and enormously well-managed supply chain of our food. Small companies can start to engage in packaging, and if they make the right packaging, they are not going to do the packaging for just one company but they are going to package for a multitude of other companies.

CSR is a live, real example in today's food chain. Unilever and Nestlé get their chocolate resources from China and India and it goes a long way to the consumers in other places. They have invested enormously in smaller companies that sometimes grow into bigger companies and are absolutely correct in how they do their work.

I visited Kentucky Fried Chicken facilities throughout a number of Asian countries. Their facilities to produce chicken are really good, and they use local companies' facilities to help them do it. In other words, it is absolutely possible to do it wherever and whenever, as long as you know that the consumer will get back at you if you do not. That is, by far, the best guarantee.

The other is "governance", as a word to describe what industries need to do but also of what governments need to do. Transparency is key in all of this. If they cannot be transparent in their issues, someone is going to get hurt – and it happens. We do not need new laws for that; we must simply apply the ones that already exist. The biggest progress that has been made in this area is in China. China, however, is also the best

example of how difficult it is to introduce new laws, given its size.

How do countries that have oil and gas but no grass or wheat secure that their people have food? They are together with other Asian countries investing, indeed, in Africa and it is entirely correct to ask questions of how this is done. Some people use the word "neo-colonialism"; others say it is trade. If you are responsible for millions of people who may have oil and gas but no food, what are you doing to secure food? Is it only trade that you are going to rely on, or do you want to buy in? Laws and their implementation are crucial to make this process transparent and to ensure that one advantage does not imply the disadvantage of someone else.

In all these systems between industries and societies, and certainly local civic society, what is required is balance. There will never be a final great solution for any of these issues but what parliamentarians, and I as an advisor, have to look at is what is the dynamic of a balance. How can we use the dynamic in such a way that the weaker part in any negotiation is supported to such an extent that the consequence is going to be balanced and better every time that you re-look at it?

The issue of a split in a PPP on profitability is something that must be discussed between the partners. Our goal is not to have a PPP between one individual government and one individual industry, but between recipient governments and donor governments, and industries that are investing and existing/new industries in a local community. Again, this will only function if you create a balance and if the balance is supported to the fullest extent possible with transparency.

The best mechanism to understand how any profitability should be split is through a dynamic balance. Who can judge the balance? This is subject to the market. You have laws and regulations which must be implemented, and then you have a market mechanism in whatever country and whatever system we work in. These two factors will decide this and it is free press that will help remind people of their duties.

Scarcity is one of the most threatening issues, whether it is water or food. We are privileged to be a co-sponsor of a conference in Xiang, China, in the presence of Prime Minister Wen Jia Bao, where the issue of scarcity will be addressed. If international trade continues on this scale, there will be an enormous imbalance. Only inter-regional industrial and economic, government-contributed cooperation, will deal with this. Do we have a structure within the UN to do that at this moment? Perhaps not; perhaps we should make one.

We know we are going to have huge shortages. We know where people are already shooting each other over water. As a consequence we must concentrate on how we ensure that people can survive in their environment. That requires regional and inter-regional cooperation; from a business point of view, the only way to go.

There is another conference on 19 October 2011 in Brussels, hosted and chaired by a number of organizations and opened by the president of the EU. The conference will address the entire global issue of nutrition. We already know in the research for the conference, that nutrition should not necessarily be a problem. Again, it is a matter of balance and we have to be courageous enough to address it.

[Chair]

As a matter of balance, we promised a second round. Malaysia, please.

[Hon. Muthukumar Malasingam, Malaysia]

I fully agree with Hon. Sarath on population control and empowerment of women. In the Malaysian context, it is 40% to 60% – 60% women and 40% men. Whether that is gender equality or inequality, it is hard to say. Whatever it is, as women age their fertility rate drops. This is perhaps one way of controlling the population of the world, but what I am trying to emphasise here is that we have to have a policy on women.

The Malaysian Government, especially our Prime Minister, has brought in a policy that women should be employed; 30% in all jobs, from the lower level to the higher level. In short, I do believe it is a very good policy. We should think about it at policy stage, because then and only then will women's rights be established.

[Chair]

Thank you. Laos, please.

[Hon. Somphou Douangsavanh, Lao PDR]

First, a question for Dr. Sarath. According to my countless experiences, food security should be first priority. I would like to ask you which programmes are the priority for the Government of Sri Lanka to attain sustainable development and economic development in a world of seven billion people?

My second question is to Mr. Rio Praaning. In Indonesia there is a call for more CSR and Indonesia enacted Law no. 40/2007 which

mandated certain companies to budget and allocate money for CSR programmes.

I do not see that there is a double business programme within corporations. A programme may be a part of their business plan but they do not have a double business plan. What, then, is the meaning of a CSR double business plan?

[Chair]

One last question. Japan, please.

[Hon. Aiko Shimajiri, Japan]

I have a question for Mr. Rio Praaning. It was a very interesting presentation on CSR – how companies contribute to societies worldwide – and I think this is a very important view. As you mentioned, I also think it is very important to educate consumers so that they can properly evaluate CSR.

In Japan, consumer education is getting more and more attention. Previously, the focus was on how to protect consumers' rights, but now we are taking a step forward and discussing what consumers should do and how they take action. I think population issues are also very relevant to building a good consumer civil society. Could you share with us your views on how to educate consumers and how to turn out leaders for them?

[Chair]

We shall now have the responses from our two resource persons.

[Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama, Sri Lanka]

The first question was from Malaysia, regarding

women's employment and whether a policy regarding quotas should be enforced.

The Sri Lankan situation is that the vast majority are women in our private sector. If you take the garment industry for example, it is largely driven by female workers, as men are migrant workers. Those who pluck tea and who are in the rubber industry are predominantly women. If we, therefore, look at the private sector and the income-generating activities, one could really say that women are the dominant force; in other words, Sri Lanka would be in crisis if women do not work.

We have not put any quotas on gender. If you look at administrative services in Sri Lanka, the premier services, the majority is close to 50% female and 50% male. I would say that Sri Lanka, again, is in the situation where the economy is very largely dependent on women.

Then on the question of what is the government's strategy? Whenever we prepare our economic strategies, we begin by looking at our comparative advantage. Each country has certain factors which are of great advantage, and perhaps not so available to other countries. Sri Lanka has to fashion its development and growth strategy on the basis of comparative advantage.

Sri Lanka has many advantages. One is our geographical positioning as is a mid-point between the West and the East. If you draw a line between the West and Japan, the midpoint would be Sri Lanka. Not only that, but the busiest sea lanes of the world which carry oil to the Far East, China, Japan, Singapore, and so on, all go within seven miles of the coast of Hambantota; that is why we have a harbour there. This is a tremendous strategic advantage

that no other country in the region has. There is no landmass between Hambantota and the South Pole, and all large shipping goes past Sri Lanka. We should think of ourselves as a shipping hub, as an aviation hub, as a financial centre, we are trying to develop Sri Lanka as an education hub, and also as a manufacturing and IT hub.

We are trying to work on the concept of “hub status” in South Asia, for which we have to build up the infrastructure. We are building five ports, an additional airport, a network of roads, and we have invested heavily in power on a coal power plant. One coal power plant is with Chinese assistance and another coal power plant is about to take off with Indian assistance. Many hydro projects as my friend mentioned. We have to look at developing our hydro to highest point, as we have more water and more grass but less energy. Through the Japanese assistance we are developing what is called the upper-Kotmale hydroelectric scheme. So we have to look at comparative advantage and develop our “hub” status.

[Chair]

Now the response from Mr. Rio Praaning.

[Mr. Rio Praaning, PA Group]

I was very attracted by the question from the Malaysian politician. I think one of the best speakers amongst the Prime Ministers is the Malaysian Prime Minister who, during an Opening Address at a conference, said that “In my family, we all have a job, and there is a division of roles and mine is of a general and my wife is of a major”. Then he explained that that was because he was allowed to take the general decisions and the wife takes the major decisions.

Regarding aging, as in Japan, it is extremely important to understand how in the future those who work can pay for those who do not; not just to keep them alive but also to prevent diseases that are connected to aging, which is very costly. You can only do that if plan in an appropriate manner with the people, the consumers. In Japan, we work together with Shodan Ren, the umbrella organization of consumer organizations. Together with them, we try to understand how to move CSR, government and consumers together into the direction of having a better policy vis-à-vis, for instance, aged people.

A good shop will have a special section for specific food for your old cat and for your old dog. Have you ever seen such food for your grandmother or grandfather? Is it there? So this is typically where government, industry, and society must cooperate. If we look at the cost that is involved in unnecessary diseases connected today to aging, the suffering of people and the cost to society could be dramatically lowered if you provide the appropriate food. Vitamin D is among the most important things in Japan to prevent brittleness of bones. CSR is a key to steer this process with a good fallout for industry, and a better one for society.

The question by my Lao friend is correct. Indonesia is, together with one other island, the only nation on earth that has made CSR a requirement by law. Law number 40/2007 requires this. This is contrary to what the rest of the world has decided, which is to have CSR on a voluntary basis.

You cannot require a company to do something unless you own the company. And I do not think

state-run companies are necessarily the best option in a free and open market. As a consequence, we must leave industry to do what it does best: make profit. From the profit, industry can invest in local society in a planned, business-like way. This is where the double business plan is relevant. The second business plan must be produced for local society so that local society can organize itself in businesses that can go into whatever is necessary for the company to do its business, not being its core business. This is where the second business plan is crucial and should be paid much more attention to. The government in a PPP must be a facilitator.

There is a special law in Europe and the US called the Orphan Drugs Act. The Orphan Drugs Act is for people who have a disease that they do not share with many other people, and someone is going to create a medicine for it. Governments facilitate that these medicines are made in any way, thus they give tax relief to the drug companies. This is what we can do in many other industry sectors where local society should start producing things for themselves.

Last but not least, the issue of education. I

would like to reiterate that governments have a duty to understand where industry and technology in society is going. You all have to educate and train your people, both on food safety and food security, in order to make that work.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. With that we would like to end our fourth session. We should like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our two distinguished and eminent resource persons, Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama of Sri Lanka, and from the Private sector, Mr. Rio Praaning Prawira Adiningrat.

We feel that we are better equipped now when we go back to our respective parliaments after listening to you.

Thank you very much for your invaluable, precious time and for sharing with us your invaluable insights based on your observations and your expertise.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 5
Panel Discussion: Strategies to Achieve Sustainable Development
in a World of 7 Billion People

Hon. Bhausaheb R. Waghchaure

MP, India

Curriculum vitae:

Honourable Bhausaheb R. Waghchaure served for many years in the civil service, holding an important position in the State Government. He responsible for many development projects in rural and backward areas and for his noble services, for which he was received many awards.

He was responsible for creating the huge complex of Saibaba temple a well-known place of worship in India and also a huge hospital for free treatment with 400 beds. He is an elected member of the Indian parliament with more than 1,050,000 voters in that electorate. He is also a member of the Standing Committee of Home Affairs, the Consultative Committee on Finance, the Vice-President of the Indonesia-India Friendship Group, and the General-Secretary of the All-India Village Industries Association, and several other committees.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

I believe that this meeting is a part of the continuous initiative taken all over of the world, including Central Asia and the Asia and the Pacific region, to keep the peace in development with the rising population, and to channelise the vast youth's energy in the proper direction.

The concept of participation in the decision-making process is not a novel question and it is best described as the essential characteristics of democracy. Young people are our largest group of human associates – not only in Asia, but all over the world, thus there need to be sound economic and social investments. These investments will work to boost our young population to be more responsible and conscious citizens.

The Indian population has increased over the

last decade and if it continues to increase at the same rate, the population will exceed that of China's by 2025. This will fall heavily on the development and the economy of the nation. The youth account for about 50% of the population, which is an advantage for us when compared to the rest of the world.

In India, it is essential that young people are provided with the avenues to involve themselves in decision-making process and nation-building activities. If their energy and capacity are not channelised properly, this can become a disadvantage. This situation is almost the same, with almost little variation, in all of the countries. This involvement of youth in policymaking and the decision-making process is crucial. They need to be empowered further.

To channelise the youth's energy in a constructive direction, the Indian government reduced the voting age to 18 in accordance to

their other franchises, and the national youth policy was formatted. The Parliamentary Forum on Youth in India was for this. India has a dedicated Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for the all-round development of youth, and to harness the potential towards the nation's development. In addition, we have the National Cadets Corps (NCC) and a national services scheme right from the primary education-level, in order to create awareness among them for social harmony.

Many other steps have been taken by the Indian Government to involve youth involvement in decision-making. Earlier the youth, despite being the largest demographic, was not involved in the majority of the countries' legislations and policies. A large number of youth do not have access to basic civic amenities in the country but now there is a good trend in India. The number of young parliamentarians and state legislators, and the participation of young people in local civil bodies have been increasing significantly in recent years in the 20 to 25 years old age group.

The question we need to ask ourselves is whether the imagination, energy, enthusiasm and idealism of the youth is being channelised towards a common sustainable future. Are we are on the verge of wasting a marvellous opportunity with more unemployment, worsened by the global restrictions, which is making the youth more frustrated? We must also think about crime and illegal activities. All countries should think about how to apply the energy of the youth properly, and how to give them a chance to participate in their governments' decision-making.

For the future, as well as for the development of the nation, all youth must be empowered and

the given the equal opportunity to be a part of the entire decision-making process at all levels of government. This can be achieved by the increase of resources, improvement of infrastructure, and promotion of governance.

The youth are the future of our nations. They should have a large stake in decision-making process that will affect the future of the country in which they live. In my opinion, the government should give young people due representation and full participation in its affairs.

Governments should be involved in mechanisms so that more youth organizations can take part in the decision-making process of the government. But to achieve this it is to be ensured, first of all, that every child goes to school and becomes a responsible citizen. There is a need for the effective dissemination of information through the establishment of youth portals. These portals will also work as an effective reach between young people and policymakers. Collaboration between youth groups is very important to set up a common platform for coordination with government decision-making.

Now the time has come to think seriously and deliberate guidelines on how the youth of today can be involved in decision-making processes of the future. From a primary-, middle- and high school-level there are a variety of activities that can be initiated. Primary-level students should be with their parents within the world and be shown what history has been. They should be given the chance to work with the groups of the village, as well as the town, to make their society a better place to live. They can do so by helping with cleaning-up the town or village, visiting with the elderly who do not get many

visits and the elderly can tell the young how society was when they were younger. The students of upper-primary school can be involved with helping to evaluate their schools, from teachers to the academic programmes, and sharing this with the local school board.

Through the youth's participation in decision-making, young people and others can learn from each other to find a relevant and effective solution. In a nutshell, a country that involves the youth as respected leaders and participating in decision-making can greatly explain the expectations and excitement of the group of stakeholders who have the unique ability and experience to ensure decisions that positively affect youth.

I would like to conclude with some suggestions for involving the youth in the decision-making process:

- Organize seminars for youth on global warming, peace, terrorism and other national problems, and legislation issues from the youth should be incorporated in government action plans after examination
- Form different groups to educate the youth to work among the community – especially amongst the poor, marginalised and deprived villages
- Create opportunities for meaningful livelihoods for youths so that a large number of youths from agriculture families do not

migrate to big cities by working in the town sector; they can be decision-makers in the agricultural sector

- Establish a national youth representative body such as the National Youth Parliament and the National Youth Corps
- Work with the media consultative body to share and promote research-based practice and policy in peace building. The process is to encourage the media to educate and influence youths' perspective in promoting a culture of peace and eradicating violence
- Implement a programme to establish young people to develop and sustain peace, through reconstructing quality health assistance and understanding social service
- Teach moral and ethical values to make youths responsible citizens
- Work towards gender justice and equality
- Orient the youth on population control

In order to ensure a peaceful society, our government should distribute resources equitably and transfer these among youth in a manner that ensures equality too.

I am confident that involving youth in decision-making processes will create a positive impact for making a better world and achieving sustainable development in a world of seven billion people.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 5
Panel Discussion: Strategies to Achieve Sustainable Development
in a World of 7 Billion People

Hon. Song Fatang

Vice-Chair of the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee,
National People's Congress of China

Curriculum vitae:

Honourable Song Fatang served in the 1990s as First Deputy Governor of Shen Dong province. From 2000-2007 he served as governor of Heilongjiang, a province located in North Eastern China on the Russian boarder. From 2007 to the present he has served as Vice-Chair of the Education, Science, Culture, and Public Health Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

In October 2011, there will be seven billion people in the world. China is a developing country with the largest population in the world. According to the sixth national census, China's population stood at 1.34 billion at 00:00 hours on 1 November 2010, which was about 19% of the world's total.

The population increase in China poses the salient challenge to the country's resources and environment. How to achieve sustainable development in the world of seven billion people is, therefore, a big task for Asian countries and for China in particular.

In as early as in 1994, the Chinese government initiated the strategic idea of "sustainable development". The core of this idea is that healthy economic development should be based on ecological sustainability, social justice, and every citizen's active participation when it comes to the decision-making of their own development. The objective of this idea is that

we must satisfy the various needs of humankind and give individuals enough room for development. In this process we should protect natural resources and the environment, posing no stress for future generations.

The idea has a special focus on rationality of all sorts of economic activity. It also emphasises incentives to economic activities that are conducive to resources and the environment, and abandoning those that are not. Under this guiding idea the Chinese government approved a White Paper in 1994 on China's population and development in the 21st century. In 2002 China made further efforts to continuously enhance the capacity to achieve sustainable development, one of the objectives for building the welfare of society. China put forward the Scientific Outlook on Development in 2003, which emphasises moving forward reform and development of all causes, in accordance with the requirements of balancing urban and rural developments, balancing economic and social development, realising humankind's and nature's harmonious development, as well as

balancing domestic development and opening to the outside world.

Under this guiding principle China's economy has been constantly growing at a faster pace. The annual average increase has been 11.2% over the past five years, and its social undertakings have also been vibrant and achieving development. In order to respond to all types of challenges and to achieve sustainable development, the Chinese government has taken serious policy measures:

- Transforming the mode of economic development, making the strategic adjustments of economic structures as the key points to emphasise. China set up long-term effective mechanisms to expand domestic demand and promote the transformation of economic growth to rely on the coordination of consumption, investment and export. We strengthen the position of the agriculture sector, as a foundation for the economy. China is now at the core of competitiveness in the manufacturing industry and has developed an emerging industry of strategic importance which accelerated the development of the service industry, promoted the transformation of economic growth, pivot to depending on the common development of primary, secondary and tertiary industry.
- China also made efforts to balance urban and rural development actively, yet prudently, accelerating the urbanization and construction of the new socialist countryside and, therefore, creating a virtuous circle of regional interaction and coordinative development.
- Adhering to the idea that scientific and technological progress and innovation constitutes important support in accelerating

the transformation of the mode of the economic development, China made efforts to lobby economic development more driven by progress in science and technology, improvement of the quality of workers, and management innovation so as to speed up the construction of innovative country.

- Adhering to the idea of guaranteeing and improving people's wellbeing is a basic starting point and a foothold in accelerating transformation of the mode of economic development. China perfected institutional arrangements to guarantee and improve the wellbeing of every citizen, making the promotion of employment a priority in economic and social development. We accelerated the development of various social undertakings, promoted equal access to the best public services, put more effort into adjusting income distribution and work for common prosperity that is enabling our people to share in the benefits of development.
- Keeping the conservation of environmental resources as an important focus in accelerating the transformation of the mode of economic development. We consider conserving resources and protecting environment as a basic in national policy. Efforts were made to reduce energy consumption, lower the intensity of greenhouse gas emissions, develop the economy, broaden the use of low carbon technology, and actively responded to global climate change. We promoted our balance between development of social and economic growth, the population, and resources and the environment.
- China has been considering reform and opening up to the outside world as an important powerhouse in accelerating the transformation of the mode of economical

development. We adhere to the “win-win” open strategy and work together with the international community to confront global challenges and to share opportunities for development.

Ladies and gentlemen, China is populous developing country with many problems such as the quickening pace of aging, and unbalanced and unsustainable development. We will

continue to deepen reform, move institutional barriers, follow the principle of equal consultation mutual benefit and common development, strengthen cooperation with countries – particularly Asian countries, and we will work for the sustainable development of the entire world.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 5

Panel Discussion: Strategies to Achieve Sustainable Development in a World of 7 Billion People

Hon. Dr. Sumarjati Arjoso SKM

MP, Indonesia

Vice-Chair of the Indonesian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IFPPD)

Curriculum vitae:

Honorable Dr. Sumarjati Arjoso is a Medical Doctor and holds a Master's in Public Health. She is now the Vice-Chair of Indonesian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IFPPD). She spent much of her career at the Ministry of Health in various positions, including Head of Health Research and Development as well as Senior Advisor to the Minister of Health for Environmental and Epidemiology. Between 2001 and 2003, she served as Director-General of Social Assistance and Security to the Ministry of Social Affairs; between 2003 and 2006, Hon. Dr. Arjoso served as Chair of the National Family Planning Coordinating Board of Indonesia (BKKBN). She conducted health, social and population promotion for over a decade through print and electronic media.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

Sustainable development can be interpreted as an effort to improve the welfare of all humankind equally for the present generation and future generations.

There are some issues related to the above concept that need to be considered:

- An increase in welfare, which means also in poverty reduction
- Building equity for all means by building up the population
- Reserving the environment for present and future generations

All of these points are the essence of the MDG Declaration, signed by 189 heads of state or governments in the year 2000. In 2010, on the 10th anniversary of the start of the MDGs, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon mentioned that

the impact of the MDGs is undeniable. First, there is new thinking and the path-breaking initiatives with PPPs; second, school enrolment has increased dramatically; third, there is expanded access to clean water; fourth, there is better control of diseases; and, fifth is the spread of technology – from mobile to green.

The picture, however, is mixed. Poverty has declined in overall terms, but progress is still lagging behind in some regions, such as sub-Saharan Africa. Other goals are also falling short in some areas – especially with regard to eradicating hunger, reducing child mortality, and improving maternal health.

Allow us to examine the current situation of our crowded planet:

- The average is rapidly getting richer in terms of income per capita
- The gap in average income per capita

between the rich world and the developing world is narrowing fast

- The world's population growth will further rise, thereby amplifying the overall growth of the global economy
- Asia is the centre of economy and hosts the majority of the population
- There are fundamental changes taking place in the way of living from rural mentality to urban mentality
- Human activity is producing multiple environment crises as never before in history
- The gap between the richest and the poorest is widening, even though the gap between the average rich world and the developing world is narrowing

The focal point must be the achievement of the MDGs – there is still much work to be done. There are three major strategies to achieve sustainable development, which are within the framework of the MDGs.

The first one is to improve the welfare of mankind, while avoiding environmental impact and damage. The Government of Indonesia is giving high priority to the mitigation and adaptation measures to the effects of climate change. This is a mandate of Law Number 32, 2009, concerning environmental protection and management. Furthermore, the government was a participant in the Copenhagen Summit in December 2009, and is a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Indonesia was the first developing country to announce an emissions reduction target of 26% by 2020 from Business as Usual (BAU) levels and the target may be increased to reach 41% with international assistance.

In March 2010 the government launched the

Indonesia Climate Change Sectoral Roadmap (ICCSR). It outlines the strategic vision that places special emphasis on the challenges faced by the nation in forestry, energy, industry, transport, agriculture, coastal areas, water resources, waste, and the health sectors.

The second of the major strategies to achieve sustainable development is maintaining the stability of population growth to synergise economic growth with environmental sustainability. In October 2011, the world population will stand at seven billion people. About 80% of those people are in the least-developed and developing countries. The medium projection is that there will be eight billion in 2025 and nine billion people by 2045.

Indonesia is perhaps the clearest case of the causal relationship of population growth management to economic growth and poverty reduction. Our TFR dropped from 5.6 in 1965-70 to 5.2 in 1970-75, to 4.7 in 1975-80, and to 4.11 in 1980-85. The TFR is currently around 2.3 and targeted to be 2.1 in 2015, which would be replacement-level. However, Indonesia is now actually faced with the problem of high population growth; the population grew by 1.49% – by 32.7 million people – in just one decade. Managing the TFR calls for action. In addition, poverty reduced from 40% in the 1980s to around 12.49% in 2011 – an overall reduction of almost 75% in two decades.

I would like to continue with the third major strategy to achieve sustainable development. We should assist countries or groups of the very poor to escape from the “poverty trap”. The MDGs Report in 2009 indicated that an estimated 55 million to 90 million more people worldwide will be living in extreme poverty than anticipated before the global economic crisis,

though the impact will vary across regions and countries.

The disadvantaged lack access to the economy and social resources, are unable to purchase technology, and lack savings and also the credit to borrow. They also lack knowledge and networks to market the product. That is why education and health services for the poor are the essence of the human resource development strategy.

Social insurance schemes, that not only cover health but also retirement, should be developed by the State. Indonesia is in the process of developing national social security for health, retirement, and also for death. This is in the process for legislation.

Poverty alleviation has always been prioritised in the development plans of Indonesia. Direct programmes on poverty reduction are coordinated into three clusters:

- Cluster 1:

Focuses on the Provision of Basic Needs. The Provision of Basic Needs are conducted through several programs, such as enhancing food resiliency; empowerment of housing communities; empowerment of the destitute, isolated traditional communities, and those inflicted with other social welfare problems.

- Cluster 2:

Focuses on the development of the social security system that is conducted through several programs, such as enhancing food resiliency; nine-years of compulsory primary education; access to senior high education; individual health services; and family planning.

- Cluster 3:

Focuses on the harmonisation of the community empowerment programs that are conducted through several other programmes, such as the empowerment of micro enterprises; developing fishery resources; and the development of the local economy.

We still do have the main challenges in alleviating the poverty in Indonesia, such as:

1. Maintaining focus on pro-poor national economic growth in order to bring down the poverty rate.
2. Increasing access to basic services such as education, healthcare and nutrition, including family planning, and to basic infrastructure such as sanitation and clean water.
3. Getting poor communities involved in poverty reduction efforts so that their capacities are enhanced.
4. Creating a social security system either in the form of social assistance for those who are vulnerable, or a social security system based primarily on insurance for the poor
5. The challenge to reduce the glaring disparities among the regions. These disparities are demonstrated in the poverty rates. Poverty incidences in the provinces outside Java are much higher. In addition to this, disparities can also be seen from the differences in the human development index in the regions, and between urban and rural areas.

Ladies and gentlemen, without serious planning and synergy the three aspects above, development will destroy our planet; development will destroy the civilization of mankind; economic growth will continue but the gap is becoming even greater; poverty will be increased; and environmental exploitation intensified. Thank you very much.

SESSION 5

Discussion

Chair: **Hon. Norman George**

Former Deputy Prime Minister of the Cook Islands

[Chair]

Thank you. Now, we got a little bit of time for some questions. Japan, please.

[Hon. Toshiko Abe, Japan]

I would like to make some comments on sustainable development. As you know we have a quickly aging population in Japan, thus there are difficulties in balancing and making sustainable development in our country.

The empowerment of women is especially necessary at each stage – it is not only one stage. The basic empowerment women may be family planning and reproductive health services, but the more advanced stages are related to the changing lifestyles of each country. Asian family styles have especially changed to a single-family model for economic development. The healthcare system also needs to be changed, in relation to the lifestyles.

Thank you very much.

[Chair]

Thank you, Japan. New Zealand, please.

[Hon. Sue Kedgley, New Zealand]

I have a few general questions, and one for the delegate from China.

Yesterday, we were told of the huge

urban-to-rural migration that is taking place. Do you think that it is sustainable? Do you think the fact that agricultural land, which is dramatically reducing as a result, is sustainable? And do you think the increasing consumption of meat is sustainable in both the developed and the developing nations, given what we were told this morning about the amount of water that is required to produce the meat?

I was interested in your focus on food security and on ensuring that you are able to produce enough food domestically. What percentage of food would you import into China and what percentage would you produce domestically within China?

Thank you.

[Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien, Vietnam]

We were informed of the reports citing good practices by BKKBN Indonesia. However, over the past five years, due to the changing policies at the central level in Indonesia, there has been more decentralisation of the local governments. Does this affect to the population programmes in Indonesia?

At other conferences, I have previously heard the Indonesian delegation report that, due to the decentralisation of population and family planning services to the local government, effects have been negative. Has Indonesia been

able to recover from this?

Vietnam has been experiencing the same situation over the past five years. Family planning programmes are being initiated in the provinces, and each province carries out a different programme which affects the country's general population programme. Is this the same for Indonesia?

[Chair]

Thank you. We have four questions before us. Please start, Indonesia.

[Hon. Sumarjati Arjoso, Indonesia]

Similar to Japan, the empowerment of women is very important in Indonesia. The government is focuses on this programme; there is the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Projection. Programmes through this are being carried out at the province and district-level which encourage participation and having positive effects for women. Female education rates are not very high in Indonesia; 50% of women have only attended primary school. That is why education is sometimes not matched with the government standards.

Indonesia is also faced with the issue of aging population. The domestic situation for the elderly, however, may differ greatly to that of Japan. The elderly, most often, live with their families where they are attended to by their children and grandchildren.

There are, however, problems with health services for the aging population. It is very costly and social security programmes are yet to be in place, meaning that it is sometimes necessary to pay for services out of your own

pocket. There is health insurance in Indonesia though, especially for the poor. The poor can go to health centres and hospitals to get free treatment.

In relation to BKKBN, indeed the family planning programme has changed considerably. There was a lot of commitment during the Suharto era, from the grassroots-level to the head of provinces, districts and villages. The slogan at that time for family planning was, "two children is enough". After ICPD, the slogan changed to, "two children is better", which is a very different concept. The government only gives assistance for no more than two children. Now, because two children is "better", people wish to have more than two.

There are also religious issues. There are many Muslim leaders; 80% of Indonesians are Muslim. Some Muslim leaders encourage people to have between three and five children, which creates many problems for us.

The government has generally had a strong commitment to family planning programmes, thus we still hope that the TFR will be 2.1, at replacement level, by the year 2015. Not only can Indonesia learn from Vietnam, but Vietnam can also learn from Indonesia.

[Chair]

India, please.

[Hon. Bhausheeb R. Waghchaure]

Women's empowerment is of high-level importance in India. That is a three-tier governance system in India; the village-level panchayat, block-level panchayat, and district-level panchayat. Women take part in the

elections.

There is also a 33% recruitment rate of women in various sectors of the government, semi-government, and central and state governments. A newly introduced bill by the Indian parliament is that 50% of positions in politics are reserved for women at the legislation, state-level, and central-level.

[Chair]

China, please.

[Hon. Song Fatang, China]

Farmers in China do not always want to migrate to the city. Food security is quite stable and a rate of about 95% self-sufficiency has been achieved. In 2020 China's Food supply may exceed 557 million tons.

Migration is a sensitive topic. There are several challenges in China. However, the migration of rural residents to urban areas means fewer workers tending to farming the fields. But we have to say that the number of persons devoting efforts to food production is not a decisive factor in the output of food production. One expert mentioned yesterday that in that in the US, 3% of the population engage their efforts in farming but their output accounts for 20%.

China has achieved many measures in order to secure its food stability and self-reliance. In order to safeguard our food security and achieve self-reliance, the Chinese government has adopted the following policy measures.

To stabilise the size of arable land so that it can be used for basic farming, we have a dedicated

a certain percentage of the country's landmass to ensure production. Where is arable land in some parts of the country, food production must be compensated.

Both our resources and infrastructure need to be more developed to increase yield – great importance is attached to the development of resources. The Chinese government recently has convened a high-level meeting about the redevelopment of water resources. We will mobilise the Chinese government at all levels, and the people of all workforces, to invest in water resource projects. Efficiency in water use will be improved, and we will prevent the pollution of river waters so as to improve the farming yield of low and medium farming fields.

We will guide our policy to mobilise the initiatives of farmers for producing grains. For instance, those farmers who engage in grain production will be partly exempt from tax, and they will also be given some subsidy if they introduce good seeds. In some areas that produce large amounts of grains, the central government and provincial government will offer some incentives in terms of financial resources.

We will develop technology in order to equip the agriculture sector with more advanced facilities to raise the unit yield of our farming lands.

We will make technology the driving force in raising food productivity. We will introduce productive formulas and good seeds to make farmers more aware of those technology advances.

All in all, China has full confidence in safeguarding the country's food supply and we

will continue to adopt a series of measures.

We are not saying that we only rely on our own production and never import of foreign products. Actually, every year we also import some foreign products.

[Chair]

Thank you. That concludes Session 5. I would like to take this opportunity on your behalf to thank these three magnificent panellists for their interesting, enlightening, and educational presentations.

Thank you very much.

The World's Population at 7 Billion People

Hon. Serik Ospanov

Deputy of the Mazhilis of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Member of the Committee on Finance and Budget

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

The demographics of any state directly affect the work and development of economy and politics, both inside and outside the country. A demographically strong state has always and at all times influenced the fates of neighbouring countries, continents, and the world.

The analysis of the demographic trends in global modern development shows that the Asian population is actively growing; whereas, the birth rate in European countries continues to decline, leading to an imbalance in the ethnic composition of the population.

Demographic issues are one of the most important components of public policy in Kazakhstan. Applied to our context, this issue is particularly relevant. Taking ninth place in terms of global landmass, we have a low population density of only 5.9 people per square kilometre.

The "Kazakhstan-2030" strategy and the Address of President Nursultan Nazarbayev to the people of Kazakhstan set specific targets for improving the quality and standard of living of all citizens, promoting social stability and security. The most important task is to achieve a 10% population increase by 2020. At the same time, we wish to increase life expectancy to 72 years old; it currently stands at 68.5, according to recent reports.

In order to address these issues, we worked hard and systematically to strengthen families and improve the quality of life of Kazakhstani people.

Before turning to public policies in this area, let me briefly describe the present demographic situation.

Improved economic performance, social issues, and political stability have contributed to the fact that our country's population now stands at over 16 million people. The birth rate has increased and there is not a negative balance in migration, meaning that the number of people coming into the Republic exceeds the number of people leaving.

The following demographic changes have generally been happening in modern Kazakh society:

1. The female population dominates the male population. There is a gender imbalance, which is based on low life expectancy of men. This leads to the fact that out of 10 30-year-old men, four – 38,7% – do not reach the age of 60. As a result, there are increasing numbers of widows and children who are left without a father. This also leads to the lack of family income and reduces educational opportunities, which increases the risk of being unemployed.
2. There is still a high mortality rate. Causes of death include heart disease, trauma and

poisoning, respiratory diseases, cancer, infections, and parasitic diseases. The environmental influence on health and morbidity remains strong.

3. There has been an increase in the number of one-parent families and children out of wedlock because of the number of citizens, especially young people, in common law marriage; high divorce rates are another limiting factor for fertility.

In order to relieve the negative impacts of these trends, the government conducted comprehensive and necessary work. The Family-Demographic Policy is clearly reflected in the national legislation and meets international standards:

The legislation on labour includes provisions to ensure better utilisation of female labour, yet there is a ban on contracting women who are pregnant.

In order to improve marriage and family legislation, and eliminate its problems, rules are being brought into line with international standards. There is discussion on the current draft of the "Code On Marriage (Matrimony) and Family". This sets standards in terms of rights and duties in defence of surrogate motherhood, promotion of the adoption of children within the country, and also includes provisions aimed at strengthening the family institution. The law on the "Prevention of Domestic Violence" signed on 4 December 2009 by the Head of State is aimed at protecting constitutional rights, and freedoms and interests of individuals and citizens in the sphere of family relations.

It should be emphasized that the State creates the necessary conditions for the return to the

homeland of ethnic Kazakhs, as well as for the staying of Kazakhstani citizens from around the world in Kazakhstan's territory; improving general living standards and expanding the population by natural increase.

I am pleased to note that there was a trend in an increase in the number of registered marriages in 2009 compared to 2008 – 139,707 in 2009 and 133,170 marriages in 2008. This is as a result of the successful social and economic policy of the State, and support for people who are confident in the future and who are voting for increasing the number of marriages and families.

It should be stressed that, despite the negative impact of the global financial crisis, no social programme in our country has diminished or stopped; rather, vice-versa – there was an increase in pensions and benefits.

In general, it must be emphasised that the State is taking the necessary measures to support mothers and families, maintaining fertility, reducing mortality, and increasing life expectancy. Given these factors, the country's population is growing.

Parliamentarians of Kazakhstan are active participants and agents of global policy on population stabilisation, and will do everything possible to honour commitments on this issue.

I want to thank all of you and beautiful Sri-Lanka for a very warm welcome, as well as applaud the excellent job of the organizers of this conference.

Thank you very much.

SESSION 6

Discussion for the Adoption of the Asian Parliamentary Statement

Chair: **Sen. Claire Moore**

MP, Australia

Chair of the AFPPD Standing Committee on Women

Chair of the Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (PGPD)

At the beginning of Session 6, the draft statement produced at the Drafting Committee Meeting the previous day was presented to the participants.

Under the chairpersonship of Sen. Claire Moore, various points of view were aired and debated to highlight the linkages within the issues of population and sustainable development in the world of 7 billion people. The session resulted in "*The 27th Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development Statement*", which was adopted unanimously by the participants.

CLOSING CEREMONY

Address

Hon. Dr. Anan Ariyachaipanich

Acting Secretary-General of the Asian forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a regret that such a productive meeting must come to a close. A significant amount of information has been provided from both our fellow parliamentarians and resource persons from various international institutions. Through creative presentations and constructive discussions, our knowledge on the issues of population and development has been enriched.

The organizer and their partners have completed their role, quite remarkably I should add, while ours is only the beginning. The rest of the work that needs to be accomplished in our countries and region now rest on our shoulders.

For the past two days, we have discussed the state of the world population at reach the seven billion people, and its foreseeable consequences. Population is clearly one of most critical challenges of the century. The population has been growing at a very alarming rate, whereas natural resources continue to decline. Obviously, this trend will not be able to continue indefinitely. We either have to adopt a more sustainable lifestyle, or suffer the eventual environmental downfall.

We must identify the needs of our countries and strive to make population management and family planning a success. We should not only be concerned about numbers, but rather the

level of population that our countries can effectively ensure the elimination of existing poverty.

We, parliamentarians, have a very crucial role toward the success of ICPD Programme of Action, for it is our responsibility to push legislations and policies that will improve the quality of our people's lives.

The time for action has come. Before we begin, however, I would like each of us to look around and cherish this precious moment. When any of you faces an obstacle that appears to be impenetrable, remember this place and know that you are not alone. We are among future partners, allies, and friends. Our national priorities may differ, but we are all fundamentally working toward to very same goal of global prosperity. It is important that we keep the connection that we have established here. After all, there may be a limit to how much an individual can achieve. Together, however, the possibilities are limitless.

Before ending, I would like to congratulate the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) on their successful meeting. APDA and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) have had a very fruitful cooperation for well over two decades, and I am certain that the strong relationship and partnership will continue far into the future. Thank you very much.

CLOSING CEREMONY

Address

Dr. Premila Senanayake

President of the Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka (FPA), an IPPF Member Association

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) welcomes the theme of the “27th Asian Parliamentarians’ Meeting on Population and Development” on the World Population at 7 Billion, organized by the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) where our own support of IPPF has also been provided. We are very grateful for this opportunity to make a few closing remarks.

Looking through our staff and volunteers of 153 member associations, in over 175 countries, IPPF is committed to implementing the Programme of Action of the International Programme on Population and Development (ICPD), the Platform of Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). IPPF recognizes the breath and continuing relevance of ICPD and welcomes both AFPPD and APDA, and heads of government in Asian regions for their continuous commitment for achieving those set goals as priorities for Asia.

As mentioned in the IPPF Statement, the UN Commission on Population and Development last month, any new development framework following the MDGs in 2015 will need to prioritise those issues that are at the core of the ICPD PoA – in particular, women’s rights to control their fertility, the importance of sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR), the

health and wellbeing of young people; and the importance of these issues to sustainable development, equity, and human rights, if it is to be successful. As you all know, universal access to RH standards, MDG5b, is central to both the ICPD PoA and the MDGs.

Few development interventions have as far-reaching and profound effects in enabling women to determine whether and when to become pregnant. Ensuring gains in RH and rights is one of the most cost effective ways to empower women, accelerate development and equity, and alleviate poverty. Each MDG is affected by human reproduction and none can be achieved unless women have the right and means to control their fertility. This is a powerful development tool. The democratic transmission of the will, for example, in the last 50 years has been the equivalent to up to a half a percent increase in national economic growth annually. In Bangladesh for example US\$50 million invested in family planning saves US\$327 million in expenditures on other MDGs.

As Dr. Nafis Saddik once stated, “a woman’s freedom to choose the number and spacing of children is the freedom from which all other freedoms follow”. It is clear why investing in SRH makes sense in a country, yet there are many countries in our region who continue to show only a little growth in SRH outcomes. These could be due to lack of access to quality SRH service provision, social stigma, cultural hurdles,

legislative burdens, and many other country-specific challenges.

To conferences like these, we need to draw light upon the SRH agenda. Within the population and development framework, it has been undervalued and often ignored. When investing in SRHR, the Return of Investment (ROI) for a country is far bigger and long-term. For example, women's health is of intrinsic value to her family, her community and also to the nation and is a basic human right under the UN Charter which every country would like to achieve. It is also proven as an affordable means of saving the lives of women and children.

Investing in SRH also makes economic sense, which is particularly important during this current financial and economic crisis. Investing in SRH has political benefits, including social stability and human security. Investing in SRH benefits the entire country's health system and provides a healthy boost to the health budget. It is important to highlight those laws and policies that promote SHR, and their applications are key to any human being in achieving a healthy sexual and reproductive life. Advocacy in these areas and others involved, are working collaboratively with decision makers, such as parliamentarians whose activities influence national legislation and policy.

IPPF and its member association in Sri Lanka, the Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka, have been working with policymakers to set new medical targets for a more comprehensive approach towards population and development, within the ICPD framework of action. Whether it is the health of the young person, or youth policy, or child protection policy, governments must assume responsibility for working to remove restrictions on SRH which limits human

development and may have damaging and fatal consequences for women. Together we must advance the agenda for family planning to SRHR.

Finally, I would like to reiterate at this juncture that the member associations of IPPF in Asia are calling for renewed focus on SRH of the poorest and most vulnerable people, many of whom are young and female. As we all know, in our part of the world those most at risk are poorest, least-educated, and young women and their children, often residing in regions where the climate change, or conflicts further increases their vulnerability.

Urgent attention is required to address the needs of young people. New research shows that 27% of the world's population is aged between 10 and 24 years old. And as for Sri Lanka, we are right now experiencing the demographic bonus where close to one-third of our population is the youth. But we need strong commitment from parliamentarians to address the needs through policies, systems and services. This due to the fact that not only do the youth cohort from one of the most neglected groups in public health but they also bear a disproportionate burden on of ill health. It is clear that governments alone cannot achieve these goals.

We, as civil society, have already achieved remarkable success in advocating for SRHR and delivering these services, information and education. It is time now to strengthen our partnership with the government and with UN agencies. And to be more meaningful and resourceful to serve our nations and regions, and to provide our expertise to achieve their development goals and deliver their promises. Thank you very much.

CLOSING CEREMONY

Address

Hon. Dr. Sudarshini Fernandopulle

MP, Sri Lanka

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have come to the end of the important “27th Asian Parliamentarians’ Meeting on Population and Development” on the theme the World Population at 7 Billion. We have had successful deliberations over the past two days and we also had the opportunity to listen to presentations by experts. We were also able to share our experience with one another, and we know that the population keeps on changing on a daily basis. We also observed how the population has changed over the past 50 years, and also it is been predicted how it will change during next 50 years to come.

As politicians, as policy makers, as Members of Parliament, we have to keep in mind the structure of the population because we represent the people. We consider population as an asset, but we see a decline in population in certain countries while in others the population is continuing to increase. We also observe certain restrictions on our resources, access to land, housing; access to food, water. Therefore, as policymakers we have to keep this in mind when planning for the country, and also with existing policies. It may be that we have to prioritise according to needs.

Speaking from the Sri Lankan experience, we were affected by terrorism for nearly 30 years; our economic development was hampered. However, in terms of social development we

have achieved a lot. Achievements in the fields of health and education are, I think, the best in the South Asian region and the this is mainly because of government commitments.

I would suggest that parliamentarians focus on women’s empowerment. It is also important to make services available and accessible; gender equity is also important in providing quality services. If we focus on these points, we can achieve.

I thank Hon. Yasuo Fukuda, MP and Chair of APDA/AFFPD/JPPF, for selecting Sri Lanka as the venue for this meeting. We also know that the first parliamentary meeting on population and development was also held in Sri Lanka; we see it as a great honour bestowed upon us.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank his Excellency Mahindra Rajapaksa, President of the Sri Lanka Democratic Socialist Republic, for inaugurating this meeting and showing the high-level political commitment of our leadership. My thanks also to Hon. Prof. GG. L. Peiris, Minister of External Affairs; Hon. Hon. Maithripala Sirisena, Minister of Health; and Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama, who was also a distinguished expert and a presenter.

I also thank ADPA, the Ministry of Health of Sri Lanka, and also the support given by UNFPA, IPPF, and AFPPD. I also must acknowledge the hard work put in by the Ministry of External

Affairs, the Parliament of Sri Lanka and all others that made this event a success.

And I wish to extend an invitation to all of you to experience the beauty of Sri Lanka. I also request you to be champions for Sri Lanka; we are facing many international problems since the terrorism has ended. As you have now

visited Sri Lanka and met the people, I would request all of you to be advocates for Sri Lanka.

I conclude by wishing you all the very best and a pleasant stay in Sri Lanka.

Thank you very much.

CLOSING CEREMONY

Closing Address

Hon. Yasuo Fukuda

Chair, Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

Chair, Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)

Chair, Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)

Former Prime Minister of Japan

Distinguished guests and fellow parliamentarians, I wish to congratulate you for having such heated discussions over the past two days. I believe it was indeed a truly meaningful conference, thanks to the kind cooperation of government of Sri Lanka as well as all of you – participants.

APDA, which organized this conference, has been carrying out activities to solve population issues by upholding the ideology that sustainable development can not be achieved without the stabilisation of population. The world's population will reach seven billion in 2011 and during this conference, under the theme of "The World Population at 7 Billion", inspiring presentations were made and enthusiastic debate took place.

Every year the world's population is growing by 70 million people. In other words, we are facing new challenges every day which we must tackle as a person living in this era and also as a parliamentarian, who are giving the mandate by the people in each country.

I wish to quote the words of the Niigata Declaration adopted in 1999 by the AFPPD General Assembly. I quote, "changing the world may sound like a formidable task but if individual persons change, the world also changes". Needles to reconfirm and reiterate here, but building a society where every single person giving birth into this world can live

with dignity is a mission to us, parliamentarians.

There are numerous difficulties lying ahead of us in a world of seven billion people. There are gaps between the rich and poor, food security, energy, water resources; and moreover, there is the problem of global warming. Every single one of these issues are vast, but let us not be daunted by these difficulties – let us face them by remembering that was in the Niigata Declaration.

Once again, "if individual person can change, the world will also change". The world is made up of individual persons. Unless each and every one of us changes the world will not change. If we, parliamentarians, grasp the overall picture with a long-time perspective and make appropriate decisions we can expect to have a brighter future.

When you go back home, please talk to your colleagues and constituents on how the issue of population is deeply interrelated with sustainable development. I sincerely hope that this conference has provided you with information for you to bring back home to carry out your work.

I wish to conclude by extending my appreciation once again to the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Health, the Parliament of Sri Lanka and all members of the Secretariat of the Parliament of Sri Lanka for the enormous contributions. Without

their dedicated contributions this conference would not have been a success. I would also like to thank the UNFPA, IPPF and the Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka for their generous support in holding this conference.

Let us go back to each of our respective countries

charged with energy, and reflect the achievements of this conference to the national politics.

I look forward to seeing you again somewhere, someplace in the near future.

Thank you very much.



The 27th Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development Statement

19 July 2011
Mt. Lavinia, Sri Lanka

Preamble

The international parliamentary movement on population and development was initiated in 1979 when the First International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, where the *Colombo Declaration on Population and Development* was adopted. Following this, the Asian Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ACPPD) was held in Beijing in 1981 which decided to form the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) and the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA). This year marks the 30th anniversary of ACPPD, and the launch of AFPPD and APDA.

This year, 2011, the world population will exceed 7 billion. Global population growth and the expanded economy accelerated by globalization have been placing an environmental burden on the earth, resulting in environmental degradation such as climate change and shortage of fresh water resources. The concerns over sustainability that the founders of this parliamentary movement had are becoming a reality.

There has been substantial progress in addressing population issues through efforts made in close coordination among governments in respective countries, International Organizations, parliamentarians' activities and NGOs. There are still, however, challenges that need to be overcome and there are new issues emerging from the progress in demographic transition.

We, parliamentarians from Asian and Pacific countries, declare that we identify the challenges we face, discuss measures to tackle them, and reaffirm our commitments to achieve sustainable development that is harmonious with economic growth in respective countries.

Fact:

1. This year the world population will exceed 7 billion. Through our efforts over the past years, countries have experienced demographic transition. Population growth remains a critical issue in our region, population dynamics vary widely among countries in the Asian region. In some countries fertility rates remain elevated due to a range of issues owing to inadequate access to quality primary health care and reproductive health services. In some other countries, fertility has fallen to- or below the replacement level and the population is rapidly aging. As a result, population issues are becoming more and more diversified among countries and regions.
2. Stabilizing the population through concerted effort is a prerequisite condition of achieving sustainable development.

3. Measures to stabilize the population were described in the Cairo Declaration and in the Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development.
4. Population issues should be addressed by improving individuals' health and deepening people's understanding on these issues.

Actions

1. We strongly advocate to our fellow parliamentarians, the media and other stakeholders to continue to highlight the critical impact and consequences of the ever-growing world population.
2. We request international aid agencies to provide parliamentarians with evidence for the public – including stakeholders – both in developed and developing countries, on the impact of the growing world population on the earth's future.
3. We recognize the importance of advocacy activities in developed countries to maintain and augment aid budgets.
4. Based on *the Asian Parliamentarians' Statement on Population and Adaptation to Climate Change*, which was adopted at the 26th APDA Meeting in Vientiane, we reaffirm that addressing population issues constitutes an integral part of adaptation measures for climate change. In this regard we continue to draw attention to this for parliaments, governments, International Organizations, and the public.
5. We urge the international community to prioritize food and water security, and environmental sustainability in international trade agreements.
6. We call upon our governments to plan, implement and monitor rights-based population and development programmes in collaboration with International Organizations. These programmes must respond to diverse situations and people's needs, and be reported to parliaments and national committees on population and development.
7. We urge that special attention be given to gender issues, including sexual and reproductive health and rights.
8. We recommit to the engagement with our youth and the importance of their role in future actions, development, especially in population issues.
9. We, the parliamentarians, pledge our efforts to promote public understanding in our-constituencies regarding the close interlinkages between population issues and development tasks.
10. We encourage international aid agencies to develop strategies of population programmes to incorporate them into PPP schemes, CSR activities, and Base of Pyramid (BOP) business.
11. We pledge to ensure there are proper measures in place to guarantee "healthy aging" in our societies.
12. We pledge to work with our governments and other stakeholders to devise new planning and governance structures to accommodate growing urban populations. South-South cooperation in improving urban management should be promoted.
13. We recognize the impact of urbanization in a globalized society and we need to reflect changes in social policy.
14. We urge the United Nations to declare a day to mark the world population at 7 billion people and support the organization at the parliamentary level of this issue on a global scale.
15. We reaffirm the spirit of the 1979 *Colombo Declaration on Population and Development* and the role that parliamentarians have to play in population and development issues.

Participants' List

| No. | Title | Name | Country | Position and Organization |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|--|
| MPs from Asia | | | | |
| 1 | Sen. | Claire Moore | Australia | Chair of the AFPPD Standing Committee on Women Chair of the Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (PGPD) |
| 2 | Hon. | Kimsour Phirith | Cambodia | Member of the Cambodian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (CAPPD) |
| 3 | Hon. | Fatang Song | China | Member of the Standing Committee of NPC Vice-Chair of the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee |
| 4 | Hon. | Longde Wang | China | Member of the Standing Committee of NPC Member of the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee |
| 5 | Hon. | Norman George | Cook Islands | Former Deputy Prime Minister of the Cook Island Member of Parliament |
| 6 | Hon. Prof. | P.J. Kurien | India | Vice-Chair of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) Chair of the Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD) |
| 7 | Hon. | Bhausheeb R. Waghchaure | India | Member of Parliament |
| 8 | Hon. Dr. | Atte Sugandi Aboel | Indonesia | Treasurer of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) |
| 9 | Hon. | Sumarjati Arjoso SKM | Indonesia | Board Member of the Indonesian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IFPPD) |
| 10 | Hon. | Mohsen Koohkan Rizi | Iran | Chair of the Iranian Parliamentarian Population and Development Committee (IRPPDC) |
| 11 | Hon. | Yasuo Fukuda | Japan | Chair of the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) Chair of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) Chair of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) Former Prime Minister of Japan |
| 12 | Hon. | Yukio Ubukata | Japan | Vice-Chair of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) |
| 13 | Hon. | Hiroyuki Nagahama | Japan | Vice-Chair of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) |
| 14 | Hon. | Teruhiko Mashiko | Japan | Executive Director of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) |
| 15 | Hon. | Toshiko Abe | Japan | Chair of the Gender Issue Committee, Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) |
| 16 | Hon. | Aiko Shimajiri | Japan | Acting Secretary-General of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) |
| 17 | Hon. | Serik Ospanov | Kazakhstan | Member of Parliament |

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| 18 | Hon. Dato' | Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah | Malaysia | AFPPD Executive Member Minister of Finance II |
| 19 | Hon. Dr. | Muthukumar Malasingam | Malaysia | Member of Parliament |
| 20 | Hon. Dr. | Somphou Douangsavanh | Lao PDR | Vice-President of the Lao Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (LAPPD) Vice-Chair of the Social and Cultural Affairs Committee |
| 21 | Hon. | Mohamed Mujthaz | Maldives | Chair of the Maldives Parliamentary Group on Population and Development |
| 22 | Hon. | Chandra Bahadur Gurung | Nepal | Member of Parliament |
| 23 | Hon. | Sue Kedgley | New Zealand | Member of Parliament |
| 24 | Cong. | Edcel C. Lagman | Philippines | Deputy Secretary-General of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD); Chair of the Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development (PLCPD) |
| 25 | Cong. | Carlos Padilla | Philippines | Member of the Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development (PLCPD) |
| 26 | H.E. | Mahinda Rajapaksa | Sri Lanka | President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka |
| 27 | H.E. | Chamal Rajapaksa | Sri Lanka | Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka |
| 28 | Hon. | Maithripala Sirisena | Sri Lanka | Minister of Health |
| 29 | Hon. Dr. | Sarath Amunugama | Sri Lanka | Senior Minister of International Monetary Co-operation |
| 30 | Hon. Prof. | G.L Peiris | Sri Lanka | Minister of External Affairs |
| 31 | Hon. | Dew Gunasekera | Sri Lanka | Minister of Human Resources |
| 32 | Hon. Prof. | Tissa Vitharana | Sri Lanka | Minister of Scientific Affairs |
| 33 | Hon. | Athauda Seneviratne | Sri Lanka | Minister for Rural Affairs |
| 34 | Hon. | Ranjith Siyambalapitiya | Sri Lanka | Minister of Telecommunication and Information Technology |
| 35 | Hon. | Lalith Dissanayake | Sri Lanka | Deputy Minister of Health |
| 36 | Hon. | Lasantha Alagiyawanna | Sri Lanka | Deputy Minister of Construction, Engineering Services, Housing and Common Amenities |
| 37 | Hon. | Muttu Sivalingam | Sri Lanka | Deputy Minister of Economic Development |
| 38 | Hon. | A.H.M. Aswer | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 39 | Hon. Dr. | Ramesh Pathirana | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |

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|----|-------------|------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 40 | Hon. | Weerakumara Dissanayake | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 41 | Hon. | Silvastrie Alantin | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 42 | Hon. | Hunais Farook | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 43 | Hon. | Thilanga Sumathipala | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 44 | Hon. | Prabha Ganeshan | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 45 | Hon. | Sriyani Wijewickrama | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 46 | Hon. Dr. | Sudharshini Fernandopulle | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 47 | Hon. | Roshan Ranasinghe | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 48 | Hon. | Arundika Fernando | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 49 | Hon. | Haren Fernando | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 50 | Hon. | Ajith P. Perera | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 51 | Hon. | Niroshan Perera | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 52 | Hon. | Ranjan Ramanayake | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 53 | Hon. | Buddhika Pathirana | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 54 | Hon. | Anoma Gamage | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 55 | Hon. | Vijayakala Maheswaran | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 56 | Hon. | Tirran Alles | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 57 | Hon. | Ajith Kumara Hewage | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 58 | Hon. | P. Selvarasa | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 59 | Hon. | E. Saravanapavan | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 60 | Hon. | P. Ariyanethran | Sri Lanka | Member of Parliament |
| 61 | Hon. Dr. | Anan Ariyachaipanich | Thailand | Thai Senate Committee on Public Health |
| 62 | Hon. Dr. | Porapan Punyaratabandhu | Thailand | Thai Senate Committee on Public Health |
| 63 | Hon. | Truong Thi Mai | Vietnam | Vice-Chair of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) |
| 64 | Hon. Dr. | Nguyen Van Tien | Vietnam | Vice-Chair of the Vietnamese Parliamentary Committee for Social Affairs Vice-Chair of the Vietnamese Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (VAPPD) |
| 65 | Hon. | Nguyen Thi Hong Ha | Vietnam | Member of the Vietnamese Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (VAPPD) |

Resource Persons, International Organizations & National Committees, & Additional Delegates

| | | | | |
|----|------|--------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| 66 | Dr. | Rio Praaning Prawira Adiningrat | Belgium | Chair of PA Asia Ltd. |
| 67 | Dr. | Danielle Praaning Prawira Adiningrat | Belgium | Observer |
| 68 | Mr. | Eng Vannak | Cambodia | Coordinator of the Cambodian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (CAPPD) |
| 69 | Mr. | Wei Ding | China | Deputy Director-General of the Population, Public Health and Sport Office of the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC |
| 70 | Mr. | Yonghai Mu | China | Deputy Division Director |
| 71 | Mr. | Huiping Wen | China | Principle Staff Member of the Department of Population, Public Health and Sports, Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC |
| 72 | Mr. | Chuansheng Zhang | China | Deputy Division Director of the Department of General Administration, Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC |
| 73 | Mr. | Manmohan Sharma | India | Executive Secretary of the Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD) |
| 74 | Mrs. | Saraswati Waghchaure | India | Support for the Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD) |
| 75 | Ms. | Divya Sharma | India | Support for the Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD) |
| 76 | Dr. | Ahmad Khas Ahmadi | Iran | Secretary and Founder of the Iranian Parliamentarian Population and Development Committee (IRPPDC) |
| 77 | H.E. | Wasantha Karannagoda | Japan | Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Japan |
| 78 | Ms. | Branwen Millar | New Zealand | Project Coordinator of the New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development (NZPPD) |
| 79 | Mr. | Ramon San Pascual | Philippines | Executive Director of the Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development (PLCPD) |
| 80 | Mr. | Damika Kithulgoda | Sri Lanka | Secretary-General of the Parliament |
| 81 | Dr. | R.R.M.L.R. Siyambalagoda | Sri Lanka | Member of the Ministry of Health |
| 82 | H.E. | Kunio Takahashi | Sri Lanka | Ambassador of Japan to Sri Lanka |
| 83 | Mr. | Shinsuke Okawa | Sri Lanka | Second Secretary, Embassy of Japan |
| 84 | Mr. | Takeshi Ozaki | Sri Lanka | Secretary to the Ambassador, Embassy of Japan |
| 85 | Dr. | Premila Senanayake | Sri Lanka | Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka President |
| 86 | Ms. | Thushara Agus | Sri Lanka | Executive Director of the Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka (FPA Sri Lanka) |
| 87 | Mr. | Gamini Wanasekara | Sri Lanka | Assistant Representative of UNFPA Sri Lanka |
| 88 | Dr. | Chandani Galwaduge | Sri Lanka | UNFPA National Programme Officer for Reproductive Health |
| 89 | Ms. | Shamila Daluwatte | Sri Lanka | UNFPA National Programme Officer for Gender |

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|-----|------|------------------------|-----------|---|
| 90 | Ms. | Revati Chawla | Sri Lanka | UNFPA National Programme Officer for HIV/AIDS |
| 91 | Ms. | Lankani Sikurajapathi | Sri Lanka | UNFPA Programme Analyst |
| 92 | Dr. | Colin Chartres | Sri Lanka | Director General of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) |
| 93 | Dr. | A.T.P.L. Abeykoon | Sri Lanka | Senior Fellow at the Institute for Health Policy (IHP) Former President of the Population Association of Sri Lanka |
| 94 | Mrs. | Rasamanohari Pulendran | Sri Lanka | Former Minister of Education |
| 95 | H.E. | Bernard Savage | Sri Lanka | Ambassador/Head of Delegation, Delegation of the European Union to Sri Lanka and the Maldives |
| 96 | H.E. | Djafar Husein | Sri Lanka | Ambassador, Indonesian Embassy in charge for Sri Lanka and Maldives |
| 97 | Mr. | Emmanuel Blomme | Sri Lanka | Managing Director of J. Cortès |
| 98 | Mr. | Chamara Perera | Sri Lanka | Logistics Manager |
| 99 | Mr. | Jellis Mortier | Sri Lanka | Assistant Manager - Event/Rental |
| 100 | Mr. | Saajid | Sri Lanka | Assistant |
| 101 | Mr. | Daniel | Sri Lanka | Assistant |
| 102 | Mr. | Jerry Huguet | Thailand | UN ESCAP Senior Adviser on Population, Social Policy and Population Section |
| 103 | Ms. | Nobuko Horibe | Thailand | Director of UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Regional Office |
| 104 | Dr. | Peerasit Kamnuansilpa | Thailand | Dean of the College of Local Administration, Khon Kaen University |
| 105 | Mr. | Shiv Khare | Thailand | Executive Director of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) |
| 106 | Ms. | Pariyaporn Sappapan | Thailand | Administrative Associate of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) |
| 107 | Mr. | Tammavit Tasnavites | Thailand | Programme Associate of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) |

The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

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|-----|-----|-------------------|-------|---|
| 108 | Dr. | Osamu Kusumoto | Japan | Secretary-General/Executive Director of APDA |
| 109 | Ms. | Hitomi Tsunekawa | Japan | International Affairs Manager of APDA |
| 110 | Ms. | Katie Dönszelmann | Japan | International Affairs Programme Officer of APDA |
| 111 | Mr. | Kazuo Abe | Japan | Special Services |

Interpreters

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|-----|-----|------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| 112 | Ms. | Fukijo Hara | Japan | Interpreter (Japanese-English) |
| 113 | Ms. | Mari Yamada | Japan | Interpreter (Japanese-English) |
| 114 | Ms. | Shiho Kawamura | Japan | Interpreter (Japanese-English) |
| 115 | Ms. | Anisiya Shvezova | Sri Lanka | Interpreter (English- Russian) |
| 116 | Ms. | Nguyen Ngoc Thu | Vietnam | Interpreter (English-Vietnamese) |

