

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

24-27 September 2014  
Lusaka, Zambia



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



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*Notice:*

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



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

### Programme

24-27 September 2014

Lusaka, Zambia

<b>Tuesday, 23 September</b>	Arrival of Delegates
<b>Day 1 : Wednesday, 24 September Meeting</b>	
<b>08:30-09:00</b>	<b>Registration</b> (Venue: Big Dome, Radisson Blu Hotel)
<b>09:00-09:20</b>	<p><b>Opening Ceremony</b> (Venue: Big Dome, Radisson Blu Hotel)</p> <p><b>Address of Host Organization</b>  <b>Hon. Boniface Mutale, MP</b>; Vice-Chair of the Zambia All Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (ZAPPD)</p> <p><b>Address</b>  <b>Dr. Mary Otieno</b>, Resident Representative of UNFPA in Zambia</p> <p><b>Official Opening</b>  <b>Hon. Mkhondo Danwood Lungu, MP</b>; Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>MC: Mr. Anthony K. Mpolokoso</b>, Senior Public &amp; International Relations Officer</p>
<b>9:20-9:40</b>	<p><b>Keynote Speech [20 min.]</b>  <b>Hon. Teruhiko Mashiko, MP</b>; Vice-Chair of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JFPF); Member of APDA Board of Directors, Japan</p>
<b>09:40-09:45</b>	Group Photo
<b>09:45-10:45</b>	<p><b>Session 1: Taking stock: progress and challenges for transparency and accountability for aid implementation</b></p> <p><b>Hon. Christowaja Mtinda, MP, Tanzania [30 min]</b></p> <p><b>Hon. Avinash Rai Khanna, MP, India [30 min]</b></p>
<b>10:45-11:15</b>	<b>Discussion [30 min]</b>

	Session Chair: <b>Hon. Dr. Florian Bodog</b> , MP, Romania
<b>11:15-11:30</b>	Coffee Break (Location: Conference Venue)
<b>11:30-12:30</b>	<b>Session 2: Advocacy and policy intervention for the integration of population issues into national development frameworks</b>  <b>Hon. Tissa Karalliyadde</b> , Minister of Child Development and Women Affairs, Sri Lanka [30 min]  <b>Hon. Fredrick Outa</b> , MP, Kenya [30 min]
<b>12:30-13:00</b>	Discussion [30 min] Session Chair: <b>Hon. Lemlem Hadgu Yifter</b> , MP, Ethiopia
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	Lunch (Location: Filini Restaurant, Radisson Blu Hotel)
<b>14:00-15:00</b>	<b>Session 3: Learning from Zambia's experience</b>  <b>Mr. Temwa Nyirenda</b> , Ag. International Relations Officer & ZAPPD Desk Officer, on behalf of Ministry of Finance, Planning Department  <b>Dr. Mary M. Zulu</b> , Chair of the Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia (PPAZ) [30 min]
<b>15:00-15:30</b>	Discussion [30 min] Session Chair: <b>Hon. Mariany Mohammad Yit</b> , MP, Malaysia
<b>15:30-15:45</b>	Coffee Break (Location: Conference Venue)
<b>15:45-16:15</b>	<b>Session 4: A Business Solution for Women's Empowerment and Sustainable Development</b>  "BANANA PAPER: A Business Solution for Sustainable Development" [30 min] <b>Mr. Peo Ekberg</b> , Director, Environmental Manager of One Planet Café and <b>Mr. Billy Nkhoma</b> , Director of One Planet Café, Zambia
<b>16:15-16:45</b>	Discussion [30 min] Session Chair: <b>Hon. Kasamba Mathias</b> , MP, Uganda
<b>20:00-</b>	Dinner (Venue: Poolside, Radisson Blu Hotel)
<b>Day 2 : Thursday, 25 September</b> <b>Study Visit</b>	
<b>08:30</b>	Meet at the Hotel Lobby
<b>08:45</b>	Depart from Hotel & Travel to the University Teaching Hospital
<b>09:15</b>	<b>Site Visit to the University Teaching Hospital</b>

<b>10:30</b>	Depart from Venue & Travel to PPAZ Office
<b>11:00</b>	Site Visit of Planned parenthood Association of Zambia (PPAZ)
<b>12:30</b>	Depart PPAZ
<b>12:45</b>	Lunch at the National Assembly Members' Motel
<b>14:00</b>	<b>Depart for Parliament Buildings</b>
<b>14:30</b>	Attend the Sitting of the House
<b>16:30</b>	<b>Depart Parliament Buildings</b>
<b>16:40</b>	Arrive at the Hotel
<b>19:00</b>	Dinner (Location: Filini Restaurant, Radisson Blu Hotel)
<b>Day 3 : Friday, 26 September</b> <b>Study Visit</b>	
<b>07:20</b>	Meet at the Hotel Lobby
<b>07:30</b>	Depart from Hotel & Travel to Siavonga
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Site Visit to the Kariba North Bank Power Station</b>
<b>12:00</b>	Depart from Venue & Travel
<b>12:30</b>	Lunch at Lake Kariba Inns
<b>14:30</b>	Depart from Venue & Travel
<b>17:30</b>	Arrive at the Hotel
<b>19:00</b>	Dinner (Location: Restaurant Rhapsody's)
<b>Day 4 : Saturday, 27 September</b> <b>Wrap-up Meeting</b>	
<b>09:00-10:00</b>	<b><i>Session 5: Parliamentarians' actions for the post-ICPD and post-MDGs global development agenda</i></b> (Venue: Meeting Room 1&2, Radisson Blu Hotel)  <b>Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi</b> , MP; President of African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (APF); Chair of Ugandan Parliamentarians Forum of Food Security, Population and Development (UPFFSP&D), Uganda [15 min]  <b>Hon. Dr. Florian Bodog</b> , MP, Romania [15 min]  <b>Hon. Juliana Lunguzi</b> , MP; Chair for Parliamentary Committee on Health and Population, Malawi [15 min]  <b>Hon. Mariany Mohammad Yit</b> , MP, Malaysia [15 min]

<b>10:00-10:30</b>	<b>Discussion [30 min]</b> Session Chair: <b>Hon. Vincent Mwale</b> , MP; Secretary of ZAPPD, Zambia
<b>10:30-11:45</b>	<b>Session 6: Discussion and Adoption for the Parliamentary Statement: Synthesis of Projects 2009-2014</b> <b>Discussion [75 min]</b> Session Chair: <b>Hon. Nidup Zangpo</b> , MP, Bhutan
<b>11:45-12:00</b>	Project Evaluation Form
<b>12:00-12:30</b>	Coffee Break and formatting of the document (Location: Conference Venue)
<b>12:30-13:00</b>	<b>Closing Ceremony</b>  <b>Address</b> <b>Ms. Junko Sazaki</b> , Director of UNFPA Tokyo Office, Japan  <b>Address</b> <b>Mr. Emmanuel Obeng</b> , MIS & Evaluation Advisor of IPPF Africa Regional Office  <b>Address of Organizer</b> <b>Hon. Hiroyuki Nagahama</b> , MP; Vice-Chair of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPPF), Japan  <b>Official Closing</b> <b>Hon. Vincent Mwale</b> , MP; Secretary of ZAPPD, Zambia
<b>13:00-</b>	<b>Lunch</b> (Location: Filini Restaurant, Radisson Blu Hotel)
<b>19:00-</b>	<b>Dinner</b> (Venue: Filini Restaurant, Radisson Blu Hotel)
<b>Sunday, 28 September</b>	Departure of Delegates

**Co-host by:**  
**Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)**  
**Zambia All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (ZAPPD)**

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

**Supported by:**  
Japan Trust Fund (JTF)





# **OPENING CEREMONY**



## ***Address of Host Organization***

### **Hon. Boniface Mutale**

Vice-Chair of ZAPPD

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It is my honor and privilege to be part of this gathering today, which the Zambia All Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (ZAPPD) is co-hosting with the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA). I am also aware that our meeting today would not have been possible without the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and the Japan Trust Fund (JTF).

As highlighted in the country's national population policy, the population of Zambia, which is a beneficiary of development, is the nation's most valuable resources. Population variables such as size, growth rate, population distribution structure and composition affect and, in turn, are affected by socio-economic development to which we as legislators play a key role. We, therefore, cannot underestimate the importance of squarely addressing these variables in order for us to achieve our Vision of Zambia being "a prosperous middle-income nation by 2030".

Honorable Ministers, you may agree with me that in formulating and implementing policies, plans and programmes that promote sustainable development, the variables I have mentioned play a critical role.

Cognizant of this fact, we all have to ensure that in our respective roles we maintain population trends which are commensurate with sustainable socio-economic development. To this effect, we as parliamentarians need continuous capacity building to help us understand issues related to population and development. I need not overemphasize that the issues of population and development are inseparable. The continued enhancement of the capacity of Members of Parliament will help us formulate legislation that supports the achievement of sustainable development.

I may, therefore, reiterate the need for programmes of this nature which equip us with the necessary information for us to play our role in fostering the integration of population issues into the development agenda.

Lastly, I wish to thank the Honorable Ministers for finding time to be with us this morning despite their busy schedule. Fellow parliamentarians, I would like to urge you all not to relent in your contribution of advocating for a population that is sustainable and ensuring that parliamentarians continue playing a critical role in this effort. Lastly before I conclude, I welcome you to Zambia and hope you enjoy your stay here.

Thank you.

## **Address**

### **On behalf of Dr. Mary Otieno**

UNFPA Country Representative

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I am delighted to deliver this remark on behalf of the UNFPA Country Representative in Zambia, Dr. Mary Otieno, who is out of Lusaka on official travel. Dr. Otieno expresses her warm salutation and congratulates the Zambian All Party Parliamentarian Group on Population and Development (ZAPPD) for hosting this Capacity Development Project on Integration of Population Issues into National Development Frameworks.

UNFPA uses this unique opportunity to commend ongoing efforts to the Asian and African Parliamentarians' Fora on Population and Development in the way they are doing to advance advocacy, policy and legislation actions on population-related issues within the national context and at the regional level. Your action shows the linkages on population size and reproductive health (RH), family planning, food security, natural resources, environment, aging, urbanization, migration, HIV/AIDS and gender equality that are all taken into consideration within national development planning and budgetary processes.

We salute the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) for their innovative design and use of population and policy tracking and monitoring tool, which fits into the database of population and RH policies and legislation. Database currently has information on population- and RH-related legislation enacted in nine countries, national population policies from related instituting countries and specific sexual reproductive health (SRH) policies formulated by other countries. The further use of information to generate policy trends across the countries is indeed commendable and respectable across the world.

Equally, we salute the African Parliamentarians Forum on Population and Development (APF) on their intensified actions to position population issues, especially SRH, within Africa's agenda 2063 - the campaign on reducing maternal mortality in Africa, the common African position on sustainable development goals, as well as various national development and budgetary frameworks. It commands on increasing legislation that favors the youth and women empowerment, as well as the reduction of all forms of violence and discrimination against women and adolescent girls. We are hopeful that by your collective actions these trends will continue across all our countries – African and Asian countries.

In the past 20 years, UNFPA and partners like IPPF here present have championed the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action (PoA). We celebrate the success recovered while being mindful that elevation of vulnerable population from absolute unrelenting poverty and protection from all forms of discrimination need to be assured. These can only be possible if the ability of all duties including parliamentarians' here to protect basic human rights of all individuals is ensured and supported by all.

Commitment to this was gladly reaffirmed by over 140 world leaders – Presidents and Heads of Governments, Ministers and High-Level officials at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the Programme of Action on ICPD Beyond 2014, which was held this week in New York. Report of that session indicates the endorsement for unfinished business of the ICPD, which you will be discussing during these four days.

We cannot talk about sustainable development goals without meeting young people's needs and ensuring their voices and aspirations are taken into consideration in decision-making processes. The World cannot be advanced without addressing women's empowerment, gender inequality, discrimination and violence as well as vulnerabilities faced by women and young girls.

We are pleased that Hon. Hamududu was able to represent Zambian parliamentarians at the session and he sat at the high-level panel that discourses with the world of parliamentarians on the ICPD Beyond 2014 era. For the next 20 years, the right strategic opportunity to all of us is to collectively work together and make sure that no one is left behind, as we chart a coordinated course to ensure that national development plan, sector plans, budget allocation and expenditure framework are all in line with evidence required for ensuring effectiveness and efficiency of all programmes.

In our Continent, public sector spending is usually limited, and it requires costly approaches to reduce wastages, avoid duplication and make synergies. It discourses on the linkages between population size, density, age structure, as well as rising adolescent in all our countries, which we know as demographic bonus.

And we now know that this also emphasizes limited time of opportunity, economic and income growth, poverty reduction and sustainable social development. The increasing attention on demographic dividend cannot be overemphasized.

Looking at the agenda, we are pleased that these issues have been incorporated in one session or others within the four days' workshop. We urge Honorable Members of Parliament present to kindly use these sessions to extensively discuss and share lessons and experiences in the areas. We are aware that countries like Thailand and Rwanda are reported as having good progress in different

stages of demographic transitions. And some studies even say that they are now getting their demographic dividend.

Before I conclude, let me put forward some areas in which the UNFPA would kindly ask that you deliberate on these sessions. We are working with parliamentarians in these areas across the countries that you represent, and this includes the ratification and domestication of the convention of elimination of discrimination against women and the violence against women.

Establishment on strengthening of monitoring mechanism is what we see in Asia. These can be monitored. Advocacy efforts for formulation and implementation of national population policies and programmes improve legal, socio-economic and cultural status of women and adolescent girls.

Among your important tasks are policy dialogue among policy makers, enacting appropriate legislation to increase domestic funding on population and development in your countries and at the regional level, and representing voices of constituencies. Creating awareness at the domestic level, promoting actions by communities in areas such as family planning, household decision-making, maternal services, girl-child education, as well as sustaining cooperation, will continue to build the capacity and improve the level of understanding and knowledge on ICPD Beyond 2014 and MDGs.

In Zambia, we are doing some of these and we commit to continue it for the years to come. We are working with parliamentarians to increase age of marriage by amending the Constitution because we realize that child marriage is very prevalent in Zambia. Previous policies and National Development Plans have also areas that we have collaborated on. UNFPA stands committed as a strategic partner of parliamentarians at regional and national levels, so that collectively we can deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and young person's potential is

fulfilled.

On behalf of Dr. Otieno, the UNFPA Country Representative, we wish you successful deliberation and we look forward to receiving the adopted parliamentary statement emerging

from this workshop as well as synthesis documents that we can push forward to the period of 2009-2014.

Thank you for your attention.

## ***Official Opening***

### **Hon. Mkhondo Danwood Lungu**

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia

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It gives me great pleasure to officiate at the Asian and African Parliamentarians' Capacity Development Project on the Integration of Population Issues into National Development Frameworks.

I am sure you will all agree with me that this programme is timely due to the growing need of placing population matters as key determinants of development of our country. As we are all aware, the relationship between population factors and socio-economic development are complex; yet we must be mindful that they are crucial in the attainment of sustainable development.

The Zambia All Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (ZAPPD), which is a voluntary group comprising parliamentarians, has been an active agent in population matters with regard to development. This was not possible without building the capacity of Honorable Members of Parliament.

I will, therefore, be failing if I do not thank the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) for their keen interest in building the capacity of African parliamentarians in the area on population and development. I am aware that Zambian parliamentarians have greatly benefited from this capacity building project.

I am also aware that some of the resolutions, which were made in the last project in Uganda, contributed to Africa's position at the Sixth International Parliamentarians Conference on the Implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action (IPCI/ICPD) that was held in Stockholm Sweden this year.

As it is identified in the UN Secretary General Economic and Social Council Report for 2014, sustainable development has become a singular challenge to humankind in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The poor bear the force of environmental burdens. The accustomed models for improving living standards, expanding opportunities and guaranteeing dignity and human rights are proving unsustainable. This in itself is one of the major ethical quandaries in human history. Therefore, an integrated and comprehensive approach to population and development based on resolutions from gatherings such as today's is essential to achieving sustainable development.

In order for us to achieve sustainable development, it is necessary that we all heavily invest in population data, which documents the characteristics of people, who in turn affect the potential for development. Without this, we will be planning in a vacuum. Therefore, the capacity to monitor and project changing population dynamics and evolving demographic age structures must be a core investment for development, informing the governments where and how best to invest development resources and protect human rights and dignity.

In a nutshell, this means that the governments must integrate population dynamics into planning and implementation of development initiatives within all sectors at both national and sub-national levels. In this regard, it is time that we parliamentarians stepped up efforts in holding our governments accountable for gathering, analyzing and disseminating data on population, disaggregated by key characteristics relevant to development in order to monitor progress and fill gaps in implementation and ensure public accountability. Through such, we will be confident of having a better today and

tomorrow for the people living both today and in the future.

May I also remind you of your key role as parliamentarians in guaranteeing and enabling laws and policies in order to accelerate the momentum to create and review institutions that deal with population and sustainable development, the needs of the adolescents and youth and women's empowerment and gender equality.

May I reiterate that in order for us to marry population and development, we need among other things to:

- a) Become responsible in promoting and defending sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of all individuals;
- b) Build partnership with fellow parliamentarians and the government in creating the political will and build mass

support needed to overcome opposition and to clarify misperceptions about population and reproductive health issues; and

- c) Mobilize resources, especially through national budget, and create an enabling policy environment needed to meet the goals of the Programme of Action of the ICPD.

May I, therefore, conclude by stating that I am confident that this project will create and renew our energies in carrying out these responsibilities.

I wish you the best in your deliberations and look forward to receiving the resolutions of this meeting. It is now my honor and privilege to declare this meeting open.

I thank you.



## **Keynote Speech**

### **Hon. Teruhiko Mashiko**

Vice-Chair of JPFP  
Member of APDA Board of Directors, Japan

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#### *1. Introduction*

On this occasion, I wish to offer my sincere thanks to you for permitting me to take part in this “Asian and African Parliamentarians’ Capacity Development on the Integration of Population Issues into National Development Frameworks – Part III”, held jointly by JPFP-APDA and ZAPPD. I represent JPFP, which is the parliamentary forum on population and development in Japan and APDA, and I will be speaking on their behalf.

Parliamentary work on population and sustainable development commenced in Japan. JPFP was established in 1974 as the world’s first all-party parliamentary federation dealing with population issues. JPFP is this year celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As part of our work, the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) and Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (IAPG) were established in 1982. In 1994, the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ICPPD) was held in conjunction with the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, Egypt.

Under the Chairmanship of Hon. Lavu Mulimba, former Minister of State for Finance and Planning of Zambia, the Africa and Middle East Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AMECPPD) was established. The ICPPD was formed by all regional fora and became a truly international conference, building a great momentum to the efforts of parliamentarians on population and development.

Succeeding to the AMECPPD, the Forum of

African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAAPPD) was established in 1997. The African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (APF) was newly established in 2012, chaired by Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, and a new Arab regional parliamentary forum was established in 2014, to better further the special natures of the regions.

I understand that our host, ZAPPD, was established in conjunction with the ICPD-ICPPD. I would first like to say that I am most grateful for the fact that Zambia has taken the lead in Africa in parliamentary work on population and development. Both JPFP and I are proud of our direct and indirect involvement with this work. I would now like to again offer some thoughts on why we are all gathered here today, for the opening of this meeting.

#### *2. Why are politicians concerned with population issues?*

Why are politicians like myself concerned with population issues? We aimed to be politicians because we love the nature and cultures of our lands that bore and nurtured us, and we wish to build societies in which the inhabitants of these lands can live happily. Some people still do not have a proper understanding of the population issue. However, I believe that all of us gathered here share the conviction that addressing population issue is the foundation for preserving nature and our cultures and building the well-being of the people who live amongst them. In other words, our involvement in the population issue does indeed begin with our intentions as politicians. I believe that the question why we as parliamentarians are involved with the population issue will naturally shape how we should become involved with it.

### 3. *The role of parliamentarians in the population issue*

It is in fact national governments that govern, and bureaucrats actually perform the implementation on the basis of political decision-making. Support from UN organizations is provided in conjunction with governments. Therefore, at a superficial level, people tend to think that issues can be solved if governments get involved and mobilize funds and programmes from international communities.

However, when we consider the nature of the population issue, we know that this is not enough. It goes without saying that the population issue concerns individual perceptions of values and lifestyles, and indeed human life itself; it is not an issue on which we can impose solutions on individuals. At the same time, population is the very foundation of nations and the international community as well. It is in the nature of populations that, if they exceed the ecological capacity to support them, there will be grave effects on the nation as a whole, and then on global society.

The government may implement policies within its authority in economic and other such policies because everyone will benefit and people accept them, but this may not be the case for population issues. We here, who are involved in the affairs of state, as representatives of the people, are involved in the population issue in a very real sense. We are in a position to hear them directly day to day. In this role we can reflect what we hear of the daily lives of individuals in the programme.

With our roots in society, we are in a position to describe our dreams to the people, to build the ideal society. We, who share a common ideal, can work together to go beyond the limitations of government departments, and on occasion beyond nation states themselves, and deal with the issue from a long-term perspective. It is in the nature of the population issue that requires dual approach: from a perspective of the individual lives and from a broader perspective

of the future of all of us who live on this planet. Neither lends itself to administrative solution.

In this sense, we in our role as parliamentarians must complement the functions of governments which we deal with directly in our daily work, and at the same time it is absolutely vital that we act for the long-term, general benefit that sometimes governments cannot conceive of. This is the true meaning of the work of parliamentarians. How then should we allocate the roles between ourselves and governments? Let me look at this question more specifically.

### 4. *Roles of governments and parliamentarians*

I believe that we as politicians, and bureaucrats also, put our hearts and souls into working for the people of our nations. However, there is a great difference between politicians and bureaucrats.

Bureaucrats follow the rule and regulations that have been set down. As the nature of bureaucracy, their obligation is restricted by the rule and regulations. However, politicians are always held liable for the consequences. No matter how we try our best, we lose our seats at the next election if the voters do not accept what we do.

This naturally shows up the differences in the roles of the politician and bureaucrat. In the final analysis, bureaucrats are instruments for the implementation of public policy; it is for the politicians to take accountability for the consequences. Clausewitz wrote in his famous *On War* that "failures of strategy cannot be repaired by tactics". I consider that the same relationship applies between strategy and policy. The policies adopted by governments are supreme, but if they do not point in the correct direction, they cannot produce good outcomes. Our role is to build policy through consultation. So what is required of us when we formulate policy?

Parliamentarians are not always specialists like bureaucrats. We have limited skills in the art of implementing policy. Parliamentarians can have

a hand in national policies if they have the support of the electorate. This is in fact our *raison d'être*. Given the nature of parliamentarians, our role is to go beyond the way bureaucrats must work, bound by formal rules. I believe our role is to use our profound powers of discernment, or to find amid the realities of life — those things that people desire and that are vital to human happiness. We should then use the capacities of the bureaucracy to transmute them into specific policies, mobilize the resources required, and enact them as laws. That is the grave responsibility we bear.

Population policies may differ from political party to party and government to government. However, I believe we share common views on the population issue. Just as Japan's JPPF was established as a cross-party group, parliamentary groups all over the world involved in population issues stand above party political views. We aim for improving individual well-being and building a society which respects human dignity. We believe these can only be achieved within a framework of a global environment and harmonious and sustainable development. In other words, we transcend party politics and we share the principle of working for a common objective.

As I pointed out earlier, it is in the nature of involvement with the population issue that it cannot be covered by government alone, whether at the micro- or the macro-level. For that reason, we as parliamentarians must play a positive role. Over the last 40 years, JPPF has existed to support the work of parliamentarians from around the world on population and development and progress the growth of networking. The involvement of parliamentarians in the issues of population and development improves the welfare of the people in the areas they represent, and at the same time involves the parliamentarians in these questions on a global scale, transcending national interests, through cooperation with other parliamentarians who share the same hopes.

Looking back over the tasks we face, it is my hope that we will all be able to genuinely agree on the points I have raised.

##### *5. Specific roles*

Looking back over these points, what specific roles should we be playing through our involvement in the population issue? It is of primary importance to mobilize the laws and budgets which will be required to implement all the different kinds of programmes to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

However, I believe that the part we have to play does not stop there. As I have pointed out, in my view we should make use of our special positions as parliamentarians to ensure that ultimately we bring about good results, which is the important point of the population issue.

In order to bring about good results, we must be clear about the objectives of population programmes, whether they are implemented by governments or international organizations, and how they contribute to the development plans and long-term benefit of respective countries. By making the objectives of programmes clear, we can clarify how they will benefit people and how they can contribute to global sustainable development. This will allow us to investigate the suitability of programmes.

Let us suppose that an investigation shows that a programme is deficient from our point of view as parliamentarians. If we have proposals and ideas based on the objectives of our activities, we should then become more positively involved in putting the proposals to the government and international organizations, in collaboration with the local committee. Thus, if we play such a role and go one step further and propose ideas on the basis of our roles, we can achieve development plans with population programmes at their heart, while at the same time meeting the demands of suitability by achieving good governance, transparency and accountability.

Governments usually undertake a project

according to a range of tasks and duties, and these tasks and duties continue to pile up. From a policy perspective, each project is a means to achieve that policy, not an objective. However, sometimes the means becomes the objective, and the original objective is lost to view.

We parliamentarians are responsible for the outcomes. Our role is to reconfirm the principles and to suggest corrections from the point of view of the overarching objectives. When we look at projects from this point of view, our role also is to properly confirm whether those objectives are being achieved. By properly fulfilling our roles as parliamentarians, we can explain our actions to the constituents and accept the moral responsibility for programmes.

#### *6. The present project and our roles as parliamentarians*

Looked at in this way, then what is the significance of the present project? In fact, the present project began six years ago. In 2007, the German Bundestag and the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (EPF) held a G8 International Parliamentarians' Conference on Population and Development in Berlin, in conjunction with the G8 Summit at Heiligendamm in Germany. On that occasion, the African parliamentarians claimed that there had been virtually no explanation of the official development assistance (ODA) received by their governments, and that they as parliamentarians had been unable to explain it to the voters.

A mere six years ago, parliamentarians were in fact unable to fulfil their role in the area of the implementation of ODA programmes. We took these opinions seriously and drew up programmes with the assistance of the Secretariat. As parliamentarians, we consulted over three years on whether good governance, transparency and accountability had been achieved in ODA programmes relating to population and development issues. These three years of consultations were very fruitful.

We started from developing the policy and theory and made use of our positions as parliamentarians, and the networking among parliamentarians, to show how these objectives could be achieved.

The projects two years ago in Cambodia, and in February this year in Uganda, were carried out to confirm these theoretical studies and reviews in the places where ODA was actually being implemented. The objective of the projects was to explore the role of parliamentarians, which is vital in achieving progress in people's welfare. I have good news to report to all of you. The Secretariat circulated a questionnaire on the information of ODA at the meeting held in Uganda in February, and virtually none of the African participants expressed dissatisfaction with it. Given these results of our efforts, I am confident that APDA-JPPF will make serious contributions to furthering our activities as parliamentarians with the assistance of all of you from Asia and Africa.

#### *7. Conclusion: Objectives of the Zambia meeting*

This year will be an important occasion. We can clarify the results of six years of work and conduct a new review of the next steps we will take in our role as parliamentarians.

You will already have the prior report on the results of our work. At this meeting, I hope you will all give us feedback on our work so far and that you will consider the ideas that all of you have provided on how we can make our work more effective in future. In this meeting, I expect that we will review and confirm our own roles as parliamentarians, and I expect Japan will provide every assistance in more thoroughly performing our roles as parliamentarians.

I am confident that this meeting in Zambia will be an important occasion for a significant step forward into new activities as parliamentarians. Thank you.

## **SESSION 1**

# **Taking Stock: Progress and Challenges for Transparency and Accountability for Aid Implementation**



## Hon. Christowaja Mtinda

MP, Tanzania

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Christowaja Mtinda has a PhD in education from the University of Dar es Salaam. She became a Member of Parliament through special seat since 2010 and is a member of the Parliamentary Family Planning Club in Tanzania. She was a lecturer at the Constituent University of Dar es Salaam from 2006 to 2010 and was a senior examination officer in the National Examination Council of Tanzania from 2004 to 2006.

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I am grateful to present on behalf of Hon. Jenista Joakim Mhagama, Member of Parliament and Deputy Minister of Ministry of Education and Vocational Training of Tanzania.

It is indeed my great honor to address this important audience on the issues of population and development that continue to take central stage in our parliamentary debates as well as in our Club over the last few years. Tanzania is among countries in Sub-Sahara that are challenged by and working hard in addressing the high maternal mortality rate of 432 in the year 2012. Also, the contraceptive prevalence rate was 27.4% for modern contraceptives and 7% for other contraceptives in the year 2010 and the fertility rate was 5.2 per woman of childbearing age. This is according to the Demographic Health Survey of the year 2012.

By any standards, this scenario calls for concerted efforts by all sectors, being private and public as well as state and non-state actors together with peoples' representatives, to make necessary investments in order to promote family planning, reproductive health, and mother and child health. This is why I am here today to share important efforts made by the Tanzanian Parliament under the Family Planning Club chaired by Hon. Deputy Minister for Education and Vocational Training who is also the Member of Parliament for Peramiho Constituency in Tanzania. These efforts made by my club underscore the significant role of

parliamentarians in strengthening and advocacy for increased access to family planning services in the country.

Tanzania is striving for universal access to reproductive health which family planning is a part of. Therefore, in February 2011, 15 Members of Parliament including myself attended a meeting on the situation of family planning services with respect to resource allocation and its relevance to national development. The meeting was organized by the Advance Family Planning Project of the Johns Hopkins University Centre for Communications Program, Futures Group International, and the Human Development Trust.

To most of us, the workshop was an opportunity to further strengthen our knowledge on family planning issues, and agree on how best we should advocate for family planning, population and development agenda. We gained the knowledge from that workshop and we collectively decided to form a Parliamentary Family Planning Club. The Club's main objectives is to advocate for increasing funding and demand more government accountability in ensuring equitable access to family planning services. This Club, which I call champions, is also geared at improving parliamentarians' knowledge on family planning issues and reproductive health in general. The Club was launched on 9 July 2011 by the then Deputy

Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Dr. Lucy Nkya, MP.

I am pleased to inform you that the majority of the Club Members come from various Parliamentary Standing Committees, mainly Social Services, Community Development, HIV/AIDS, and Economic and Finance Committees. These sectorial committees oversee Government Ministries that are directly related with family planning, reproductive health and mother and child health, as well as government budgets. It is encouraging to note that the Club membership has been growing, and more and more parliamentarians are showing great interest in these issues. This means that there will be more voices demanding for action in making family planning integral to development planning and budgeting, at both national and district levels.

Having benefitted from the knowledge on the relationship between population growth and development and regulating fertility through quality family planning services that are accessible to those in need, parliamentary champions on family planning now continue to call for sustained investments in family planning programmes. We have agreed that it is critical to also focus on other related issues, such as ensuring enabling policy environment, individual rights to reproductive health services, gender equality, as well as focusing on the youth. In our agenda, we have outlined the following important areas:

As to the enabling policy environment, we advocate for government policies that link reproductive health to national development targets and the MDGs. We have a number of national policies and frameworks that outline the various targets. For instance, in the area of rights to reproductive health services, our focus has been to advocate for Tanzania's adherence to international conventions, which if I may point out, are well-articulated in most government policies. We continuously advocate for access to these services by those who are eligible, while we preserve good aspects of our

African culture that relate to family planning.

The other important area we are advocating for is sustained investment in women's education, women empowerment, ensuring that gender equality is observed in the provision of reproductive health services, among others. And through this, we will continue to emphasize on affordable and equitable access to these services, and ensure that Tanzanians enjoy their basic right to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children. Lastly but not least, as you well know, Tanzania has a youthful population and we, therefore, also champion for youth empowerment for them to have secure livelihoods. In this area the club has proposal plans whereby we are thinking in opening family clubs in rural areas where we can link ourselves with them in terms of rising awareness, economic empowerment.

It is obvious that we have a broad mandate, even though family planning is the central focus of our Club. For the past year, for instance, the Club members have voiced concern for family planning funding during debates in parliamentary committees and parliamentary sessions. These debates have led to increased visibility of family planning issues in parliament and beyond. Our active participation has also stimulated government action on family planning issues. For example, following the pressure posed by the Family Planning Club, the government increased its own resources for family planning from 0.5 billion to 1.2 billion Tanzanian Shilling from 2010-2011 to 2011-2012.

Some of you may have followed the debates in April 2011 when our Club Members signed a petition and submitted to the Speaker, the Prime Minister, Ministers of Finance, Health and Social Welfare and the Planning Commission, demanding that Family Planning be among priority areas in the Five-Year Development Plan as well as the Long-Term Perspective Plan (2012/2016). Both plans currently focus mainly on training service providers and not in improving reproductive health and family



planning services, especially in rural areas. It is the Club's expectation that our petition will bear the desired fruits in line with family planning matters, in every government plan and budget.

The Family Planning Club has an advocacy strategy (2011-2015) that contains a number of activities that include strengthening knowledge of parliamentarians in family planning issues, enhancing policy dialogue with the government and leadership at the constituency level, engaging the private sector to invest in family planning issues, and also planning to open up youth. The implementation of the strategy began in 2011 at Mother and Child health centers and the General Hospital in Dodoma Municipality; meetings with doctors, midwives and expecting mothers who were in labor wards, and holding consultations with religious leaders on their role in promoting family planning without contravening religious teachings and beliefs.

This year (2014), we have planned to have a study visit in various regions in the country to learn more about contraceptive stock-outs and district efforts to integrate family planning in their respective development plans. Our intention is to meet with local governments and leadership at the constituency level, discuss priorities in family planning programming, engage the private sector to invest in family planning services, conduct open dialogue with the youth to raise their awareness on family planning

services and advocate for quality youth-friendly services in districts. These are but a few of our activities geared at advocating for improved delivery of family planning services to meet the unmet need of 25% as stated in the Demographic and Health Survey.

Finally, I would like at this point to take this opportunity on behalf of the reproductive health and Family planning champions in the Tanzanian Parliament to express our gratitude to development partners and programmes including the John Hopkins University Centre for Communications Program, Human Development Trust and UNFPA to mention but a few, for their contribution to strengthen advocacy toward ensuring universal access to reproductive health services in our country. I would also like to thank partners USAID, UNFPA, DFID and others for their support in facilitating provision of these services in complementing government efforts in this area.

Last but not least, I would also like to recommend a good job done by the Asian and African fora of parliamentarians on population and development in its strong effort to support and champion the ICPD agenda with the need to express the new international development framework that will take over the MDGs in 2015 by focusing the importance of family planning in sustainable development of our countries.

I thank you all for your kind attention.

## Hon. Avinash Rai Khanna

MP, India

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Avinash Rai Khanna has B. Com., LL.B., Diploma in Business Management, educated at D.A.V. College, Jalandhar and Panjab University, Chandigarh. His profession is advocate. From 1997 to 2002, he was a member of Planning Board in Hoshiarpur, from 2002 to 2004 a member of Punjab Legislative Assembly, and from 2002 to 2003 a leader of B.J.P. Legislature Group in Punjab. He was elected to the Lower House of Parliament (Lok Sabha) for the period 2004-2009. In the same period he was a member of several Parliamentary Committees of Lok Sabha. From 2009 to 2010 he was a member of Punjab State Human Rights Commission and in 2010 he was elected to the Upper House (Rajya Sabha). Hon. Khanna is a member of various Parliamentary Committees of Home, Transport and Government Assurances of Upper House of Parliament.

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Openness and market access are not enough to allow developing countries to benefit from economic globalization because they lack the knowledge and infrastructure to produce goods and services and the need increased foreign aid and investment. In fact, some have argued that trade liberalization has in some countries resulted in de-industrialization and even greater poverty.

Such countries “simply lack the capacity” to benefit from globalization. They do not have the ability to produce goods and services, the knowledge needed to create a broad industrial base and the infrastructure that enables countries to trade and communicate. It is thus necessary to strengthen managerial and entrepreneurial skills in developing countries and to bolster the aid for the Trade programme which aims at helping such countries take advantage of export opportunities.

It was in this context that a need for dissemination of aid to developing countries was realized. To ensure that the aid fund was utilized effectively toward the desired ends, it was a prerequisite to introduce policy reforms and infrastructure that could channelize the aid. Therefore, the World Bank and International Monetary Fund guided aid-receiving countries

to introduce a set of conditions that can be satisfied to make disbursements in a development policy operation.

These conditions were based on the World’s Best Practices and were: (a) maintaining an adequate macroeconomic policy framework; (b) implementing the overall programme in a manner satisfactory to the Bank; and (c) implementing the policy and institutional actions that are deemed critical for the implementation and expected results of the supported programme. These measures were deemed to ensure that Transparency and Accountability in the utilization and implementation of the aid for development policy. Also, these measures enabled the countries to adapt their Government systems to benefit from the positives of globalization.

#### *Constitutional Provision regarding Foreign Aids in India*

After independence, it was mentioned in the constitution that the Union and States should have adequate financial powers at their disposal to discharge their responsibilities. The Article 292 of the Indian Constitution states that “the Union shall have unlimited power of borrowing, upon security of the revenues of the India, either within or outside. The Union executive

shall exercise the power subject only to such limits as may be fixed by the Parliament from time to time. However, the borrowing power of a State is subject to a number of Constitutional limitations.

#### *The Mechanism for Foreign Aid*

Within the Economic Freedom of the World (EFW), various Divisions/Units deal with different multilateral/bilateral external donors, such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Division, which handles all the matters relating to the EFW of the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) under the Ministry of Finance (MOF). They estimate required aid-funds in India at the beginning of each fiscal year, enter into negotiations with the foreign donor agencies regarding the quantum, terms and conditions of aid fund, on which they are willing to grant these funds to India. If all goes well, aid agreements are finalized. These aid agreements can be specific or general in nature, as per their terms and conditions.

For example, an agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Japan for “Yamuna Action Plan Project”, dated 21 December 1992, specified the terms of credit, while the “Indo-U.S. Technical Cooperation Agreement” signed between Government of India and the Government of USA did not deal with specific offers of aid.

The borrower identifies the project having high priority in the development perspective and prepares the project proposal describing its objectives, scope of work, implementing agency, implementation schedule, project cost and the amount of assistance and after this there are different levels and agencies which are involved to finalize the project.

#### *Major Donors*

India received foreign aid mainly from the multilateral institutions like the WB, (both IBRD and IDA), ADB, OPEC Fund, IMF Trust Fund, EEC, UNDP, ISO and IFAD. On the other hand, bilaterally, Japan has been the largest contributor.

#### *Multilateral Donors*

The ADB is a major regional financial institution and India’s subscription to the Bank’s capital stock is the fourth largest of all member countries after Japan, the U.S. and the People’s Republic of China. The major areas of lending by the Bank include the following sectors:

- 1) Transport & Communications
- 2) Energy
- 3) Financial
- 4) Multi-sector projects
- 5) Industry and non fuel minerals
- 6) Social Infrastructure, and
- 7) Irrigation.

#### *Bilateral Donors*

Japan is the largest bilateral donor to India. Japan started ODA to India in 1958 in the form of Yen Loan. This was the Japan’s first case of Yen Loan. Since then Japan has been extending ODA to India mainly in the form of Yen Loans (95% of Japan’s ODA to India is Yen Loans).

Japan hopes to enhance its political and economic relationship with India, the largest democratic nation in the world. Japan also believes that steady development of India is a key to maintaining stability in Asia and improving the economic condition of the poor, who constitute 30% (about 300 million) of India’s population, is important to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

India receives the highest bilateral assistance from Japan as compared to U.K., U.S., Germany, other European countries, Russia and others.

Focus Areas of Japan’s ODA to India have been as follows:

- Development of economic infrastructure, mainly in the area of power and transportation
- Poverty reduction through agricultural, rural development
- Environmental protection through afforestation and improvement of quality of water
- Assisting to improve health and medical care.

Major Projects Assisted so far:

1. Nagarjuna Sagar Hydro Electric Project
2. Telecom Project
3. Thal Vaishet Fertilizer Project
4. Bombay Sub Railway Modernization Project
5. Calcutta Metro Railway Project
6. Ammonium Sulphate Fertilizer Project
7. Anpara 'B' Thermal Power Project
8. Anola Fertilizer Project
9. HBJ Gas Pipeline Project
10. Assam Gas Turbine Project
11. Srisailem Left Bank Power Project
12. Raichur Thermal Power Project
13. Tourism Development Project
14. Mysore Paper Mills Project
15. Gandhar Gas Based Power Project
16. Indira Gandhi Nahar Project
17. Anpara Power Transmission System Project
18. Power System Improvement and Small Hydro Project
19. National Highway Projects
20. Ajanta-Ellora Conservation and Tourism Development Project

#### *Utilization of External Aid*

The problem of low level of utilization of external assistance resulting in a substantial part of authorized loans being in pipeline has been a cause of concern. The main factors responsible for underutilization of assistance are believed to be the time lag between commitments and conclusions of specific credit arrangements, time consuming procedures governing procurement of stores and equipment, delays in land acquisition for construction work, rehabilitation and resettlement of displaced persons and domestic budgetary constraints in providing counterpart funds.

High priority was given to the utilization of unused external assistance. Efforts were made to identify and remove the constraints in aid utilization. The measures taken to improve aid utilization included:

- Waiver of DGTD clearance for import of capital goods under all externally aided projects
- Enhancement of additional central

assistance to the States to 100% in the case of social sector projects

- Formation of standard bid documents and simplification of other procedures
- The decision taken in the 1990s to pass on to the states the entire external assistance as additional central assistance in respect of all sectors (not just in respect of only social sectors as before) and to release advance central assistance to meet the initial liquidity requirements of the State Governments were other important steps in the direction of speeding up aid utilization and these bore results after the 1980s.

#### *Transparency and Accountability in Aid Implementation*

The Government of India has taken several initiatives toward building systems to monitor programmes and develop data bases on the implementation of various physical as well as social projects. In recent years, India has witnessed the virtual proliferation of accountability efforts fuelled largely by civil society activism. These efforts have aimed at strengthening citizen 'voice' by creating platforms for engagement with the state and empowering citizens with information and tools through which they can demand accountability. Some prominent tools include: participatory budgeting, social audits, Right to Information and citizen report cards.

The Government has taken steps to increase transparency and create spaces for greater citizen participation in its everyday functioning. The 73rd and 74<sup>th</sup> amendments, the Right to Information, mandatory social auditing are some examples.

#### *Transparency Measures*

Some of the transparency measures taken by the Government of India in recent past are:

- Emphasis on digitization of documents/data
- Placing all the information about the project in public domain
- Regularly updating the website

- Uses of media to spread awareness about the programme among the beneficiaries
- Involvement of stakeholders at various levels of the programme implementation and monitoring
- Provision of time bound services delivery and redressal of grievances
- Provision for social audit
- Application of citizen charter
- Implementation of RTI (Right to Information Act)

*Measures taken by the Parliament to ensure Transparency & Accountability in Governance*

Transparency and Accountability are the two pillars of good governance. Parliaments are responsible for ensuring accountability and openness of government through oversight of activities of the executive and its auxiliary bodies in order to curb corruption and effect good practices. Parliaments also have the power of the purse and the mandate to scrutinize the utilization of public finances and ensure financial accountability.

*Mechanisms to ensure transparency and accountability: Committee System*

The committees in parliament are central to ensuring efficiency, transparency and accountability of the Parliament and executive institutions. Often Public Account Committees are mandated to scrutinize annual auditor's reports on public finances. Essentially, the work of committees is to systematically sustain scrutiny of the executive, ensuring government accountability and transparency to parliament.

*Question Period*

Question periods are strong mechanisms for compelling the executive to account for how it administers the state. Through question periods, Members of Parliament, particularly opposition parliamentarians, are given the opportunity to solicit information from their counterpart on several issues. By so doing, parliamentarians are able to detect and expose abuses involving the executive and demand for redress. This process may sometimes lead to the resignation of a minister.

*Various Legislations*

Various laws have been legislated by the parliament to ensure accountability of the executive to the parliament. Some of these legislations are:

- Lokpal Act
- Right to Information Act
- Whistleblowers Act
- Fiscal Responsibility and Budgetary Management Act
- Citizens Charters Act
- Right of Citizens for Time Bound Delivery of Goods and Services and Redressal of their Grievances Bill
- Electronic delivery of Service Bill
- CVC (Central Vigilance Commission) Act

Apart from the abovementioned measures and mechanism, there are still a lot of challenges including non-involvement of elected representatives in this to implement all this, but we hope that with the passage of time we will overcome all this. In fact, bureaucrats play an important role and most of them are stuck there.

During the recent visit of Honorable Prime Minister of India to Japan there was a great boost to the whole mechanism of ODA, when the two Prime Ministers of India and Japan signed a number of agreements for developing the infrastructure in a big way and the Government of Japan has assured to invest 3.5 Trillion yen in the coming 5 years. We are grateful to the Japanese Government for the same.

I specially thank APDA for its initiative to organize such meetings where we can discuss and acquaint ourselves deeply about such matters and enhance our knowledge about the same.

In ending my speech, I would like to quote a phrase that people always say in India and also in the rest of the world. It says that, "if wealth is lost, nothing is lost, if health is lost, something is lost, if character is lost, everything is lost". So if we want transparency and accountability,

character must be given importance. If we have character, then there will be no corruption. I am truly thankful to all participants, who have listened to me carefully.

## **SESSION 2**

# **Advocacy and Policy Intervention for the Integration of Population Issues into National Development Frameworks**





## Hon. Tissa Karalliyadde

Minister of Child Development and Women Affairs, Sri Lanka

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Tissa Karalliyadde entered politics in 1989 and entered Parliament in 1994 and has been serving as a Member of Parliament for 20 years. In 1999, he became Deputy Minister of Health and Indigenous Medicine and Deputy Minister of Religious Affairs and Medicine. In 2000, he became Minister of Indigenous Medicine and then Minister of Land. From 2010 until now he has been Minister of Child Development and Women Affairs. Hon. Karaliyadde is a holder of agriculture diploma from an agricultural school in Japan. He has experience in the tea sector (plantation) and also in the garment and textile sector for 17 years.

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It gives me great pleasure being able to attend this programme organized by the Asian Population Development Association (APDA) and Zambia All Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (ZAPPD). First, I would like to thank Hon. Yasuo Fukuda, the former Prime Minister of Japan, who is the current Chair of APDA, and also Hon. Highvie Hamududu, Chair of ZAPPD, for inviting me for this important event, which is a continuation of the Cambodia, and Uganda conferences, which I attended. Today, I would like to share with you some of my country's achievements in the fields of education, health and population management.

As we all know, it is said that annually the world population increases by approximately 77.7 million, and 90% of the children born annually belong to the developing countries. It is also said that a very high percentage of these births are either unplanned or due to ignorance. As such it is believed that the stabilization of the global population can be achieved by preventing the unwanted pregnancies, and stabilizing the global population is the most essential and effective measure to sustainable development.

The population policies adopted in Sri Lanka over the past few decades have resulted in positive changes such as declining fertility, which in turn has influenced the demographic

changes.

Sri Lanka has been able to reduce its population growth to the least possible level, which stands at 0.86% today. According to the latest Census carried out in 2012, which covered the entire country after a lapse of 30 years due to war against terrorism, the population of Sri Lanka was reported as 20,277,597 (20.27 million).

#### *HEALTH*

Sri Lankans enjoy an extensive free healthcare services and infrastructure provided by the state for over 50 years. Free and easy access to reproductive health services including family planning has been a crucial factor contributing to very positive health indicators as manifested in the maternal mortality rate (MMR), infant and child mortality rates, and increasing life expectancy.

During the past four decades, there is a continuing declining trend in the maternal mortality. Programmes implemented through the health sector ensuring availability of antenatal services, skilled attendance at birth, improved quality of antenatal and natal care, improving access to blood transfusion services and other specialized care, have all contributed to the decline in the MMR. The general life expectancy of females in Sri Lanka stands at 79.9, while the life expectancy of males stands

at 72.85. The current Infant Mortality rate is 9.02 per 1,000, while maternal mortality rate stands at 35 per 100,000. The birth rate stands at 16.24 births per 1,000, while the death rate stands at 6.06 per 1,000.

#### *Health issues and progress in Sri Lanka*

Sri Lanka is currently working toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). To achieve the targets for the reduction of child mortality, which forms MDG4, Sri Lanka has to reduce under-five deaths per 1000 live births to 7 per 1000, from current 9.02 per 1000. Measles immunization in Sri Lanka has to be increased to 100% by 2015 from current 99%.

Considering that Sri Lanka's under-five mortality rate has been consistently falling since 1990 and measles immunization is nearing 100%, Sri Lanka will no doubt be able to achieve its MDG4 targets by 2015. The global MDG5 target for maternal health is to reduce the number of women who die in pregnancy and childbirth by three-quarters between 1990 and 2015.

When applying this target to Sri Lanka, maternal mortality should fall to 21 cases per 100,000 live births, from current 35 per 100,000 live births. This indicates that some significant improvements need to be done, and the government is working toward reaching these targets. Part of the goal also stipulates that 100% of births must be attended by a skilled health professional, and at the moment the figure stands at 99%, and as such this target is virtually achieved.

MDG6 aims for a reduction in the prevalence of HIV, malaria and other diseases. Sri Lanka is a low prevalence country for HIV/AIDS. In the period 2010-2011, there was a significant decrease in the number of reported cases of malaria from 632 to 124. Estimated tuberculosis (TB) mortality fell slightly in the period 1990-2010. Incidence of TB (per 100,000 people) in Sri Lanka was last measured at 66 in 2010 and with continued progress Sri Lanka can achieve further reduction by 2015. In summary, Sri Lanka is on track to achieve, or come close to

achieving most of the health MDG targets by 2015.

In 2013, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported that despite the significant progress made toward improving general health care in the country, there is a need for the reform of the primary health care model. While hospitals in general are well equipped in terms of staff and equipment, the public health needs revitalizing, and the government is therefore working toward further improving the health and sanitation standards in the country.

Furthermore, while great achievements have been made in decreasing the incidence of many communicable diseases, diseases such as dengue and other neglected tropical diseases continue to be a threat. The Ministry of Health is continuing its efforts to combat these diseases.

The WHO reported that non-communicable diseases are also considered to be a growing burden. The Government of Sri Lanka has so far invested efforts in curbing tobacco use by introducing a smoking ban in public places and increasing tobacco tax. According to the latest UN Human Development Report published in 2014, Sri Lanka is notable for its Human Development achievements, despite a legacy of violent conflict that lasted for 30 long years.

Sri Lanka's score on the 2013 Human Development Index, a composite measure of income, health and education, was 0.750, placing it in the High human development category. Sri Lanka ranked 73<sup>rd</sup> out of 187 countries, higher than other South Asian countries and even some East Asian countries.

According to this report, Sri Lanka's economic prospects have been strong, with relatively high 6 to 8% growth rates in recent years, despite the global economic downturn. The health sector has performed remarkably, and educational achievements are also substantial.

## *EDUCATION*

It is said that around the world, 114 million children do not get basic education, and globally there are 774 million illiterate adults. Fortunately, in Sri Lanka, there has been a marked increase in the literacy rates among both sexes over the past few decades, and the current literacy rate stands at 92.5%. Education in Sri Lanka has a long history, which dates back two millennia, and the Constitution of Sri Lanka provide for education as a fundamental right.

The number of years of schooling is used as a measure of educational attainment. Sri Lanka has an education system which dictates nine years of compulsory schooling for every child, and it is one of the few countries in the world that provides universal free education from primary to university level. The primary school enrolment rate in Sri Lanka is over 99%, and the youth literacy rate stands at 98%. Sri Lanka, therefore, has one of the most literate populations among the developing countries.

In Sri Lanka, provision of educational facilities has been given high priority by successive governments since independence since the introduction of universal free education in 1949. Mid-day free meal programme and supply of free school books and uniforms to school children are the programmes launched by the government to further enhance the welfare package implemented to improve the quality of education in the country.

Most of the schools in Sri Lanka are maintained by the government as a part of free education. According to the Ministry of Statistics, today there are approximately 9,830 public schools serving close to four million students all around the island.

In Sri Lanka, we have three types of government schools, namely: National Schools coming under direct control of the Central Government; Provincial Schools coming under direct control of Provincial Administration; and the Pirivenas (Schools for Buddhist priests) also coming under the Central Government.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of private schools in Sri Lanka, and these private schools also follow the local curriculum set up by the Ministry of Education. There are also a few international schools in Sri Lanka not restricted to the expatriate community, and anyone with the ability and willingness to pay can join these schools. These schools prepare students for foreign university admission.

At tertiary level, Sri Lanka has 15 universities, all of which are public institutions. Other institutions of higher education include medical schools, engineering schools, schools of law, and technical and vocational training schools and National Colleges of Education.

## *VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING*

Vocational education and training in Sri Lanka is managed by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission of the Ministry of Vocational and Technical Training. Training includes course-based curriculum at vocational technical training centers and apprenticeship at private or public organizations.

Higher education in vocational fields could be achieved through several universities. The National Vocational Qualifications Systems in Sri Lanka (NVQSL) provides a structured seven levels of qualifications from Level 1 to Level 7. Vocational education and training is carried out to reach the degree level at Open University, and the University of Vocational Technology. The 37 Technical colleges offer diploma certificates, and the Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technical Education and the Sri Lanka School of Agriculture also offer diploma certificates.

Apart from these, the Ministry of Education has launched a non-formal vocational education programme, which allows school drop-outs and adults who did not complete their school education to earn a living through self-employment. Most of these courses are held at community centers and they cover a wide range of fields such as dressmaking,

beauty culture, hairdressing, carpentry, plumbing, painting and so on.

#### *TECHNOLOGICAL LABORATORIES*

Introducing technological training from secondary school level onwards is one of the major strategies adopted to make the education fit for the future job market. The main aim of this programme is to link the secondary and tertiary education institutes with world of work, and making the university degrees more relevant to job market emphasizing Public Private Partnership (PPP) in education and training. Twenty-five University Colleges are already being constructed with affiliation to the University of Vocational and Technology (UNIVOTEC) to facilitate career development of students who follow the technology stream and vocational training in schools.

Through this programme, we are hoping to make the University degrees to be labor demand-oriented, and the curriculum content of academic programmes will also be redesigned to match the requirements of employers. We have already started restructuring 1,000 secondary schools under the “MAHINDA CHINTHANA”, or the Vision of MAHINDA, His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksa, the President of Sri Lanka.

Under this programme, each of 1000 secondary schools is to be provided with a fully equipped Technological Laboratory with complete Science, Mathematics and Language Laboratories, a Distance Education unit, and an Information and Communication Laboratory equipped with 40 computers. The aim of this programme is also to provide equal educational opportunities for children of all areas of the country by enhancing the facilities for technological training.

This technology stream was introduced to the advance level students with compulsory vocational training for selected schools. This school-based practical and technical education (SBPTE) programme was launched with vocational counseling. The advance level

students who follow this technology stream and vocational training will be awarded the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Certificate so that they will have direct entry to industry.

The Ministry of Education has already recruited 1000 graduates of Information and Communication Technology as teachers for these. This programme will also make the concept of free education that all Sri Lankans can enjoy more meaningfully, and it will be the turning point of our current education system.

#### *E-Libraries or “NENASELA PROGRAM”*

Information and Communication Technology literacy level of Sri Lankans in 2005 was only 4%, and in 2014 it has reached nearly 40%, and our goal is to increase it to 75% by 2016. As a new innovation, the aim of the “E-Library” or “Nenasela” Programme is to provide Information and Communication Technology knowledge for the rural communities, and by 2014 we have been able to establish 797 such “E-Libraries” in Sri Lanka. It is our plan to complete 1,000 “E-Libraries” by the end of 2014. Our national target is to establish 14,000 “E-Libraries” throughout the country.

This “E-Library” programme was selected as the best and Number one among 150 Community Information and Communication Technology projects of 110 countries, and received the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s “ACCESS TO LEARNING” cash prize award valued at US\$1 million in 2014. In addition the “E-Library” programme also received a software package valued at US\$1 million from the same Foundation.

In presenting the award, Mr. Bill Gates, the Founder of Microsoft and the world’s richest man, has expressed his appreciation to His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksa, the President of Sri Lanka, for his efforts in extending the Information and Communication Technology knowledge to the rural communities aimed at achieving a balanced social development in the country. Thank you.

## Hon. Fredrick Outa

MP, Kenya

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Fredrick Outa is a Member of Kenya National Assembly representing Nyando Constituency, Kisumu County. He holds a BSc in Health Management and an MA in ICS from the U.S. In Parliament, he serves as Sub-Chair in Departmental Committee on Agriculture as well as Health Committee. Hon. Fredrick runs micro-finance with rice farmers in Western Kenya that provides food security to the people of Kenya. His Foundation “Fred Outa Foundation” supports vulnerable people through education and health. He has represented Kenya in these fora for the last 6 years.

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Good afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen. I will take a few minutes to present information, especially efforts by the parliament on transparency and accountability. This will be a module taken from our own constitution in Kenya. But first of all, APDA for last six years organized high-level meetings and my first attendance was six years ago in Japan and I have seen this conference shifting from Asia to our Continent – Africa and especially in Sub-Sahara. We want to thank you and hope this programme continues because since then there are a lot of things that have been changed.

We have learned lessons, and most of the participants utilized them in various countries and therefore I want to congratulate you for your efforts and may you continue to advise and direct legislators on their oversight role in your countries. I want to also thank the Zambian government and parliament, especially Hon. Boniface Mutale for hosting us today. We were with Hon. Chris Baryomunsi in Uganda and today we are with you. And I truly hope next meeting will be in Kenya.

I want to convey a side note to Hon. Mutale, to Zambian government especially the executive, about what I have seen personally. Last month I was here for the Commonwealth conference and they delayed our Conference by two hours and today I have seen the same. When we want

to talk about accountability and transparency, it starts from the executive. If they are not accountable for their time, then it will be more problem for all of us. I just want you to know that when a Kenyan Member of Parliament by the name of Fredrick Outa was here, I got a little bit angry because I thought Ministers will be here on time as scheduled, but if they come late, then how do you ensure accountability for oversight as a Minister in that country. This means all the projects will be delayed. So this is just a slight note as a good neighbor to send this message to the government of Zambia. If they were in Kenya, we would definitely turn down that minister and continue our programme.

Let me go ahead and talk about the efforts by the Parliament on transparency and accountability on many projects that we have seen in various nations. I want to tell in this conference that Kenya before 2010 was in bad shape, and corruption was on the highest order, because there was no law that guided people how to implement ODA projects. Corruption was the order of the day and with any money which the Government of Kenya used to receive for ODA project or within the government itself, I want to tell you critically that only 60% was implemented and 40% used to go through wrong hands. That is why the Kenyan people decided to enact the new Constitution as transparency is important in attaining good governance and economic prosperity. If you do

not have accountability, then it also will be wasting time for us here. But I think those of us who are here today are legislators and you know our roles to serve people and to be accountable to them. And when the Constitution is absent, all fall in corruption. Kenya like many other countries has existing institutional framework for transparency and accountability within its public service and other organs of the Government and the Parliament. These are entailed in our new Constitution and Acts of the Parliament, and we have Constitutional offices and parliamentary procedures.

All these areas are to guide Kenyans on accountability and transparency in implementing ODA projects. Before 2010, we had our old Constitution, which meant nothing for implementation or accountability and transparency. And the promulgation of the Constitution of 2010 was a step in instituting a culture of accountability and other values including the respect for rule of law, protection of human rights and principles of integrity in the Government of Kenya.

Article 3 calls for every person to respect, uphold and defend the Constitution. We truly believe that our new Constitution will be the highlight, the benchmark of knowing how we utilize all the ODA-supported projects. It also provides for the national values and principles of governance of which transparency, interiority and accountability are among them. These values and principles bind all state organs, state officers, public officers and all persons.

And I want to say that the new Constitution binds them if there is doubt of any public officers and of Kenyans. Chapter 6 provides for the guiding principles of leadership and integrity, and it is upon the people of Kenya to leave to the government.

The Constitution of Kenya also respects the Bill of Rights. This means the Government remains accountable to the people of Kenya in so far as upholding their rights and fundamental

freedom is concerned. These categories include freedom from discrimination, access to information, but the key one here is economic and social rights. If anyone is found to have violated economic crimes in Kenya, there is a punitive measure that Kenyan government will take against that kind of person, who will be thrown into jail for couple of years or even get life imprisonment.

The spirit of accountability and transparency is also articulated in several Chapters, especially in Chapter seven and Chapter 82. Chapter 82 provides general principles for electoral system and among them are transparent and accountable elections. Even though we had challenges in Kenya in 2013 with our electoral system, now we are trying to improve transparency and accountability.

Kenya embraces the separation of powers between three arms of the government and existing checks and balance. I think this is familiar to Members of Parliament who are here. Kenya like many other countries has legislative, executive and judiciary powers, if all these three are mixed up, then you will find that corruption will arise. Then no one will be able to correct the executive and that is the way we found out in many African nations.

We still have very strong influence under the executive, and sometimes no one knows the separation of powers. We realize that in certain countries, legislators are sometimes influenced by the executive and they are often in the team of the executive instead of overseeing the executive arm. In Kenya, this is very strict today and this is something we are proud of, which has helped Kenyan to implement various projects without the government twisting arms of the legislative or judiciary. They all are separate.

Before that, the executive had more powers over projects that come to your constituency. And if you are not dancing with their team, they will take that project to another place. But this is not happening anymore in Kenya, because

this separation of powers under the new Constitution state categorically that the powers of executive can also be questioned by the people of Kenya and their legislators. Any Kenyans who feel that the government has taken a wrong direction on implementing any programme, they can either go to court or can be represented through their legislators.

On this transparency and accountability, the separation of powers now dictate what amount of money goes where. This is done through the oversight of the budget process by parliamentarians. This means that the executive is no longer an organ arm of the government that will come up with budget and dictate its citizens what to do. Today in Kenya, that kind of budget must go through various departments of the committees and must be approved by them in order to be implemented by the government.

The Parliament has enacted legislation to establish various accountability institutions. This is in addition to the independent constitutional ones. Some of the independent accountability institutions include the one we find in our Article 79, which provides for the establishment of an independent ethics and anti-corruption commission for the purpose of ensuring compliance with and enforcement of the leadership and integrity provisions. So it means that if you are found with any corrupt dealings in Kenya, these institutions are mandated to investigate any individuals who are found capable of corruption in the country and they are mandated to charge them in a court of law and penalized.

Another institution, which is very important in dealing with accountability and transparency in Kenya, is the Controller of Budget and Auditor General. The Controller of Budget controls entire budget for the nation. When the Parliament has already approved budget, it is upon the Controller of Budget to put checks and balances and to follow up the amount to implement in certain projects.

If they realized that there is shortfall in several

areas, especially dealing with ministries, then various ministries have to come up with reports on a quarterly basis. If they fail to implement certain programmes at certain time, then it will be upon the Controller of Budget not to add money until they refund the money which they have been given.

This is something new in Kenya, and I personally think that it is the best way to go. Before there was no accountability and the ministries just at the end of year provided unaccountable implementation of projects, but now they cannot do that. Currently in Kenya, we have a so-called accountable government and all those government heads cannot receive any extra money until and unless they provide accountability of allocation. If they do not, during the whole year they cannot implement any project in their various county governments.

The Auditor General will follow all money that has been distributed by the Controller of Budget and in the end the Auditor General will make a recommendation. If you find that there is a great violation or misappropriation of funds, the Auditor will direct the judiciary to take action against such kind of institutions. We have just realized that this one still works for the government of Kenya in terms of accountability and transparency.

The Parliament, in which all of us are members here, is to legislate and conduct oversight in such a manner that we are also accountable to ourselves. In Kenya before 2010, before the new Constitution, many of the oversights by the Members of Parliament sometimes were targeted toward certain institutions or business communities because of their self-interests.

Today in our new standing orders, it could be penalized. You have to declare your interests, when you are dealing with oversights or institutions. If you have an interest then you have to state it before your role as legislator. If you do not declare your interest on any matters, which you suppose to oversee, then you could

be penalized by the National Assembly, and that also may end up with losing your position as a Member of Parliament. Or it may give it to the hand of judiciary to enact proceedings against you. I realized that all these have really supported Kenya under the new Constitution to strengthen accountability and transparency.

In conclusion, the Parliament of Kenya has made effort in enhancing accountability and transparency. However, gaps remain, for example:

- the leveraging of ICTs in enhancing transparency: the Parliament of Kenya is on the web; however more is being done to ensure its open and accessible information to the public on lots of issues through a click of the button
- The review of several pieces of legislation to conform to various transparency and accountability provisions in the Constitution in a bid to promote accountability in the Parliament
- The separation of powers between the legislature, judiciary and executive may be construed to mean that the Parliament is not accountable. How the Parliament ought to deal with this without compromising the integrity and independence of the legislature remains a grey area.

I want to end up there and thank you very much for listening to me. I want to encourage all legislators who are here from African and Asian nations, especially my brothers from Africa, since we still have a long way to go for accountability and transparency on implementing projects within the Governments and ODA-supporting projects. It is my request to all legislators who are here to stand above the influence of the executive. If you are in the

government, of course you are truthful to your promises to your people of your country, and if you are in a position, you are also called to stand firm. When the position is influenced by the government of the day, corruption will retrieve and there will be no development.

In Kenya we are making our nation stronger and stronger. We are in a position to keep the government on their promises. For example, the government made a promise for a laptop project, which provides laptops to all primary schools, but that has not been done. They talk about health, too. We are in a position on a day-to-day basis to engage the government and ask them about the implementation of those projects that they promise to the Kenyan people without corruption or misappropriating of funds. That is really going on in Kenya today.

That is why we have called for the amendment of the new section of this Constitution so that we do not go to the Government and ask them on their mandates to the people they represent. We want the Constitution to speak for all citizens, because it used to be that if you were not in the Government, you could not access the support from those areas. This is what you will hear today in Kenya on a daily basis to make the government accountable. I know our neighbors from Uganda or Zambia sometimes know what is happening in Kenya. Kenya is steady and growing economically because of accountability that we have decided to make the Government of today to be accountable to its people without any corruption at all.

I want to thank you very much for listening to me and I hope to meet you in the next forum either in Kenya or elsewhere. Thank you very much.



## Discussion

Chair: **Hon. Lemlem Hadgu Yifter**

MP, Ethiopia

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Lemlem Hadgu Yifter is a member of Budget and Finance Committee and a member of the Standing Committee. She is a holder of an MA in Public Management.

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**Chair:**

Thank you Hon. Fredrick Outa for your presentation and we are going to start discussion. Before that, may I invite Honorable Members from Tanzania and India to join our table. If you have any questions to presenters you are welcome to ask it.

**Hon. Nidup Zangpo, Bhutan:**

Since my colleagues there raised their hands, I would like to be the first to ask a question. My question goes to my neighbor and colleague from India. Hon. Khanna, in your presentation you have pointed out that when we talk about transparency and accountability, you mentioned the character of a person. If character gets lost everything gets lost.

It is applicable to everybody, and I would like to ask you that character is one factor that can be transparent and accountable, but character depends on person to person as well. So my question would be that in order to be highly accountable as a person and as a parliamentarian, what are the mechanisms that hold a person accountable for their actions. What are the mechanisms placed in India, I hope you understood my question, Sir?

**Chair**

If you have other questions, you are welcome.

**Hon. Avinash Khanna, India:**

Thank you for question. In my presentation, I have mentioned two, three things specifically.

One, the Right to Information (RTI) in India is very effective. We have got a RTI commission from the State level to the National level. Even at the district level, we have responsible officials who used to get queries about the functioning of public servants. If an applicant is not satisfied with an answer of the official, then he has the right to appeal before the RTI commission. The RTI commission is an independent body, and it is comprised of eminent persons and they can even impose fine on the person who has given the reply. If the reply is delayed, then also the RTI commission can impose the fine.

Second mechanism is the press. Now media is so active in India, every day we see a lot of news that is published and telecast regarding the character of politicians, so the media also plays a role to make men upright. The most important factor depends on opponent men, and whether they want to remain honest or not. It depends on the society they live in, but there are so many legal systems in India, which are the failing to capture persons. You might know that so many scams have come before the country and it was mostly brought by parliamentary person or via the media. So in case of character I think it is a basic thing which can make man transparent and accountable.

**Chair**

Thank you, any other question?

**Hon. Stephen Kampyongo, Zambia:**

I would like to apologize for missing some parts

of the event. My name is Stephen Kampyongo, I am Member of Parliament from Shiwang'andu Constituency. I have been a member of ZAPPD for the past three years and I have been privileged to attend conferences and discuss number of resolutions. My question directs to the honorable member from Kenyan parliament. Since we are dealing here with population, I would like to find from you on what extent it was when you passed a law in parliament related to polygamy, whether you took it into account what legislation, what impact that legislation was going to have on the issues of population.

**Chair**

OK, thank you. Are there any other questions? Burundi, please.

**Hon. Jeremie Kekenwa, Burundi:**

My question goes to Hon. Fredrick Outa about provisions of Kenya, about recall on electorate of Members of Parliament, who have been elected in the constituencies. I would like to be informed if the provision exists, and if so I would like to know about the procedures and whether it exists for a long time in the Kenyan Constitution.

**Chair**

Thank you, and any other questions?

**Hon. Nidup Zangpo, Bhutan:**

I would like to ask H.E. Minister of Child Development and Women Affairs of Sri Lanka. You have mentioned that you give priority to education and health as the right of the people and they are enshrined even in the Constitution. I would like to share with you that similar priority has been given even in Bhutan to all the children, especially to education and health. But the problem now we are facing is that more and more educated people come out from universities and colleges every year. There are lots of turnouts because of education, but the job market is stagnant now. We cannot recruit every graduate that has come out from colleges and schools in the job market.

I would like to ask you how you deal with such issues in Sri Lanka. Parents think that it is the right of the children not just getting education by the state but after education it is also the duty of the state to give each and every young person a job. So there is not a match between these two. I would like to hear your recommendation and advice on how to deal with it. Thank you very much.

**Chair**

First India, then Kenya and last Sri Lanka, please.

**Hon. Avinash Khanna, India:**

Your presentation was good and so many activities are going on in Sri Lanka. My question is what mechanism in your country is there for institutional delivery of children. I meant to say that the delivery of child must be 100% at hospitals, so what is the mechanism in your country?

Secondly, you have told about mid-day meal programme. We also in India provide mid-day meal to children. The first requirement is that meals should be fresh and cooked. So what is the mechanism in your country to provide this meal programme to children and whether you provide it only to government schools or all schools? Thank you.

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

I want to answer the question concerning the marriage bill. Kenya passed a polygamy law and it is related to population issues. I want you to understand that this marriage bill was passed because of what we have in our new constitution – the right of life for every human being. And for those who are from Africa, whether you want to accept it or not, polygamy exists. It either exists through the so-called concubines in African nations. People could still pretend that they have one wife and that they wed in church but what we have in Kenya is what we call concubines. Men have several wives, who are not declared as married.

But if you look into real situations, these men and concubines bear children. Kenya now

devises to protect the right of children, because if you hide responsibilities for your concubine children, you give burden to the nation to take care of them. That is why this bill was to correct this injustice, whereby their hiding will come out as polygamies. So if you want to be polygamous, then declare it under provided laws in Kenya.

In terms of the population, would it be wise to have children born out of the so-called wedlock? These are the things we looked into. Even if we do not legalize polygamy, yet men constantly marry more than one wife. That was done in the spirit of protecting the children rights to live. So if you want to get married, everyone now in Kenya can go and get a second wife. If you are Muslim, the Muslim law allows you to have up to four wives — you can correct me Muslims who are here — under their Quran. If you are Christians in Kenya, if you need to be polygamous, then you must also under this law get consent from the first wife to get a second wife.

In that context, if you stay with a lady for six months, you will be declared married under the customary law. So if you have a girlfriend outside of your marriage, you stay with that woman for six month, then you will be compelled to marry her. So there are pros and cons into this, but in terms of the population, we want to have the right population, whose rights are to be protected so that even the children, who are born out of wedlock, their parents will be known so as to give them better shelter, better food and better education. That is why this bill was passed and this was not meant to encourage men to have several wives without responsibility.

And I think that the South African President has been a champion of this marriage bill when he declared that he is polygamous and a responsible husband.

The second question was from Burundi about recall of Members of Parliament. I do not know if what you are asking is ensuring accountability

and transparency under Chapter 6 on leadership and integrity. If anyone feels or your constituency feels you are not meeting integrity accountability and transparency, and then they can ask your constituency to seek a petition at the Parliament to remove you. That is by way of collecting signatures in your constituencies. If your constituency got 70% of the signatures against your integrity, then the submission will be made before the Speaker of the National Assembly and that will be the end of your being a Member of Parliament. It was done in our new Constitution to provide the spirit of the accountability and transparency. So if you are elected as a legislator, that does not give you power over others to misuse your power, money or functions that are given to us legislators in the constituency.

**Hon. Tissa Karaliyadde, Sri Lanka:**

To answer the question from Bhutan, in my country up to year 2013, we gave jobs to nearly 50,000 graduates. Now we are planning to give more jobs for graduates between years 2014-2015. And as I have mentioned in my speech, we have started a new system for universities and vocational training sector so that we can get more foreign jobs from that system. I think no country can solve this employment problem. There are so many universities in my country, and so many undergraduates are coming out. Some governments are responsible and working to solve this problem. And in the health sector, we are having health care officers who are looking after children.

Concerning the question from India regarding meals at schools, actually we provide them daily from Grade 1 to 5 in all government schools and we are also giving meals to kindergarten and pre-school students. We are giving free milk and paying 60 Sri Lankan rupees per one liter to the farmers. It is helpful for the rural farmers to get some income as well. I was also born in a rural area and in those days there were only few doctors in those areas but only women could do those things.

**Chair:**

Thank you all for your valuable questions and suggestions, and our time has come to an end. Thank you very much for the active discussion.

## **SESSION 3**

### **Learning from Zambia's Experience**



## Dr. Mary M. Zulu

Chair of the Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia (PPAZ)

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### Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Mary M. Zulu is Chair of PPAZ. She is a medical doctor by profession, working for the Ministry of Health Statutory Board, Health Profession Council of Zambia that registers and regulates health professionals and facilities.

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Good afternoon Honorable Members and thank you very much Chair for the introduction. As the Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia (PPAZ), we are really grateful for this honor to give this presentation. In my presentation, we are going to look at the beginning of PPAZ, the opposition that we faced when we are forming PPAZ, programmes over the years from the 1970s to date, achievements, challenges and the way forward.

In the beginning, PPAZ was formed in 1972, and at that time it was known as the Family Welfare Association of Zambia. The formation was influenced by members of the Christian Council of Northern Rhodesia. For those of you who do not know what Northern Rhodesia is, this was the name of Zambia before we attained independence. Basically these members of the Christian Council of Northern Rhodesia were concerned with the values in family life and unwanted pregnancies. So basically, they wanted to look at prevention of unwanted pregnancies. Before a couple gets married, counselors tell them values in the family life and issues of love and respect.

Who are the agents of change, or who initiated the formation of PPAZ? These are university lecturers, students, politicians, and people from all walks of life. And Family Welfare Association of Zambia got affiliated with IPPF in 1974 and the name changed to the current Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia in 1979.

There was a lot of opposition at the beginning

because people used to say it was unbiblical and the Bible, Genesis Chapter 1 Verse 28, talks about increasing in number and filling the earth. So this was one of the reasons why we had that opposition and also at that time the population of Zambia was small at 3 million people.

And the perception at that time was that Zambia was a rich country, as the currency was very strong, and family planning was seen as a western concept. *Zaala zungu* — that is what we say in our language. And opposition was also because of what larger families provided: more people meant additional labor force. Now as I mentioned, the Association was formed in 1972 and the programmes in the 1970s were really very minimal, just dedicated to promoting family planning awareness, looking at issues as to when to start a family, how many children they should have and the issue of child spacing. The medium of communication was radio programmes and community meetings were used to create these awareness.

In the 1980s, we were seeing changes from creating family planning awareness to provision of family planning services, and mainly at that time it was about oral contraceptive. As PPAZ, we started community-based distribution programmes and also started looking at empowering women through income generating activities, such as tailoring, baking and gardening. The other major development in the 1980s was that people started discussing the need to develop a national population policy.

There was recognition of the need for policies in Zambia and it is important to note that from the outset (at independence), Zambia did acknowledge that the population growth was an issue. And this concern was clearly outlined in the National Development Plans that were developed over the years. When we look at these plans, even though they are acknowledged, they were not perceived as a problem to be addressed for the various reasons that I have already mentioned.

And looking into the various development plans that were developed, for example 1965-1966, the Transitional National Development Plan, just after independence, acknowledged the population growth rate as being very high. Fertility rate, as you know, was very high, 6 to 7 children per woman. In 1972-1976 the Second National Development Plan considered population factors in greater detail and projected an increase in population. Then, also the issues of rural-to-urban migration and formations of these unstructured compounds were noted.

The turning point for Zambia was in 1984 when a delegation did attend a United Nations Conference on Population and Development in Mexico. And when they came back they were energized and they influenced the National Commission for Development Planning to integrate population issues in the national development plan. And 2 years later we were seeing an Interim National Development Plan with a strong recommendation to the government that we need to plan, formulate and adopt a national population policy. The First National Population Policy was developed in 1989 and PPAZ was driving this whole process. The need to establish family planning services in the government institutions was addressed and as PPAZ, we did set up our first family planning clinic in Lusaka, which you will be visiting tomorrow.

In the 1990s we started to concern with gender issues and gender became a topical issue. We needed to look at male involvement in family

planning services, doing away with the issue of obtaining from the spouse and discussing the rights of individuals to family planning.

And the 1990s also saw the advent of HIV/AIDS epidemic, so there was also focus on addressing HIV/AIDS, STIs and promotion of youth and male involvement. At that time, we also started talking about integrating these services. In the 1990s, there was a paradigm shift from looking at family planning services to the broader sexual reproductive health (SRH) information and services.

From the year 2000 to today, reproductive health (RH) services provision and advocacy in Zambia and in other countries has been influenced by the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Maputo Plan of Action, which is the policy framework for SRH in Africa. The focus areas are: maternal health, gender, HIV/AIDS, family planning, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and youth friendly SRH services.

Currently we have 5 priority areas for PPAZ:

- Adolescent and young people
- HIV/AIDS,
- access to health services
- safe motherhood, and
- advocacy

You might have noticed that I am wearing a special white ribbon pin. This is for safe motherhood.

Just showing our coverage, we are in 41 districts out of that current 83 plus districts in the country.

Who are the beneficiaries? We are focusing on women of reproductive age, young people and also men as beneficiaries of the services that we provide. What do we provide? There is a whole range of services: family planning, counseling on SRH, HIV counseling and testing, antenatal and postnatal care, STIs screening and treatment, screening for breast and cervical cancer, comprehensive sexuality education, SRH



education and male circumcision services.

Looking at the trend over the years, starting from 2009 to 2015, you can see an increase in the number of services we are providing countrywide.

What are our achievements? As PPAZ, I think we are very proud in fact that we are the leading organization in the provision and advocacy for integrated services in Zambia. We have participated in the development of quite a number of documents, including the First National Population Policy. We have also initiated the acceptance of family planning by the Zambian communities and the Zambian government, and have supported integration of family planning into government health centers.

We have participated in the formulation and preparation of the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy in Zambia. We pioneered in the introduction of provision of youth-friendly health services and participated in the preparation of a large number of country reports, one of which is the ICPD in 1994.

We work with a lot of partners. In addition to the Government of the Republic of Zambia, we are affiliated with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). Other partners include the Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning (JOICFP), Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU), the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA), the Margret Sanger Institute (MSI), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA,) the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Japan Trust Fund

(JTF), the Department for International Development (DFID), the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Over the years we have had a number of partners, but what we have listed here are those that are currently working with us.

There are some challenges we face. First is funding. We have inadequate internally generated resources. Most of the resources are coming from partners, and only 15% internally generated. We have limited capacity. We would like to be all over Zambia but we have limited capacity to spread out to hard-to-reach areas where services are mostly needed. So there are still a lot of unmet needs out there. The third challenge is that the adolescent and young people's RH policy is not very clear, especially on delivering comprehensive sexuality education. Education is a key factor if people are going to change the way they access to health services.

The way forward: We will continue collaboration with key stakeholders and we are very grateful that we are here to interact with the Members of Parliament. We need to continue to advocate for a conducive environment for comprehensive sexuality education, expand our services, especially to the hard-to-reach areas, and strengthen resource mobilization. Currently, we are working to be a learning center for the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region for SRHR advocacy and service provision.

Thank you very much for listening.

# Mr. Temwa Nyirenda

Ag. International Relations Officer & ZAPPD Desk Officer  
on behalf of Ministry of Finance, Planning Department

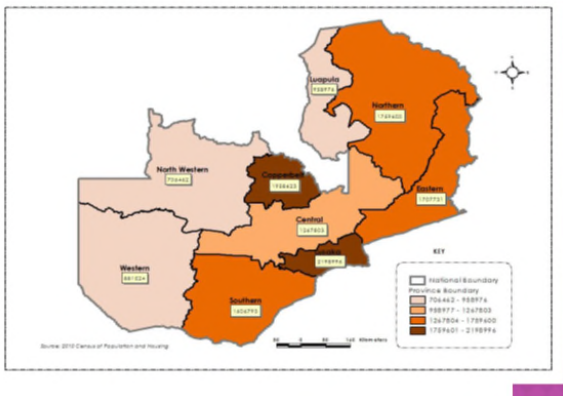
## Curriculum Vitae

Mr. Temwa Nyirenda is Acting International Relations Officer & ZAPPD Desk Officer.  
He has been working for ZAPPD for 14 years.

Good afternoon Honorable Members of Parliament, it is an honor for me to stand before you. My presentation this afternoon is going to be mainly in two parts. Firstly, since we are talking about the integration of population into development, we try to look at that aspect and then we end by looking at what the Zambian government has done with this regard.

So before us, there are just a few terms trying to define what the actual population is. Population refers to all inhabitants of a particular place. The population of Zambia now is about 14.1 million That is an estimate. I will be skipping some of my slides on account of time. What we see in front of us is the population trends for the country around 1940 and projected to 2020 ranging from just below 2 million to about 19 million respectively. Then we have got the population distribution by province and we are able to see the dark colors of those which are densely populated, mainly urban such as Lusaka and the Copperbelt.

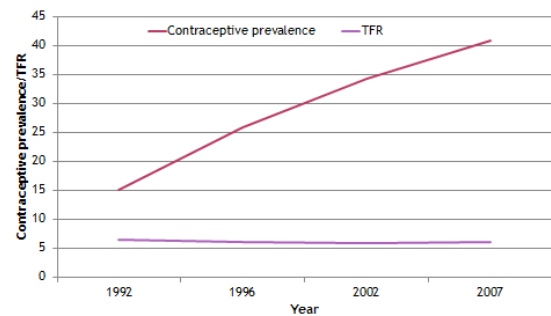
Population distribution by province, Zambia, 2010.



Then PPAZ has vividly talked about these

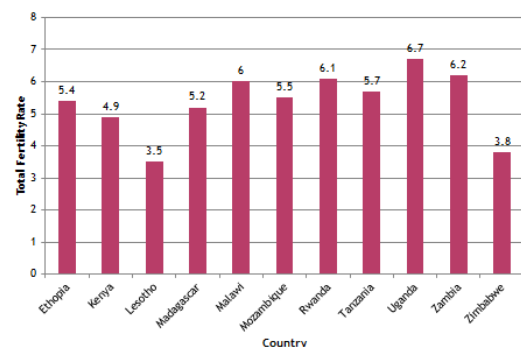
particular slides. Here we are trying to look at the contraception and fertility trends in Zambia between 1992 and 2007. I am sure it has been touched, but what I want to recall and emphasize is that, as we can see from the slide, there has been an increment in the contraceptive prevalence and the total fertility rate (TFR) has been at least slightly going down.

Contraception and fertility trends in Zambia: 1992-2007.



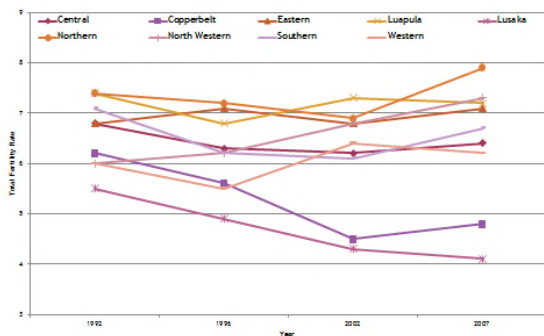
In the next slide, we are looking at fertility rates in sub-Saharan African countries: Zambia at 6.2 and Uganda 6.7. We are very fertile.

Fertility rates in selected Sub-Saharan African Countries



Next, we look at the TFR in Zambia by province. We see that the Northern Province and Eastern province, where I come from, have high fertility rates ranging between 7 and 8.

Fertility trends in Zambia by Province: 1992-2007.



We now look at Development. We can broadly define it as the ability of human beings to tame nature or turn raw materials into consumable goods and services. Development is measured using different methods, but certain indicators have been devised, such as the Human Development Index and per capita income, which most of us are familiar with. Based on these indicators, a country can be categorized to its rightful place, a developed or developing nation, as you see where Zambia is now.

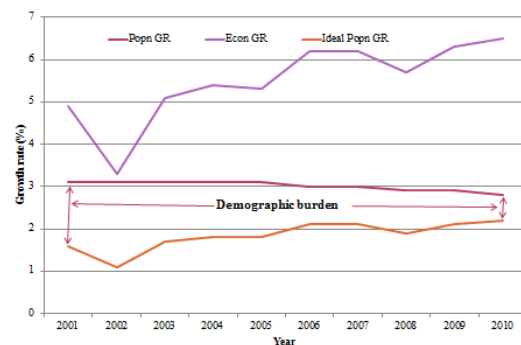
The question that most of us would want to answer is probably which one comes first in everything that we do in our countries: is it population that must grow first or is it the economy that must grow first? That question I probably leave for the Honorable Members to digest so that we look at the issue of integrating population issues into development.

The other question that I want to pose is: what is the ideal size of your home, ward, constituency, district, province and country? From that perspective, we are going to understand the issue of a sustainable population as it starts from your home to your ward and it then goes up.

Evidence has shown that countries that have maintained population growth rate at a level that is a third of the economic growth rate have

recorded significance level of development. What we are saying here is that our economic growth rate should grow three times the population growth rate. For instance, in Zambia our population growth rate is about 2.7, meaning that if we multiply that by 3, our economy should ideally grow by about 9%, but we have been scoring about 6%, 5 or 7, so we are below the ideal economic growth rate. In this regard, the next slide is on population and economic growth rate trends in Zambia from 2001 to 2010. So we can look at the demographic burden that we have as a country. The ideal population growth rate is below in brown, and then the economic growth rate is on top. That is the demographic burden that we have as a country.

Trends in population and economic growth rates in Zambia: 2001-2010



Then, what are the consequences of having a much higher economic growth rate than the population growth rate? The other thing I would like to ask is: what are the consequences of having a much higher population growth rate than the economic growth rate? We need to digest.

Now in order for the government to address these issues, there are a number of measures that have been taken. I will highlight a few.

First of all, as it was indicated, we have the National Population Policy in place, as we were informed. This was commissioned in 1989, revised in 2007 and currently the government is trying to revise the population policy in order for it to meet emerging issues. The first challenge that we have with our national population policy was that we did not have an

implementation framework from the onset. The implementation framework was only set up later on, and again due to the various factors, it was decided that even the National Population Policy needed to be revised. So a roadmap has been put in place for revising the National Population Policy so that it is adaptable to the current trends.

The second thing that has been done by the government in conjunction with UNFPA is to come up with a training module for planners. We have planners at the sector level, provincial level and in the district. So they have been undergoing training on how to integrate population issues into development. Remember the question we talked about which one comes first? Probably, initially the planning was more about development. Now we are talking about integrating population issues, so there is a training module that has been devised and the sectorial planners have been trained already, the provincial planners have been trained, the only ones who are yet to be trained are the district planners.

The other issue that is very encouraging is that most of population factors have actually been included in our current development plan, which we are calling the Sixth National Development Plan. There are a few challenges in the Zambian experience. Firstly, the institutional mechanism for integrating population issues into development is not very strong at the moment. Before 1991, we had

what was known as the National Commission for Development Planning and that body was a fully-fledged body, like a government department. It was bringing on broad issues of population into development. After 1991, the Ministry of Finance was converted to the Ministry of Finance and National Planning. So that component of planning was shifted to the Ministry of Finance with very few officers actually handling that component. One thing that the Members of Parliament have been urged to do is to advocate for a proper institutional mechanism that can handle population and development issues at a national level.

The other thing that I can talk about is the issue of gender, which has actually been put on board in most of government departments. This is through the gender policy that has been instituted. What is good about this gender policy is that it has got an action plan attached to it, and all different government departments are now implementing the gender issues into their operations.

One thing that I would like to end with is to actually urge the Members of Parliament to continue advocating for the integration of population issues into development. This is only going to be possible if we answer the question “which one comes first, is it population growth first or development first?”

Thank you very much.

## Discussion

Chair: **Hon. Mariany Mohammad Yit**

MP, Malaysia

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Senator Mariany Mohammad Yit is Member of Parliament from Malaysia and was appointed as a member of the Senate – Upper House of Malaysian Parliament for the second term. She Holds LL.B. Degree from University of Canterbury New Zealand. She practiced law for 20 years. She is also member of the board of Management of National Higher Education Fund Corporation and active in social work.

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**Chair:**

The floor is open for discussion. Honorable from Uganda, please.

**Hon. Chris Baryomunsi, Uganda:**

Thank you very much Dr. Zulu for very clear and comprehensive presentation. My name is Chris Baryomunsi from Uganda. For a number of years I chaired the Planned Parenthood Association of Uganda, which is the sister association to the one in Zambia. Basically, looking at the challenges, what we do is more or less the same. But I just have 2 questions for clarifications

Do you have some figures to show the outcome and impact, like how the trends have been in terms of contraceptive prevalence rates or utilization of family planning? Because you have made a lot of contributions to the country, we would like to see the trends over time, in the 1980s and 1990s, where are you in terms of family planning and related services in terms of indicators then?

Another question is that the challenge which we face, of course, is the challenge of sustainability. Today you listed many partners with whom you are working, and I just want to inquire what kind of sustainability measures you are building to eradicate the problem in case some of these partners are no longer supporting you, but the

good intervention is going to continue. In our case in Uganda, the Planned Parenthood Association is consisted of members, and members pay a subscription fee. And part of this money is what we use to sustain the organization, of course, in addition to what we get from other sources. I just wanted to know, for instance, does the government extend some financial support to the association? That is my concern, if the various partners withdraw, what measures have you put in place to ensure that the association does not collapse and continue to work? Thank you very much.

**Chair:**

Dr. Mary can answer first, and then again we will open for discussion.

**Dr. Mary M. Zulu, Chair of PPAZ:**

As the Chair of PPAZ, I am a volunteer, so allow me to request the Executive Director of PPAZ to respond.

**Mr. Henry Kaimba, Acting Executive Director of PPAZ:**

Thank you very much for the first question from the honorable member from Uganda, about our contribution in terms of impact. We measure it in the contraceptive prevalence rate, especially that of the community where we are. Our general contribution is, as the Chair was talking about, having actually being responsible for

introducing family planning in this country and going way back.

The contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) for this country was low, especially when we started demographic and health surveys, and this time we are talking about CPR of 33% for modern monitoring methods. So mostly we get encouraged, especially for the communities, where we found that our CPR is above the national level, sometimes we go as high as 60%, so this is how we measure our impact. Apart from that, we also measure how many couples are protected in a particular year. So these are the tools that we use.

The second question concerning the resources, of course, like any other organization we find ourselves short of resources as we have to depend on external sources for our operation. But at the same time we noticed that our resources have been increasing over the years through our own efforts. So apart from membership contributions that you have talked about, we have other sources like cost –sharing. When we provide some of these services, sometimes we have our own fundraising ventures and we see that we are making progress toward building our own resources as an organization. Thank you.

**Chair:**

Thank you, and can we have the name please?

**Dr. Mary M. Zulu, Chair of PPAZ:**

Yes, he is Mr. Henry Kaimba, Acting Executive Director of PPAZ.

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

Just need some clarification from Dr. Zulu. Maybe I did not truly get it about the Kenyan marriage bill and polygamy. For your organization, what is polygamy in terms of parenthood?

**Chair:**

Dr. Mary, do you want to answer that, but be very careful, it is about polygamy.

**Dr. Mary M. Zulu, Chair of PPAZ:**

I think first and foremost Zambia has been declared as a Christian nation and polygamy is against Christianity. Traditionally we have some areas in the country where polygamy has been practiced for many years, but this is about people's right. If people accept being in a polygamous marriage, it is a person's choice, I think. It is a very difficult question that you have asked me, honorable member from Kenya.

**Chair:**

Is polygamy allowed in Kenya or in Zambia?

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

I do not know whether it is under constitution that you declare the country as a Christian nation. That does not even consider other religions or other people, who are not conditionally forced to be Christian, and I wonder whether you are infringing their rights. But I wanted to understand from you very clearly because you are dealing with parenthood and in the African context, polygamous marriages have existed. Somebody has asked how it relates to the population, but I thought this would be the right organization to deal with it. Whether it will be acceptable or not, there is also a contradiction that you have declared Zambia as a Christian nation. What do you do with the children from polygamous marriage? Are they going to be acceptable into the society? Zambia is declared that you are a Christian nation, so those who are coming from polygamous marriages cannot find any rights?

**Mr. Henry Kaimba, Acting Executive Director of PPAZ:**

As Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia, I think what is important is that people can access their rights in terms of reproductive health. As the Chair was presenting to us, these are also issues of gender. Perhaps, in some of these situations, it is important to ask the people concerned, especially the person who is going to take a second wife and the person who is already there as a wife. If I went to my wife and say, "is this ok with you?" then I am actually respecting her rights as an individual.

But if I only want to enjoy the so-called right on my own and because perhaps society says so, sometimes it becomes difficult. So our own stand as PPAZ is that the individual should be able to exercise their reproductive rights. It does not matter when you talk about children, because at the same time our programmes focus on the children that we call vulnerable children. As I am saying, the issue is to make sure that they are able to have information and have services.

So in terms of how our society treats us, we would not say that they are discriminated in any way. We are on the side of respecting people's rights, for both men and women. Thank you.

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

I do not know if it is the right term, but I want to ask you about "cloning" of human beings. I think we are coming from the same culture, where people consider that a man with the greatest wealth is a man with many children, but unfortunately in some cases a man and a woman are married but they cannot have children. In this modern society nowadays, people are seeking "cloning", whereby you can ask your sister or brother to donate. How does this affect your organization in terms of parenthood?

**Chair:**

I have one question as to whether you are talking about surrogate mothers or actual cloning of a person. I think you are talking about surrogate mothers.

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

They are surrogate mothers, but we are trying to describe it in this term in Kenya, as you take an egg from someone and put into somebody else. You can call them surrogate mothers, but in scientific terms, what would that be, because it is not from you, you are putting your organ into someone else.

**Dr. Mary M. Zulu, Chair of PPAZ:**

Yes, currently maybe we are talking about surrogate mothers, and they have been there in

our communities. It used to be kept as a secret in certain communities if the man is unable to have children. They need a brother, and they keep it to the close relatives — I do not know whether this language is honorable but allow me to use this language — to do the services.

In those days those practices were accepted by the communities. Though they were kept secret, they were accepted. I think you know that the sensitization is also very important in these issues. You need to discuss with people, sensitize them if they accept, then that is the way to go.

**Hon. Mathias Kasamba, Uganda:**

I would like to thank Dr. Zulu for the presentation as far as PPAZ is concerned. I would like to appreciate the achievements, which have been attained. I would like to know in terms of advocacy and collaboration with the Parliament: how PPAZ has facilitated or engaged Members of Parliament in the Parliament of Zambia to see issues of parenthood, issues of customs? Do you have any customs which are unconstitutional but are still being practiced like FGM, child marriages, and even school dropouts or school pregnancies? How have you advocated and collaborated with the Parliament?

Also in terms of resource engagement, what is the budget of the government and how has it gradually increased in terms of reproductive health, contraceptives availability in hospitals and the like?

**Mr. Henry Kaimba, Acting Executive Director of PPAZ:**

To start with our collaboration with Members of Parliament in Zambia, PPAZ has been quite active in that area, including their role in pushing some of the agendas such as the Maputo Plan of Action. We also talk about what parliamentarians' roles are when it comes to policies on comprehensive sexuality education, reproductive health and sexual reproductive health for the country and so on and so forth.

PPAZ has had meetings, where we have met other people and other organizations, including parliamentarians, and we are bringing these issues to the floor. Actually, this is what has been happening and we must have clear policies on reproductive health and sexuality education to our young people.

On the issue of child marriage, actually we are doing some programmes at PPAZ and communities, where we make campaigns and talk with stakeholders. We see that the age for marriage starts to appear even in the draft constitution, where it says one can marry when they are 18 years. As opposed to our situation especially in rural areas, where one get married at the ages of 13, 14, 15 and thereabout. So it is something that we are working with our Honorable Members of Parliament. We have had a lot of meeting with them on these issues.

Coming to the issue of resources to PPAZ, in the past PPAZ used to receive some money from the government for certain community-based programmes, but now we are not receiving that money at the moment. But at the same time the government assists PPAZ in terms of the commodities or family planning and other sexual reproductive health services we bring in from outside the country

At the same time, the government has made a commitment especially to family planning. We have planned scaling up family planning from 2013 to 2020 and our government made the pledges at the London Summit that we double the budget allocation to family planning. So we see how progressively the government is increasing resources to family planning and reproductive health.

**Hon. Avinash Khanna, India:**

My question is whether there is any minimum age for the marriage of males and females? Is there any child marriage prohibition act? If it is so, what are the implications and implementations? Suppose a couple marries before the prescribed year, then what are the consequences of their marriage on their

children?

**Mr. Henry Kaimba, Acting Executive Director of PPAZ:**

I think we need to state that in Zambia one can be married under different laws just like in other countries. There is a marriage act, which specifies when one can get married and at what age, but I think the issues we have to address are those that have to do with marriages especially in rural areas which are influenced by customary practice.

What usually happens is that this person comes of age and perhaps there is a ritual and next that person gets married. Sometimes one's apparent age and actual age may be different. However, as I mentioned, there are a lot of programmes in terms of addressing child marriages in Zambia. Last week we had a visit by Bishop Desmond Tutu and just put impetus to addressing the issue of child marriages, which are mostly found in rural areas. So it is difficult and the only weapon that is used mostly is sensitization in those communities.

But there are laws that relate to defilement. If you take someone at that age, then you can be arrested for defilement. Maybe to answer your question, most of what we are doing is actually sensitization. As I mentioned earlier, according to Zambian constitution, one can only marry when they are 18 years of age.

**Hon. Avinash Khanna, India:**

May I give another question to you? You said that actual finding of one's age is difficult, but are there any birth certificates? Secondly, at the subdivision level or block level, are marriages compulsory? If the decision of the marriage is made compulsory, then you can find a solution to this problem.

**Chair:**

Let me make it simple by asking if there is a statute that says women's marriageable age is 16 or 18? Is there a law to say that?



**Mr. Henry Kaimba, Acting Executive Director of PPAZ:**

The law says 18 years old.

**Chair:**

However, you mentioned that in the rural areas, where girls get married at the age below 18, I suppose those are based on customary laws? Basically, that allows younger girls to marry but with the consent of community leaders or religious leaders. Is that correct?

**Mr. Henry Kaimba, Acting Executive Director of PPAZ:**

Yes, but when we talk about the customary law and the consent of the parents, most of the time it becomes a forced marriage. Parents may say “yes” even in a situation where it is inappropriate to say “yes”, and those are the issues, which we are fighting against. Unfortunately, I think not everyone has birth certificates. Sometimes it is difficult, especially in the rural areas. They depend on the information that they have gotten from their parents. I think when it comes to the issue of proving defilement, when you have to defend yourself in court that this person is not underage. But as I was saying, these are the main issues that have to be addressed.

**Chair:**

With the formation of Family Planning board, there is registration of all births in the country, is that correct? Rights to whatever given by the country are accorded to all, am I right? So there is registration of birth in every district, or in the country.

**Dr. Mary M. Zulu, Chair of PPAZ:**

By law, it is a requirement that all births be registered, but not everybody is complying. I think it is an issue of enforcing that law.

**Hon. Avinash Khanna, India:**

It was replied that registration of birth is compulsory, but in rural areas people are not registering their births. So if birth is not registered, then how you calculate your population?

**Mr. Temwa Nyirenda, Zambia:**

Yes, as PPAZ has said, it is a requirement but not everybody is registered. But when we track the population every 10 years, we carry out a national population census. That gives us an indication of our population structure, the size of the population that is the major tool that we use — not with the birth records but the national census. From that one, we are also able to do projections.

**Hon. Avinash Khanna, India:**

In India, if any child wants to get admission to any school, birth certificate is required first. So people are naturally going to register their births. It means you will have to wait 10 years to calculate your population, so all the plans for a year may not get the result.

**Mr. Temwa Nyirenda, Zambia:**

That is a very good innovation. There is also one aspect that the government is trying to implement. We call it digitalization. Under this project, the government is actually trying to capture each and every person, and this process is most likely to be implemented this year or early next year. But there is still a possibility of leaving out some people. We know the flaws of the census, so it is not also 100% accurate but with that process which has been invested, we hope everyone will be captured.

**Chair:**

Thank you. We will move on to the next question to any one of the speakers.

**Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, Uganda:**

My question goes to the speaker on behalf of the Ministry of Finance. You did not tell your population programmes, or how you try to integrate population issues into the development framework. I just want to understand how you have done it at the district and local government levels. Do you have specific population officers, who work in the local government with the main mandate of integrating population issues so that it affects the plans and interventions at the local government levels?

**Mr. Temwa Nyirenda, Zambia:**

The national population policy, which is actually being revised, has an implementation committee known as the inter-technical agency committee. This committee is chaired by the Secretary to the Treasury of Ministry of Finance and it comprises of a number of stakeholders, among whom are parliamentarian members of the group on population. Then we also have planners from the provinces. So those stakeholders meet every year at the end of the year to discuss issues of population and development integration.

When it comes to planning, there are provincial planning units in the provinces. This injects into the national planning unit, and they are also part of this inter-technical agency committee, which is supposed to spearhead the implementation of the national population policy. This year, unfortunately, and last year, it did not meet because, as I said, the national population policy is being revised. But that is the mechanism, which is supposed to bring everybody on board.

**Chair:**

Hon. Zangpo, please.

**Hon. Nidup Zangpo, Bhutan:**

My question is not to the resource person actually. I would like to throw my question to Honorable from Kenya. I would like to seek clarification on his comments. Please correct me if I am wrong. You have mentioned it is human rights for an individual to marry lots of woman. If that is the case, in your context, is it acceptable for a woman to marry two or more men? It is from a gender perspective.

**Hon. Chris Baryomunsi, Uganda:**

Can I ask a supplementary question to my brother from Kenya as to when you were debating this law in the parliament to legalize polygamy, what was the view of the women in the parliament? How did they approach it? Were they supportive or it was men versus women in terms of that? Just to add on to what our friend from Bhutan was raising.

**Chair:**

Hon. Outa, please answer both questions.

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

Could you kindly repeat your question?

**Hon. Nidup Zangpo, Bhutan:**

It is from a general perspective, and if I am wrong, please correct me. You have mentioned that in the Kenyan context, it is more or less acceptable for a man to marry more than one wife, and then you have mentioned something on individual rights to marry more than one woman. So I am just paradoxically asking you the same question from a woman's perspective — is it OK in the Kenyan context for a woman to marry two or more men?

**Chair:**

Now you got the question, please answer. I am waiting for the answer, too.

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

I think the Kenya marriage bill is just the polygamy bill. It is a bill that was enacted to the dignity of people and especially women and children. Before we realized in Kenya that there are so many single mothers and at the end no one is responsible for these children. But if it takes two to tango, the question was, where are the fathers of these children? That is why we came up with this marriage bill to protect men or protect women, who have children and no one take care of them. So like I said before, it is not an automatic ticket that now any man in Kenya can go for their right. It is not their right, and it is the consent. We have many religions in Kenya — Muslim, Hindu, etc. and the bill only recognizes the Muslim marriage because Muslim religion allows under Quran up to 4 wives with responsibility, but it must be conducted under that context. Christianity in Kenya still recognizes one man and one wife. In Kenya there are so many people, who call themselves Christians but they do not practice it, so we cannot tell them they are Christians. They were only born into a Christian home but that does not make them a Christian.

So if people want to marry traditionally, then law allows them to get consent from the first wife. If the first wife consented with many reasons, including child bearing or any other reasons, then the husband takes the second wife.

Under other traditions which are there, they can also marry traditionally many wives as they wish. For that tradition, which is not Muslim or Christianity, the sky is the limit for them. They do not have to come to the court, and they just do it in traditional way – blessings and the next day they have a wife, just like that.

I knew for sure that we have not seen a situation in Kenya, whereby a woman is allowed to have more than one husband, but the trend in Kenya nowadays is that we have a woman with many husbands in the context of friendship. She will be able to become friends with a man here, have a relationship, have a child, and tomorrow she has another one here. How do you term that? It is happening, but it is something that is not secure. You will find a woman who has three children yet they are from different men. If you ask me as a Christian, any union between two they have already been declared husband and wife. That will be my terminology.

If you engage a man sexually and have a child, you have already been blessed by God telling you to marry that man. But it is happening not only in Kenya, but also here in Zambia, and all over the world where women do not want to commit to one man.

**Hon. Chris Baryomunsi, Uganda:**

How did the women parliamentarians react in the parliament?

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

During the debate time, a number of women, especially the single ones, were happy. Now men are not going to run away from their responsibility after your giving birth, or after dating them for a while. I would say it was something of an eye opener, we had a lot of the

majority of women supported this bill so that the man cannot run away from their responsibilities. Only in that context they supported this.

**Chair:**

Hon. Zangpo, does that answer your question?

**Hon. Nidup Zangpo, Bhutan:**

Pretty much. I am satisfied. Thank you.

**Chair:**

I open to our speakers, whether you have anything to comment on what the member Kenya said, because I suppose that would be an experience, a lesson learned from Kenya, since Uganda and other countries would have a very common problem, too.

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

There is one thing I did not tell you. If you are a man looking for a second wife to marry and you have the first one, all the wealth that you have created with the first wife will not be shared with the second wife. That second wife will have to start from zero and build her own wealth. If there is any divorce, then the first wife does not lose because you have brought the second wife. That is really spelled out. All the wealth that the husband created with the first one, the second one does not claim.

**Chair:**

Yes, that is customary and that is Sharia law, also. The matrimonial property from the first wife to be shared with her only, and for a subsequent marriage you have to start a fresh one unless the property is under the name of the husband acquired before the first marriage. Is that correct?

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

That is correct. That is how it is and we borrow it from the Sharia law.

**Chair:**

Any comment from either side?

**Dr. Mary M. Zulu, Chair of PPAZ:**

Chair, maybe seeking clarification, the Honorable Member from Kenya said especially women who are single with children are very happy because now they would get married. Is it guaranteed that just because you have a child with this man, you automatically get married?

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

The law requires that if you have a relationship up to 6 months, you will be declared married to that woman or that man. So now you cannot just go and say I want to have a friendship with a girl and wait for years. Consistently for a period of 6 months if that woman goes to court, she will be declared married to you. So it also restrains you completely if you are not interested in marriage.

So some will be lucky to have children within one month, but does not mean that within one month you can be declared husband and wife. But the responsibility of child support will squarely lie on the man. If you are women, the Kenyan government will look after you and pay the child support as per the woman dictates.

And I know for now, there is another amendment that Members of Parliament want to bring in. It should not only be upon man to pay the child support. There was a case whereby a Member of Parliament had a child with a woman outside marriage, but he took the child when he was still very young at the age of 9 months. So the Member of Parliament has been bringing up this child until he was 10 years. When he was not a Member of Parliament, it was OK, but when he became a Member of Parliament, the lady requested child support. He went to the court and refused stressing that he has been having this child for the last 10 years and now she cannot claim child support. The lady was the one who should pay child support to the man. So he is bringing an amendment that in such a scenario a woman also needs to pay child support to the man.

If you are not responsibly taking care of the child, whoever takes care of the child can claim

child support for them. It is not only seen as man's affairs, it also will be able to deter a woman who wants child support but are not ready to raise children. It has been realized that some are getting child support but they are sending their children to the parents, and they are not taking care of their children. So you can understand that it is a very complex thing. This man is bringing an amendment that will also force woman to pay child support to the man who is taking care of their children.

**Chair:**

Thank you, Honorable from Kenya. There are a lot of inputs and it gives us more light to population issues, where we have to determine laws and rights on marriages and children and relationships among population, development, and economic growth. With this, I may allow one more question.

**Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

I wanted to ask the Chair, how do you do it in your country? I know you must be Muslim and how does it work if you want to do a contrast between Kenya and your country?

**Chair:**

We have the civil laws, the statutory, for non-Muslims with regards to marriages and children. We also have the Sharia law, which is applicable to Muslims, like when a man marries more than one, you have to go through the consent of the first wife and again the distribution of the properties like you said.

Basically it is governed by the statutes and each state has their enactment on Islamic laws. And we do not have that much problem, except for current trends in young pregnancies and all that. We do have birth registration, and it is compulsory. As you said, in order to go to school, you must bring your birth certificate, which is compulsory. Parents, whether their child is within or out of regular marriages, will have a certificate. There is an indication on the birth certificate that you are a child of someone or a father anonymous. They are now fighting to remove that stigma by putting lesser

terminology, so that a child will not feel the stigma when they grow older.

If there are no more questions, then we will break for coffee. Thank you.



## **SESSION 4**

# **A Business Solution for Women's Empowerment and Sustainable Development**





## **“BANANA PAPER: A Business Solution for Sustainable Development”**

### **Mr. Billy Nkhoma**

Director of One Planet Café, Zambia

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#### **Curriculum Vitae**

Mr. Billy Nkhoma is a CEO for One Planet Café Zambia, and One Planet Café head manager for Banana Paper business. He is one of the co-founders of One Planet Café Zambia together with Ms. Satoko Ekberg. Billy is a skilled ethical wildlife guide for Wildlife Camp in South Luangwa National Park of Zambia, having first-hand expert knowledge toward Biodiversity. He helps safari tourists and wildlife experts to know the wonders of nature in South Luangwa. BBC and National Geographic are some of the organizations he has helped.

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My name is Billy, and I am from One Planet Café Zambia. Originally I am from Malawi and have grown up in orphanages. During that period I was facing difficulties and I was looking for a job in different areas. Fortunately, I had those people, who encourage me to study and develop myself to have good skills.

I became a professional safari guide. From this job, I met Peo and Satoko Ekberg, with whom now I am running One Planet Café and banana paper business, in order to link job opportunity and education together. When we talk about safari guides, people do not understand. The safari guide has to interact with tourists from all over the world, and they pick them up from the airport, take them to the National park to show them animals.

Talking about environmental system, we are now making banana papers, using Japanese paper making technology called *Washi*. Also thanks to this job, more than 140 children have been able to go to school. We are supporting not only children but also adults to have education and capacity building, by providing them basic education, such as math, writing, reading, as well as education on malaria safety.

The place where I come from has lots of challenges. We do not have proper clinics there,

so we try to educate our team and villages on how to prevent malaria. I experienced malaria many times, so I know how disastrous malaria is. That is why we are in that part.

In the African societies, if you are working and getting your salary, it is not that you are putting your salary into your pocket. By the time you take your salary home, you share it with sisters and brothers, meaning that you have many people behind you, who are benefiting out of your salary. That is how it works — people benefited direct or indirectly from your salary.

More than 200 people benefit from what we created, which is very good. We created our banana papers in order to create job opportunities in the village, which also contributes to solving environmental challenges. This also helps people to develop themselves through their jobs. In the South Luangwa National Park, animals are moving up and down, so there is an animal conflict chasing them. So we created such things in order to protect animals, as well. We are aiming and working very hard to develop a business model, which relates to sustainable development and women empowerment. So in our project in South Luangwa National Park, there are lots of women who had actually never been employed before.

Once again I am honored to introduce our banana paper business in this conference, where you could consider and discuss its development. From now on, Mr. Peo Ekberg, our Director will take part.

Thank you very much.

## **“BANANA PAPER: A Business Solution for Sustainable Development”**

### **Mr. Peo Ekberg**

Director, Environmental Manager of One Planet Café

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#### **Curriculum Vitae**

Mr. Peo Ekberg is a Director and Environmental Manager of One Planet Café. He has been a consultant for thirteen year in Japan and Sweden and he is a recognized environmental expert in Japan. Some of his clients are from small and large companies in electronics, toy making, paper makers, banks and energy sector. Mr. Ekberg has been an environmental DJ/commentator for radio programmes and co-host for environmental documentary series on Japans National Television NHK for two seasons. He has been a guest lecturer at several universities in Japan, teaching environmental science and sustainability. He has broken 3 world records in soccer ball juggling, and participated in one of the opening ceremonies of the 2002 FIFA World Cup in Japan-Korea.

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Hello, everyone. My name is Peo. I lived half of my life in Sweden and the other half in Japan. Actually, we are three people in our company - One Planet Café - three directors from the three continents – me from Sweden, our CEO from Japan and Billy Nkhoma from Malawi, but now in Zambia. We are doing business for environment polluted solutions. I think business solutions to the population problems to the Members of Parliaments are very important to integrate existing picture into business as well. We cannot pollute business, and that is what we are doing.

We are working with the local people directly, and that will be presented in this session. Also, we are going to join your dinner tonight so that you can ask us any questions you want to. We are doing this banana paper and you have all these pamphlets in front of you. We are making high quality paper that is possible to actually change the world of paper industry. I have been doing it for the last three years and have interesting results. It is collaboration between Zambian villages with women, who are working hard and 1400 years old *Washi* technology of Japan. Of course, we also include women empowerment and trade business solution, as Billy introduced. We believe not only in

employment but also in education and capacity building into business itself.

I am from Sweden and live in Japan and even lived in the U.S., the so-called developed countries that already have several generations' time to develop the system of welfare and education. The high speed economic growth that is happening now in Africa and in Asia is mostly positive. But at the same time, environmental destruction is happening and we do not have time to spend two generations to provide educate to children, so we need to integrate capacity building into the working place. That is what we believe in. To follow the MDGs, the United Nations has three pillars for sustainable development, which of course as you all know, are environment, social and people's health, and economy. People can get profit and this is our leading guideline.

Why do we do this banana paper? Well, maybe you heard about this before. Right now it requires 1.5 planets to satisfy our needs as human beings. If all developing countries become developed countries like Sweden, Japan, the U.S., we need four planets to satisfy the needs. I do not know what you think, but we do not have three more planets. That is why we

have to develop this planet, which means we do not take from nature if you do not give it back.

It should be possible to develop and have good quality life within this planet. At least that is what we aimed toward. This is not the situation, when people destroy the forests.

When it comes to paper, actually we use daily more than 1 million ton of paper on this planet and 90% of that comes from trees. Trees are disappearing and we need an alternative. There will be 20% increase of paper usage in the world by 2020, so we need an alternative to the tree papers and that is banana-paper. If forests disappear, then the danger of poverty may increase, and that is why we are doing banana-paper, which saves environmental problem and solves poverty at the same time.

We are working just outside the South Luangwa National Park, as Billy introduced. Let me take you there, as it is a fantastic place. In 2006, I and my beautiful wife went to South Luangwa for the first time and we discovered this picture. Pictures were taken by us and our friends. South Luangwa National Park is 15 times bigger than Tokyo, the world largest city in the world.

It is amazing to see the diversity here. Think what is happening in the planet right now by having this treasure on this planet. It is just fantastic. But at the same time, Billy and we met in 2006 and he was a guider at that moment. He took us to the villages and showed us what was actually happening just outside of the Natural Park. And all of you here today probably know more than us, when it comes to the fact that people here earned US\$1.25 per day or less than that in the villages. They lack electricity, water, hospitals and capacity building for adults.

Ideas came to mind that we can do business in the future such as sustainable development alternative, because what we need is not development, and we need sustainable development. That is why we found banana-paper. Of course, we in the so-called developed part of the world – Sweden, Japan,

the U.S. and others – also have our guilt. But at the same time, in poverty people go out and cut trees and sell them to get some money. In minimum cases, they go out far away to get firewood and sometimes they happen to run into lions or elephants and get killed. Women in such places like the south of Luangwa get killed every year. Poaching is another problem. If you panic in such situations and you want to protect your family, you go out to poach. Of course, it is illegal but what should you do?

We understood after a while by talking to Billy and other experts, so that if we involve the local people we can make a remarkable approach for sustainable development. We provide not only employment but sustainable employment, so we may solve poverty and environmental problems at the same time.

So in 2007 we created a ladies' committee. This was Billy's idea, and he said women were smarter than men. I do not know if all men in this room agree, but I agree my wife is smarter than I. So we created the ladies' committee, with six ladies from six villages. We started to sit down and talk with them what was necessary to be done from their point of view. We needed the core of business, or women-centered business.

With all advice, three years ago we found banana fields and a way to make banana paper. We started to talk, for instance, with Mr. Nixon, Jonathan and other banana experts and we got a deal to make banana papers. Do you know in this room which part we are using? If you take the paper and you smell it, and sure you cannot smell banana. A lot of people think so, because it is not made from the fruit, but from the stems. When you grow banana and eat them, there will not be bananas on that tree anymore, meaning the tree is finished.

What do the banana farmers do? They cut trees and throw them away and these stems are waste products. After cutting trees, new banana trees are growing within one year. For a normal tree, it takes 20 to 30 years to grow. However,

for banana tree, it takes only one year. That is unbelievably well-done efficiency, isn't it? Normally, we buy this product from farmers and create extra income for them. Except for selling bananas, they now also sell the waste. Then inside of this banana stems, there are fibers and these fibers create very good strong paper. I have brought them here today so you can see them later.

What do we do? We squeeze water out of it and after that, we get the fibers, dry them and send them to Japan. We cooperate with the city, which is famous for traditional *Washi* paper-making. *Washi* paper-making has 1200 years' history. To give the result is to have high quality paper, which now you have in your hands. I think you have stickers as well. They are made from the banana paper as well. We called it "made in Japan". So what is happening here is that we have a banana team on the ground, we employ about 19 members right now, and as Billy just explained, each member supports about 10 more members of the society.

We support about 250 people over a piece of paper. In Japan we have to sell paper and now we are paper experts as well as environmental experts. We have connected to paper printing companies and made a very unique, maybe the first-in-the-world concession. We told the printing companies that you can see in the pamphlets and brochures in the last page to develop those products together with us, like these banana business cards. I am sure you know "Panasonic" and it buys and uses our business cards. The Zambian Development Agency (ZDA), which has been helping us to facilitate on the ground, also have those business cards, and also the Minister of Environment of Zambia has one too.

"Lash" is a very famous cosmetic company and makes packaging with our banana paper. "Toyota" hybrid cars now have labeled with our banana fibers for the certificates. Notebooks at Tokyo Geidai, the most famous University of Art in Tokyo, are made from banana paper. All students who graduate this year will have

certificates made from Zambia-Japanese banana-paper. So this is what is happening right now and the result was quite amazing. We have many surprises.

At the beginning, women were not working. Now we employ them and they can support their children. Florence, thanks to this banana paper, can now send her daughter to school, which is very important. As you know, a lot of women in sub-Saharan Africa did not graduate from basic schools. We are supporting 146 children so far in three years' period. If a child goes to school, then it definitely affects the child labor, and it decreases automatically.

We send the paper back to the village, where we hire teachers who teach mathematics, English and also Nyanja, the local language to women, so that they have education. We do this once a week. David, for example, teaches how to do the budgeting for households and how to save money and so on. Also, Josephine, who is actually Billy's wife, nearly died from malaria two years ago. Just at the last moment, we succeeded in saving her and we understood that malaria is a very serious problem. Since then we have introduced malaria education, such as first-aid education for our team as well as malaria nets. Thanks to this banana paper business that affected all our members, now malaria is decreasing. And of course, poverty is decreasing. We do not cut a single tree in the world to make this paper. We mix it with recycle paper to get fibers, but as you know, we do not cut any trees.

Finally, we have exhibitions all over Japan. Next month, Billy will go to Japan and we will have our new exhibition. Last year at the TICAD, the Zambian first lady visited our booth. Nikkei, which is the biggest financial newspapers in Japan, recently published it on the cover page. I just want to tell you that as a next step we are making banana paper not only in Japan, but also in Zambia. We want to make a banana paper factory outside South Luangwa Natural Park to create even more employment, empower more women. We believe that our model also targets

to stop poverty. It might sound very exaggerated but we believe so. Please think of it, today starting from toilet paper to kwacha bills, all is paper. So if we can change this, we can change the world today with paper industry. We have planned to get support, but unfortunately for business, it is difficult to get financial support. We have applied to JICA three times, JETRO two times, Japanese Embassy and others, but we have not been lucky yet to get support, which we are aiming for. But we did not give up. We went up to the Japanese public and asked citizens to support us. Thanks to this crowd funding and the citizens of Japan, we succeeded. Japanese citizens, who are the citizens of the world, want changes. Just like the UN Conference on Climate Change, we want to change, and people want to make a change.

So with this initial money, last week we started to build up the paper factory. We took this picture last week. We started from the ground to build the unique banana paper factory and we will introduce the fantastic technology of

*Washi* – the Japanese technology into this project. Here we have collaboration between Japan and Zambia and we can solve a lot of problems.

Zambia is a low carbon society and I think it is only 200 kg amid per year per person, which is fantastic. They have rich biodiversity. I strongly believe that Africa is the way to go for the future if you find a key to sustainable development. You will be leading the world. Let us watch a 5-minute movie, which we made for this project. Unfortunately, we have this movie in Japanese text, but I think you can follow it. Please enjoy.

The last song of the movie is banana song. They are really happy about banana paper, capacity building and what is happening on their ground. All these pieces are included into our banana paper. Thank you very much for listening and I am looking forward to your questions.

Thank you.

## Discussion

Chair: **Hon. Kasamba Mathias**

MP, Uganda

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Mathias Kasamba is a Member of Parliament since 2001. He serves as Chair on Committee on Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries; and Chair of the Parliamentary Savings and Credit Society. He is a Member of Business Committee as well as Appointments Committee. He is Publicity Secretary of UPFFSP&D.

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First of all, I would like to thank the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) for honoring us and inviting us to Zambia. We would also like to thank the team from Zambia, which has hosted us for this conference. And I would like to thank all of you, who prioritized to attend this important event. Thank you for honoring the invitation and thank you for a long day you had, despite the fact that some of you landed this morning, and we reflect the level of seriousness.

We really thank the presenters, and they need another round of clap. This presentation is related to day-to-day realities of how we can tackle the living of our people. During the lunch time I interacted with my sister and when we talked on planet we are talking about seven billion people. And most importantly for seven billion people to survive, they must eat. They might not have education, they might not have contraceptives, but we must help them out of hunger. So this is most fundamental, which we must tackle and I am glad they are recycling something from food.

The reality is that we may talk of development frameworks, but the fundamentals should be that every human soul must have food first. So having been the Chair of this session and the Chair of the agricultural committee, in the next agenda of our interface, agriculture and food for every human soul should be at the center stage.

As parliamentarians, we represent human beings, and every human being represented must have food. It is a must for me to stand up and talk that your people must have food. We must find a way of having food for every human soul we represent. This is the beginning of human survival.

I would like to thank you so much for this partnership for recycling the waste. I want to open this to debate on how we can go back to the reality of making sure that people we represent begin the journey of earning and living by first of all having food and the rest we shall recycle. Thank you.

#### **Hon. Fredrick Outa, Kenya:**

I want to take this opportunity to thank our two presenters on sustainable project, on the so-called banana paper. I think this is a critical way of working with people in villages to empower them and provide food on their table.

We have a problem in East Africa. It is similar to the banana paper, and I think my colleagues from East Africa here, especially those who are living around Lake Victoria, know that we have a plant called hyacinth and it causes havoc. But if you look at the roots of that hyacinth plant, I think you could produce paper like banana paper. I want to invite these two gentlemen to come to East Africa because those raw materials are available. I know some people had tried to

do it, but they did not have that skill whereby the bio product can be expected for trade.

Maybe you heard about hyacinth in Lake Victoria? It is a big plant with long roots and they can grow within one week. Roots can be converted into the paper product. I want you to come and see, and you will find the plant along the Lake Victoria that is straddling Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. And I think it can go alongside with banana papers to empower our people in sub-Sahara.

**Chair:**

He is opening up the new opportunity of hyacinth projects in Lake Victoria, which can be recycled. It is already a potential area of making paper out of it. I mean, there are so many products you can get out of it. I welcome our colleague from India.

**Hon. Avinash Khanna, India:**

My inquiry is how much land in Zambia is under cultivation for banana trees. If this land is used for other products like rice and wheat, then what benefit the farmers can get? And if they go for banana products, then what is the difference between products like crops and profits from their value?

My third point is that you are talking about raw materials from Zambia, as per your presentation, and it is taken to Japan and they make paper out of it. Is it good cost-wise considering the transportation cost? Also, in such processes, Zambian people do not get job opportunities and only Japanese factories are getting job opportunities.

Another point is that you use the word “banana paper”. Is the banana fruit also used for making paper or only skin or other part of the plant? Because in Kenya and in India, people make so many products from the straw of banana and they are selling it internationally. Even they are getting orders by mail. They are not going far for selling their products, and they are getting orders from their homes. Now another important point is whether Zambian banana

producers or growers are the shareholders in the factory where this banana paper is made. Are they getting any share out of profit? You said so many families are engaged in this banana business. Do they provide just labor, and you are getting raw materials, making paper produces and selling them? If they are not, are you planning to make them partners?

**Chair:**

You can respond to these and we shall take another two discussants.

**Mr. Peo Ekberg, One Planet Café, Japan:**

Thank you for such interesting questions. I love these questions. We just started three years ago, so we are still learning how to do this. There are a few companies on this planet that have done something similar on this scale we are actually aiming toward.

The first question from Kenya is about our model that is based on fair trade model, which is fair trade within international rules — everything you can see, from no child labor to farmers as stakeholders. Of course, we are trying to give them enough salaries so that they can solve their own problems. We are not aiming toward a big scale banana paper factory in Zambia or anywhere else, it is quite the opposite. We are aiming toward business called eco-system business. It is based on eco-systems, or nature’s technology. Just think of it, there is no poverty in nature. I have never seen a bird screaming that he is hungry. There is no unemployment. It is zero percent. Unbelievable! We have to learn from nature. These are the basics for our business — biodiversity and variety of species. So instead of doing one large scale of banana paper factory, we make a small-scale factory with up to 100 people to be employed in South Luangwa hopefully in the future.

When we reach 100 people, we will go to other countries with this banana paper and teach how to do it and franchise our model. That is what we want. So instead of one large-scale factory, we want to have several small ones. That is our



idea. To tell you the truth, from the first year we got contacts via telephone and e-mails from Zimbabwe, Congo, Nigeria, Malawi, Kenya, Myanmar, Bhutan and also the Philippines. They request and invite us to invest on biodiversity by using their banana plants.

As for hyacinth, actually I am still learning it. You can mix banana fibers with almost any kind of materials to make paper. With that, we can make banana paper or hyacinth paper. As soon as we get this business model, then we can start to franchise it and come to your place and hopefully send Zambian women to your country so that women teach women. That is what we are aiming toward.

**Chair:**

Thank you, any other comments? Yes please.

**Mr. Musa Wamala, Uganda:**

In addition to the plant mentioned by Honorable from Kenya, there is a plant variety that grows in Uganda that is used for malaria. It has fibers which are equivalent to the ones in banana stems. Since this project is looking at both malaria control and paper industry, it would form very good raw materials for this project. I would propose it goes beyond a banana project.

Secondly, banana is acceptable to solve various challenges. Like in my country, we have banana wood, so maybe you should be guided on how to control the measures to support these people and have more produce on banana. Third, on varieties, are there any specific ones?

**Chair:**

Are there any other comments? Please.

**Ms. Junko Sasaki, UNFPA, Japan:**

I thought it is a very interesting project and thank you very much for your presentation. I have two questions. First, you said you try to expand and you asked JICA and UN for support, but I was thinking that their support may not be sustainable. If you expand it into big business and after assistance ends, who will be your

partners? I do not know if you have assistance or partners, but what is profiting, selling banana or selling the wood? I thought it would probably continue forever so it may be a good idea and I would like to know if you have done that.

The second one is partnership with, for example, PPAZ, because in the villages you are working on adults' education and total fertility rate in Zambia is amazingly high. Unwanted pregnancies occur due to lack of access to family planning, gender issues and so on. That is where the population development group is working on. So I thought it would be very nice if you work together with PPAZ. I do not know if you have plans to do so or have been doing that. That is my question, thank you.

**Chair:**

I have a question as well. First of all, I want to thank you so much for this. Those of you who attended the Uganda project, when we visited the Uganda Industrial Research Center, we saw a similar project still on a research basis, but it was also beginning to make very good inroads. So I saw them on that stage, I was very excited. I just wanted to know, as my brother from Kenya mentioned, when you extract fibers from bananas, how much do you pay women per kilo of the fiber? And what volumes can one make? How much can you generate from a banana stem?

And you mentioned that you support a group of 250 members of community. What is the annual average income they have got? If you are doing this as a business model, you assessed it at the start and the transformation you are going to make. How much on average do those women earn, maybe in a month? If we are serious, we can make a business unit per household which will generate so much to improve food security, income of household and provide school fees, so that you are able to say that this is a test case we can take forward.

Also, I would like to know the global trading. What is the volume of trade of paper? For example, we know oil is number one for the

international trade and coffee is number two. What is the volume of trade in terms of recycle paper? If we popularize it, it will capture a lot of attention. The UN agencies should all use the recycle paper from bananas as a mechanism of campaigning for sustainable development beyond 2015. These are types of campaigns we need to look forward.

When I saw the plantation where you are getting the fiber, I was not sure how you are planning to increase the volume of banana stems within these communities. For example, those who are looking for cotton go there and get extensions who train those people on how to plant cotton. As you establish a factory, you have to make sure what interventions you have as a starter so that you can get adequate raw materials. As my brother from India said, the other products from bananas also increase the livelihood sustainability and increase income levels. Here is some piece of my mind to bring this out so that you are able to take it to another level, thank you.

**Mr. Peo Ekberg, One Planet Café, Japan:**

We will try to remember all those questions and if there are some questions which I do not answer, please you can remind me. First question about how we increase productivity and efficiency. There was a question about whether we can utilize banana peels after eating bananas. All these questions are something we had discussed during our sleepless nights, when we started the business. That is why we applied to JICA and other organizations to have feasibility studies for two years on how this could work out in reality. Unfortunately, we did not get any fund, and we were unlucky so far. We are still not giving up and continue applying again to JICA and UN offices. So if you have any ideas please let us know. We need feasibility studies to know all those answers.

However, we are not sitting idle and just waiting for something to happen because we do not have too much time. Actually, currently we do activities with our own money. Fibers of banana

stems in South Luangwa might be different from your countries, and we can make at least hundreds sheets, that is a minimum. How can we increase the efficiency by having certain machines? We need to increase efficiency and by that, we need special machinery, which we are now introducing and checking whether this model will work.

We have to tell people not to cut down trees to plant banana stems. Because we are back to square one or square zero again. We will repeat the mistakes we have done so far. We have to use what we have. That is why I like your idea of utilizing bananas, not only fibers but banana fruits as well. It called the "blue economy". It is a new way of thinking around community of the world, when we do not create new investment and new technology to solve different kind of problems, we actually use what we have. And what we have in the African continent is unbelievable, and what we have in Japan with 1400 years' technology of *Washi* is unbelievable. These could be connected, and we could create new opportunities. That is how we feel.

Finally, for banana peels we have a solution already. Billy and I are starting this project since this June, and next year we are planning to introduce bio-gas kitchen. India is very good at this. So you take banana peels, banana leaves and you need five kilos of these to make one liter of fuel, and then we can cook with this. So instead of cutting down the trees to cook, we can actually cook with banana leaves.

In my native country Sweden, there are a lot of buses, trains, taxi cars already running on banana peels. You can do that on the coffee waste. So utilizing what you have and putting some efforts into that will work, but we need your help — help from the UN. As Ms. Junko Sazaki was suggesting, if we could cooperate together, we would be happy to do that for health issues with maternity life and all those maternity problems. If you come and teach us, we will have a factory very soon, in which we plan to have a classroom for teaching sustainable development.

You are very welcome to come, so let us talk about it later. If there is an opportunity for cooperation with the private sectors or with someone else of the business sector, we are open to that. But the trade has to be fair. We cannot afford to repeat the same mistake that we have done so far. We have to give back as much as we take and that is the beauty of sustainable development. I think I have answered most of the questions and Billy may add something.

**Mr. Billy Nkhoma, One Planet Café, Zambia:**

I just want to answer on the question about payments to farmers. As we know, this project has never appeared somewhere else, and when we went into the banana plantation, we told the owner that we wanted to use their waste products. They tell us that we can just take them because we do not need them, but we said no. We need to pay for them. Basically, we do not tell farmers that we want to buy this for

\$1. They are the ones who are putting the price. Think of two parties to be happy. That is how we work. We buy their waste products with tracks. That is how we work.

**Chair:**

Any other comments? Can we give them another clap? I would like to thank you so much for being very active listeners and keeping it active. Thank you so much for the day and I think we close this session. I would like to thank you so much for the opportunity accorded to us to share the experience you have. We have a lot of opportunities through cooperation and collaboration that we shall help each other to solve the immense problems of the people all of us represent in our different capacities. It creates a lot of innovativeness, creativity and commitment, and we must work for that. Especially for Africa, we are too late, and we must catch up.



## **SESSION 5**

# **Parliamentarians' Actions for the Post-ICPD and Post-MDGs Global Development Agenda**



## Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi

MP; President of APF; Chair of UPPFSP&D, Uganda

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi is Chair of the Ugandan Parliamentarians Forum of Food Security, Population and Development (UPPFSP&D) and President of the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (APF). Professionally, he is a Medical doctor. He received the Postgraduate Degree in HIV/AIDS Management at University of Brighton, College of Venereal Diseases in 2003. He has an M.A. in Demography from Makerere University in 1998. Before joining the Parliament, he worked as Executive Health Advisor to UNFPA from 2002 to 2006.

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I am going to take you talk on parliamentarians' actions for the post-ICPD and post-MDGs Global Development Agenda. Let me start by saying things which you know. In 1994 we had a landmark Conference, ICPD, in Cairo, and this conference came up with the Programme of Action (PoA) for 20 years from 1994. It means this year we are reviewing the progress in terms of implementing the ICPD PoA.

We also know in year 2000, the Millennium Summit was held in New York by the UN countries and the Millennium Declaration was the outcome of this Summit. It outlines eight MDGs, which need to be attained by 2015 — just few months from now. When you look at the targets, 1990 was used as a base year. So basically, we should measure the progress from 1990 to 2015. These are key instruments, which we are now reviewing as to whether they have been achieved in various communities we represent.

As most of you know, there had been a lot of consultation on how far we are going in terms of the implementation of the ICPD PoA and the performance of the MDGs, so that in 2015 we should be able to take this agenda forward. Moreover, various regional parliamentary networks have also had consultations, including African group on the implementation of the ICPD PoA. I know some of you attended. All these have laid out the global point.

We had a conference of parliamentarians in Stockholm in April 2014, which looked at these issues and reflected on how parliamentarians were involved in the implementation of the ICPD PoA. The 29<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly Special Session on ICPD Beyond 2014 was just held few days ago on 26 September 2014 in New York. Many parliamentarians were participating. I was supposed to be part of the delegation there but chose to come and participate in this important meeting. They organized a side event for parliamentarians in New York, in which several parliamentarians have attended and Hon. Highvie Hamududu, Member of Parliament from Zambia, who seats on Executives of the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development was a panelist, together with my Vice-President from Cameroon.

So this gives us a synopsis on how things are going on. Right now we are reflecting on how ICPD PoA and the MDGs have been achieved in our various communities.

What are some of the observations from the assessments which were carried out? One, there is a gap between donor commitments and supported developing countries. They have not met their pledges, and that was a key finding. But the side finding which was also reported to us when we were in Addis Ababa during the consultation by the African governments was that in Africa up to 70% of the ICPD PoA

interventions was delayed. We are behind of schedule in terms of implementation. That is the shame to all of us, who are from Africa, especially political leaders.

The other finding which I wanted to highlight is that, although maternal mortality ratio declined by 47% overall globally from around 400 deaths per 100,000 in 1990 to 210 in 2010, countries with unacceptable high mortality rate remain concentrated in developing countries, predominantly in Sub-Sahara Africa.

The Global Report indicates that 26 countries have experienced an increase in maternal mortality ratio since 1990. And most of them, of course, are from Sub-Saharan Africa. The other finding in global report is that about 69% of the Global population has only 3% of global wealth, while 0.7% of the global population has 41% of the global wealth. So it shows you the inequality that we have on our planet Earth.

Another study finding, which we know as parliamentarians who are engaged in the implementation of the ICPD PoA, is that only 46% of the governments in Africa considers family planning services as a priority. And only 56% of the governments in Africa consider sexual reproductive health for adolescents and young people as a priority. So it shows you that there is a lot of work to be done especially by us – political leaders.

Another finding is that, although there was a fertility decline over two decades globally the decline was slow in Sub-Saharan Africa, where the fertility remains higher than any other region of the world. Again the burden of sexual reproductive health declined in most regions except in Africa, where it increased substantially, followed by the Southern Asia.

Also the report notes that the voice of parliamentarians in the last two decades has not been as strong as expected, though I do not know whether you agree with this. Maybe those in this room are the converted ones, but generally the voice of parliamentarians has not

been strong, partly maybe because of our own weaknesses and also because of the way some of these global interventions have been structured. So Members of Parliaments have not been brought up to speak.

Briefly looking at population dynamics in Africa in this century, it is projected to double from 1.2 billion to 2.4 billion, if you use the UN medium projections. We expect that a majority of Africans will live in urban areas and migration is expected to increase. Those of you who visited southern Zambia yesterday could see how dry the place is. Also, as mortality and fertility continue to decline slowly in our case in Africa, child dependency burden will decline as we have more people on working age. That means, if fertility declines fast, then we may be able to benefit from demographic dividend in Africa.

Definitely most of the countries in America, Europe and Asia are fast on demographic transition, but in Africa we are still in an earlier stage of demographic transition. But if we put our action right, we should be able to see further decline in both mortality and fertility and we should be able to harness the demographic dividend, which I will shortly explain.

**Most of our population will at least double by 2050**

COUNTRY	2013	2050	2070
Benin	10.3	22.1	28.0
Botswana	1.0	2.8	3.1
Burkina Faso	16.9	40.9	56.4
Burundi	10.2	26.7	38.8
Cote Dvoire	20.3	42.3	57.0
Egypt	82.1	121.8	132.7
Ethiopia	94.1	187.6	224.8
Gambia	1.8	4.9	6.7
Ghana	25.9	45.7	53.0
Kenya	44.4	79.2	127.7
Malawi	16.4	41.2	59.1
Mali	15.3	45.2	68.5

Those slides just show that most of our population is going to double by 2050 in most of our countries, because fertility rates remain high. The African report, which you have access to, was focusing on the possibility of Africa harnessing the demographic dividend. The demographic dividend basically refers to the economic benefit that all community can get

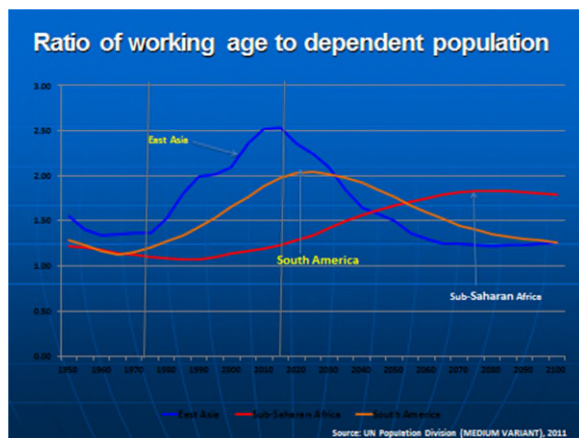


arising from significant increase in the ratio of working-aged adults relative to young dependents. In other words if fertility declines or mortality declines, you are about to get a huge segment of the population in the younger ages.

And if you do the right investments, you can turn this population into the productive population, because we have huge population momentum in most of African countries. This is very important for us political leaders, because we make decisions in our various parliaments or various governments. So we must take the right decision to turn this huge population of young people into skilled young people to be productive in order for us to harness this demographic dividend.

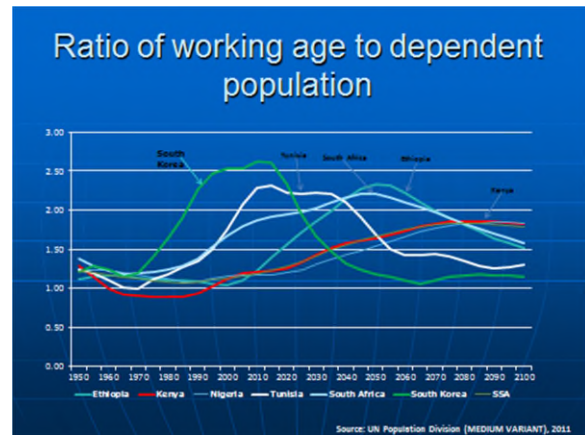
And of course, we need to learn from the Asian countries. They used to be at the stage we are in Africa, but within a period of 30 years they have been able to achieve a lot of transformation in terms of improving the quality of life of their people.

It shows you the ratio of working age population, and dependent population. South American have already got that huge population, which they are turning to demographic bonus. But for us in Sub-Saharan Africa we project that we shall reach that stage much later, depending on the decision we make as leaders in our Continent.



In this slide, a very important example is Tunisia. When you look at the trends, it has been able to bring down the fertility but Tunisia as a country

did not make the right decision in terms of investing in its people. Yes, they have achieved the fertility transition, but they are not harnessing demographic dividend. In other words, they can decrease fertility, but it must be followed by the right action, by the right investments and that is the challenge we can see in some of those Arab countries in the Northern Africa.



Africa still has an opportunity to harness the demographic dividend if we make the right decisions. What are some of the issues which we must do to accelerate progress towards universal access to quality sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services and fulfillment of sexual and reproductive rights? I think this is one area which we must focus on as Africa. We are going to improve the quality of life of our people.

But also we must focus on adolescents and young people and be sure that they have access to information, comprehensive sexuality education and services. We must see where the biggest burden of unwanted pregnancies, sexual transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS are actually concentrated. But also we must focus and strengthen specific SRH services like family planning, maternal care, STIs, including HIV/AIDS and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in communities. When we visited the University Teaching Hospital, you saw how big the burden of cancer is and that is a situation across Africa. Therefore, we must focus on some of those emerging issues such as cancer, so that we are able to make a change in our people.

We must also enhance political will and investments in family planning programmes, education and general empowerment of women. And this is also for us - the Africans leaders who must enhance women if we are going to achieve better indicators in term of population and development. And also we must enhance our investments in public health care for greater child survival and healthy workforce. It is important to adopt economic policies and reforms that may help industries develop, with comparative advantage to ensure mass job creation and enhance savings and investments.

You note that one of the biggest challenges we have in the Continent is the issue of unemployment. We are having many young people who are not employed. That is why we witnessed Arab Spring in the Northern Africa and Middle East with huge population of the young people, who are not employed and aimed to remove the government and cause political instability.

One study by ILO in Africa showed that one person out of two young people who joined rebellion cited unemployment as the cause and reason why they went to fight the government. So as leaders we must take action on this huge population of young people.

What are our roles? As I explained in my presentation, we have constitutional roles of representation, legislation, oversight and demanding for accountability, appropriation of budget, to name a few. So how can we use our roles to make change, so that next time when we assess performance we should be able to register data improvements.

There are some of the lessons reflecting on what needs to be done as far as parliamentarians concerned. First, we need to share experiences and we want to thank the organizers of this meeting where Members of Parliament from Asia, Europe and Africa are able to meet so that we share experiences and we learn from each other. But also we need to facilitate and enable parliamentarians from

various countries to be able to speak up and promote issues of maternal health and sexual reproductive health.

In some countries the Members of Parliaments are not strong enough to deal with issues of family planning, sexual education or some of these very sensitive SRH issues. But we must give them the capacity to be champions of change. Definitely, Members of Parliaments play a very critical role to ensure accountability and political will, and we need strong and coordinated group of parliamentarians so we can create positive change within our communities.

My last slide just reflects some of the activities we have intended to carry out as the African Parliamentarians Forum on Population and Development.

We used to have a Forum that brought together the Members of Parliaments from the Arab and African regions, but a few years ago we decided to split and created an independent Forum as the African Forum. IPPF is facilitating us as the Secretariat with a liaison office in Addis Ababa. Some of you have participated in some of the meetings but we intended to strength the Forum so all of us can participate. Some of the activities we outlined to carry out the ICPD Beyond 2014 and MDG beyond 2015. We want to support all countries in Africa to establish parliamentary committees on population and development where we can strengthen parliamentary network so every parliament in Africa must be able to address issues of population and development.

Two, we want to engage our regional parliament bodies on population and development issues. We have East African Legislative Assembly, SADAC parliamentary Forum, ECOWAS parliament in West Africa, ICAS in Central Africa, and Pan-African parliament. So we are engaging all these regional parliaments to work with the national parliaments to integrate population and development issues.

We are also in the process to enact model legislations to guide our national parliaments on issues of population and development. I recalled when I was going to facilitate meeting in Malawi, there was a huge debate on whether the age of marriage should be 16 or 18, and others were saying 14. So we think as African Forum we are going to put some model legislations by bringing out basic issues in population and development to guide our various parliaments when we are passing our national laws. Also, we want to carry out

capacity building for parliamentarians in all the countries in order for all to appreciate population and development issues. Networking, international cooperation and most importantly mobilizing resources will enable us to carry out all these activities. We must move together in order for us to achieve results, and I think together we can make life brighter and better.

I thank you very much.

## Hon. Dr. Florian Bodog

MP, Romania

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Florian Bodog is a Senator from Romania. He serves as Senate Secretary of Public Health Commission and also Dean of Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, University of Oradea. He is a former State Secretary for Health in the Romanian Government.

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It is an honor for me to speak in front of you and I will speak about the Parliamentary Action in support of the Global Development Agenda.

The European Union (EU) post-2015 sustainable development agenda is set to become the universal framework guiding global and national efforts to support human development in conjunction with environmental durability. At the core of the EU approach for the post-2015 agenda is the integration in a single framework of sustainable management of natural resources, basic human development challenges, drivers for sustainable and inclusive growth.

The framework, which is universal in character, should be rights-based and people-centered and should also approach and address justice, equality and equity, good governance, democracy and the rule of law. The EU priority policy areas are, to name a few: poverty, inequality, health, food security, education, gender equality, water and sanitation, sustainable energy, decent work, and inclusive and sustainable growth. According to human rights, important elements are equality, freedom, dignity, rules of law, prosperity and justice.

The European Parliament also pushes for legislation with regard to EU member states' pledges to donate at least 0.7% of their Gross National Income (GNI) to sustain development aid and innovative sources of development financing. Some other key goals are quality

education for all and universal health coverage – the right to the highest attainable standards of health including sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and voluntary family planning.

#### *European Parliamentary Forum for Population and Development (EPF):*

The most important elements of the new framework to combat inequality and development issues are based around sexual and reproductive rights, empowerment of women, family planning and maternal health. Family planning is the essential component in trying to stabilize population growth. By controlling their fertility, women can access education for themselves and their children, thus eventually adding to the workforce to the potential for their country and to their own self-esteem and position in society.

#### *Access to care is important to all nations:*

According to the Stockholm Statement of Commitment, parliamentarians all over the world assembled in Stockholm, at the 2014 International Parliamentarians' Conference on the Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action (IPCI/ICPD), and acknowledged the progress made on some of the ICPD goals. However, challenges remain in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), especially regarding universal access to SRH, the full range of RH services, including safe abortion where it is legal.

Many women and girls, who live in regions affected by poverty or where gender equality is

inexistent because of religious or cultural aspects, have not realized the same progress made by other women. Global parliamentarians state that women's RH can only be achieved when the human rights of women, girls and youth are realized. To this end, the Stockholm Statement of Commitment calls on the world's governments to support a human rights-based post-2015 development paradigm that ensures gender equality, women and adolescent's SRHR and comprehensive development for youth and women through education, social development and innovation.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that parliamentary activity regarding population issues and sustainable development originated in Japan in 1974. Since then the projects that have been implemented were of huge use to the participating parliamentarians for understanding policy issues through both theory and field visits used for case studies, allowing for proper result evaluation. Starting from the Japanese model and continuing with the African one, we were able to analyze and draw conclusions which have enriched the resources necessary for promoting specific policies meant to offer the best results.

In conclusion, the Programme of Action (PoA) signed at the Cairo Conference of 1994 placed the rights and empowerment of women at the center of sustainable development. While the PoA has helped improve the lives of millions of people, we must still take into account that too

many women and young people in marginalized communities have not yet been reached. The post-2015 agenda being discussed will need to include solutions for this issue, particularly relating to RH.

Romania's stance on the post-2015 development framework is fully committed to the EU principles and objectives, as set up in the EU document: "A decent life for all, from vision to collective action". We are aware of the fact that peace and security and the rule of law are prerequisites for any successful development agenda. We also attach particular importance to future goals enabling empowerment of women, social inclusion and education for all, and environmental protection.

Furthermore, as parliamentarians, we have the calling and the obligation to elaborate sustainable policies based on functioning models. Offering more years to any human life is vital, but offering a decent life through all those years is equally important. This can be achieved if the models we create and implement actually work and do not linger on simple fantasies which we show voters before an election.

Before saying thank you, I would like to say that it was very nice for me to be here, to share with you our knowledge, our dreams and our problems from different countries. I think it is a very good occasion to improve our knowledge and improve our possibility to work for the best.

## Hon. Juliana Lunguzi

MP; Chair for Parliamentary Committee on Health and Population, Malawi

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Juliana Lunguzi is Chair of Parliamentary Committee on health. She has master degree in Science on Community Health Nursing, which she obtained from Valparaiso University in Indiana, the U.S.A., and before she became Member of Parliament she was international adviser of UNFPA in Khartoum, Sudan, from 2011 to 2014.

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At the ICPD Conference in Cairo, the world agreed that population is not just about counting people, but about making sure that every person counts, and that is why delegates reached the consensus. Equality and empowerment of women is a global priority, not only from the perspective of universal human rights but also as an essential step toward eradicating poverty and stabilizing population growth. A total of 179 governments agreed that ICPD Programme of Action (PoA), which is a roadmap that outlines how we pay attention to population issues, can be a vehicle toward sustainable development.

When we talk about population issues, there are so many key issues which we can delineate. If you see the slide, there are three key issues I mention here – fertility, migration and mortality. If you go further, those are elements you can think about. The issues of population dynamics that my colleague talked about, emergencies, human rights, adolescents and youth, HIV/AIDS, poverty, urbanization and so forth. These are all within the three elements of the population issues – fertility, migration and mortality.

Now, the centrality of the population issues: we all say that population is central to the goals of the international community, which is to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development. What are the programmes we are doing? We do not want poverty within our communities. And what does sustainable development mean? And again the issue of

population dynamics is also central. You look at the issues like growth rates, age structures, fertility and mortality, migration, which influence every aspect of human, social and economic development.

We saw on the first day of the field visit in PPAZ, the issues of population growth and fertility. So these are the central issues, when we talk about population issues. Issues of reproductive health and women's empowerment are game changers, when it comes to managing population trends.

As my colleague earlier mentioned, you are trying to make decisions based on what two people in the bedroom are going to do. So you can see that the whole issue of reproductive health and women empowerment are game changers. It is up to women to decide what she is going to make and to make sure that she influences what is happening in our population.

So what is the role of parliamentarians when it comes to population issues? When you look at the centrality of population issues, policy-makers have a duty to first understanding population dynamics and underlying factors. Our colleague said one of the challenges as parliamentarians is that we are not at the table when these issues have been discussed. When we go to the table without knowledge to talk about, so we never even follow up what is happening around us.

As parliamentarians, we need to analyze and

make sense of population trends. Yesterday, we went to the power plant. As parliamentarians, who are policy-makers and legislators, we need to make sure in the parliament to make legislation regarding energy, which affects the population. If we understand the population, we need to make decisions. Maybe we can recapitalize many energy companies, which are there within our communities. We need to gather information and begin to use population data.

Sometimes we just say that we need more money in the health sector, but if we use numbers of people, the Ministry of Finance will understand why we want more money for the health sector. So the whole issue is using the population data to say, for example, that we need to focus more on girls than boys. Let's have numbers and evidence to make our case. In order to formulate, influence and manage sound policies that can appropriately address both current and future needs. As Members of Parliament, we must talk numbers and we must understand the population trends.

When it comes to resources, there is no shortage of resources for enterprising parliamentarians to tap from. But maybe we do not know where the resources are and this is something we need to share from various countries. Uganda, who you are working with and who is giving you information you are using? There are various academic, public and private organizations, which have specialized in developing capacity in education and information on population studies and data collection and analysis.

Sometimes as parliamentarians we can just call to academic and public departments within the universities to ask what the meanings of these numbers are, so we can go in parliament, talk numbers and share them when the questions come in. We can go to the private sector to ask for numbers that we need to use to make request for change. So education and information on population studies is important for data analysis.

In our countries, there are so many issues of data. You find that parliamentarians never opened our population analysis, like data. It is essential for policy-makers to meaningfully participate in the national, regional and global policy dialogues. We make a difference when we know what we are talking about and we have numbers.

So what are the challenges I feel as a parliamentarian? That is lack of capacity and interest on policy level because of the "specialized" nature of population studies and issues. Sometimes, they just talk about the numbers and figures. We are worried but do not want to talk about it. We do not need to calculate, as I said, and just go to any institute and ask to calculate for us and interpret it for us to use it. Sometimes the bureaucracy delinks policy-makers, legislators and implementing agencies from available expertise and resources.

My colleague said that we have to write a letter to Ban Ki Moon to say there is bureaucracy we need to deal with. In a "politics-as-usual" approach, many parliamentarians place more emphasis on towing party lines even in the face of facts to the contrary. We accept corruption to be one of the norms, so we continue to do it even though we know that something is wrong.

I will give you an example from my country. We have farm input subsidy programme, where government gives subsidy to the vulnerable and poor and give them fertilizer. We target vulnerable and poor people, who are minority in our population, and yet we know that the young people are majority in our setting. If they could direct it to the young people, who are more productive, we could see more productivity. Companies can say, "Please give us the same amount and we are going to produce more for the country and also move to respond for the donor needs". We can have our needs as a country, but the problem is, donors come and say "do this, do that". So those are some challenges we are facing on policy level. We can make some decisions, and say, "I love you, donor", but we think differently, so that we can

do something to make production as opposed to consumption.

The other challenge is the issue of legislature. The knowledge about population issues is hardly made public to parliamentarians who come from a variety of backgrounds. You are likely to have people working for UNFPA. They talk data. But you have some people who never heard about population issues, when they come in parliament. This is a role of networks to orient the parliamentarians that there is data and we need to utilize it. Parliamentarians are not being proactive enough in seeking information on population issues. We sit and we work for information to come. We need to learn and look for information so that we use it. Lobbyists for population issues are getting things wrong by using ineffective ways to engage and educate parliamentarians.

Another challenge for population issues is that population issues are tackled in isolation and dialogue, if any, is limited to technocrats. You can find someone talking about fertilities, and somebody talks about migration, but if there is no linkage, you think these are different. But we really need to find how these things come in one place. Interpretation and use of data and population issues in resource allocation in countries like Malawi is non-existent. And government departments operate in silos and make very little use of M&E systems in measuring progress, or lack thereof.

Against the background, parliamentarians' objective should be to mainstream population issues at policy, planning and legislation levels, as well as in service delivery and at community levels. Action is required of parliamentarians.

- We should walk the talk by getting rid of phobia for using numbers.
- We should advocate for increased budgets for population issues
- We should create a culture where budgetary allocations are based on population data
- We should go beyond "counting votes" to measuring progress toward sustainable

development.

We should strengthen parliamentary oversight by ensuring stronger political will for the further implementation of the ICPD PoA and the recommendations arising from the review and we will use our oversight role to keep Governments accountable to the commitments made.

Also, we should advocate for appropriate population, health, gender and development data, disaggregated, inter alia, by sex, age and disability, make it public, in order to facilitate sharing and use of knowledge and improve public accountability.

We must ensure effective oversight of programmes and work with our respective governments to promote and facilitate active participation of all constituencies including non-state actors in order to guarantee transparency and rule of law and improved governance at the local, national, regional and global levels. And most of all, we must strengthen parliamentary cross-party networks at country and beyond.

In conclusion, integration of population issues into national development frameworks is crucial and key to achieving sustainable development. And as parliamentarians, we must set an agenda to propel governments, civil society and the youth to join this debate. These all require joint efforts.

I just spelled out a few statements of the post-2015 agenda, which I have thought we need to know about. I want to indicate about MDGs: "small thinking won't achieve big results". We heard that almost 70% of money has not been implemented because our thinking is too small and we do not think big. That is why we did not achieve it. Somebody says that it is a wasted exercise or the most successful global anti-poverty push in history. That is the question for us to answer.

And also, there are issues of wars and violence



because of poverty. No matter how large we make a target, it would not matter. *“We didn’t fail to achieve the MDGs because the objectives were too big, too idealistic. Quite the opposite. We failed to eradicate extreme poverty and reduce child mortality because our thoughts were too small”*. It has been quoted by two sources, and this is something we need to think about.

We have to work toward this outcome – healthy, educated, stabilized communities. That is what success should look like in the post-MDGs. And we also need to look at the issues of accountability and corruption. If we cannot do that as Africa, we are failing. Thank you very much.

## Hon. Mariany Mohammad Yit

MP, Malaysia

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Senator Mariany Mohammad Yit was appointed as a Member of the Senate – Upper House Parliament of Malaysia for the second term. She holds LL.B. Degree from University of Canterbury New Zealand. She practiced law for 20 years. She is also member of the board of Management of National Higher Education Fund Corporation. Hon. Mariany is active in social work.

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I am here representing Malaysia. What I will talk about is our success stories. It might be boring because we achieved almost most of it.

The MDG review in 2010 recognized that Malaysia had achieved most of the MDGs ahead of the target year and had also shown progress in moving toward some of the goals and targets that it had yet to achieve. These achievements and the favorable position Malaysia now occupies in economic and social development owe a great deal to the groundbreaking policies and strategies that were envisioned in the Outline Perspective Plans and systematically implemented through Malaysia's national five-year plans.

MDG 1: We have the MDG target to reduce the proportion of the population living below the poverty line by 50% between 1990 and 2015. It was achieved in 1999 when the poverty rate decline to 7.5% and currently 1.7%. About 5.7% of households were below the national poverty line by 2004. The poverty gap ratio was less than 0.5 by 1997. The purchasing power parities conversion factor to the international dollar was MYR 1.82 by 2006. Target to absolute poverty will be eliminated before 2015.

MDG 2: By 1990, Malaysia had successfully achieved the goal of universal primary education, not only in terms of enrolment ratios but also in terms of the number of primary school education. Currently, almost all children complete a full course of primary schooling.

Literacy rate, too, improved significantly from 75% in 1970 to 97.3% in year 2000.

MDG 3: By 1970 gender disparity in primary education had largely disappeared. Currently, Malaysia enrolment rates of girls are equal to, or exceed, those of boys at all levels of schooling. However, women's participation in the labor force has stagnated over the past 25 years at 45-50%. Proportion of seats held by women in the national parliament increased from 9.1% in 2007 to 10.4% in 2014. Not something we should cheer about, and we need to improve it.

MDG 4: Infant and child mortality rates are comparable to those of developed countries. Coverage for primary immunization is above 90% of the target population and particularly, for measles, given in combination with mumps and rubella at one year has reached 96.1% in 2010, from 70% in 1990.

MDG 5: The maternal mortality rate (MMR) in Malaysia reduced from 141 per 100,000 live births in 1970 to 29 in 2009. The aggregate maternal mortality ratio has plateaued at around 28 per 100,000 births for the past decade, down from 44 in 1990. Antenatal care coverage (at least one visit) was 97.2% in 2006. The challenge now is to sustain these achievements made as well as to further reduce the MMR to achieve the MDG5 by 2015.

MDG 6: The downward trends of both the

number of cases detected and deaths imply, although not conclusively, that the HIV epidemic peaked initially, and it has since dropped and has currently plateaued. We achieved the goal to halt and reverse the incidence of malaria and are progressing toward the MDG-Plus goal of complete elimination by 2020.

MDG 7: The principles of sustainable development have gradually been integrated into national development policies at the highest level of planning and policy-making. Currently, more than 50% land area is covered by forest. Protected area to total surface area is 17.3% in 2005. The carbon dioxide emissions per capita metric tons were 7.05 in 2004. In the field of energy, efforts have been geared at promoting efficient utilization, discouraging wasteful patterns of energy consumption and diversifying energy sources.

MDG 8: Malaysia has moved from being a net recipient of official development assistance to becoming a development partner with other developing countries, most notably through Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme. There is also a bilateral programme of cooperation designed to assist other developing countries through sharing Malaysia's development experiences and expertise.

A significant role in regional grouping provides the basis for cooperation and Malaysia actively participates in, for example, the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and in Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). Malaysia has also participated in partnership for the implementation of economic strategies, such as regional growth triangles.

Challenges: Although Malaysia has done remarkably well in achieving the MDGs, there are pockets of difference sub-nationally and needs specific interventions to increase attention to the most vulnerable population group, such as incidence of poverty among the minority groups in Sabah and Sarawak, as well as aborigines in Peninsular Malaysia. Towards this end, both the New Economic Model and

the Tenth Malaysia Plan, which emphasize inclusive growth, aspire to provide equal opportunities to all Malaysians.

Secondly, gender equality and empowerment: there are complex issues at the interface of gender, culture and religion related to laws, policies, lack of awareness, perceptions and attitudes, which remain a challenge. To promote gender equality, steps will be taken to increase the participation of women at all levels of decision making in both the public and private sectors, including entrepreneurial ventures. Existing laws and related regulations will be reviewed to create a more conducive environment that encourages greater female participation in the workforce.

Third, various measures will continue to ensure the sustainability of the environment, including conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. Emphasis will be placed on using renewable energy and on increasing energy efficiency through new guidelines, standards, laws and incentives, which will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Malaysia National Consultations on the Post-2015 development agenda: Currently, Malaysia continues refining the MDGs and the country is ready to achieve new goals for the post-2015 period that was set by the UN in 2012. The Government commitment to the MDG-Plus agenda is reflected in its 10<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan, 2011–2015, with 30% of development expenditure allocated to the social sector.

Malaysia is invited to be involved in this second phase of post-2015 consultations and will focus on Helping to Strengthen Capacities and Build Effective Institutions. The UN Country Team (UNCT) Malaysia will convene National Consultations on the post-2015 development agenda in the first quarter of 2014 and will aim to facilitate and stimulate substantive dialogue and discussion both around the "unfinished business" of the MDGs and the development of a new global development agenda after 2015.

These consultations will be inclusive and will involve a broad range of stakeholders from all segments of society, including government agencies, NGOs and civil society, academia, the private sector, and especially marginalized groups and others previously left out of discussions on development priorities.

The ultimate goal of the consultations is to facilitate an exchange of views and perspectives and greater understanding of national issues and recommendations for input into the wider regional and global process of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

To date, three national consultations and mini dialogues were held in Malaysia. The findings from these consultations and mini dialogues will serve as input for 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan and draft chapter for MDG Report 2015. A report on these consultations and mini dialogues is expected to be completed in April 2015. Just to share with you, the three mini dialogues include: one, incidence on poverty in Sabah and Sarawak minority aborigines; two, on gender equality and empowerment at decision making which is in governance policy but yet to be achieved; and three, on promoting sustainability of the environment. These are three mini dialogues that were done in 2015.

Parliamentarians' action: as I mentioned earlier there are numerous options that

parliamentarians can consider in order to get involved in achieving sustainable development of the post-MDGs. We are not only giving a voice to citizens but foster ownership of the process and responsibility to take this forward collectively.

In Malaysia, issues or problems concerning the MDGs always have been raised during parliamentary meetings in our parliament. To show that Members of Parliament are aware of the need to eradicate the MDGs, we also invite the representative of the relevant Government Ministries or related agencies (i.e. Economy Planning Unit) for a briefing and a dialog session about the issues. The Economic Planning Unit is a body, which deals with the budget especially regarding social issues.

Our parliamentarians also take an initiative using social media (Blogs, Twitter, Facebook, or other relevant websites) to share information, programmes or activities in sustainable development to their people or constituencies. Today somebody said that there are a lot of NGOs on social issues. We have those on HIV, poverty and others. The next thing we need to consider is urban poverty as sometimes it is overlooked.

I thank you Ladies and Gentlemen for your time. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

## Discussion

Chair: **Hon. Vincent Mwale**

MP; Secretary of ZAPPD, Zambia

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### Curriculum Vitae

Hon. Vincent Mwale is a Member of Parliament for Chipangali Constituency in the Eastern province of Zambia. Hon. Mwale is currently Chair of the Public Accounts Committee for the National Assembly of Zambia and Secretary for the Zambia All Party Parliamentary group on Population and Development. He previously worked for the Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia. He has attended APDA meetings in both Cambodia and Japan.

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**Chair:**

Shall we go straight into the questions?  
Uganda, please.

**Hon. Mathias Kasamba, Uganda:**

I would like to thank Hon. Chris Baryomunsi for the well and detailed presentation on the ICPD and MDG beyond. My submission does not refer from his, but I want to make a general observation. As parliamentarians in Africa, in Asia or wherever, we should begin to build postmortem handlers. I know with due respect, the Chair, you are a Public Account Committee chair, and the Public Account Committee is a postmortem committee.

And I am trying to bring it out generally that as parliamentarians we are partners in the governance of the nation, so we should be proactive advisers to the execution process. We should be prescriptive handlers of the various programmes. This is a type of new dispensations even when you are looking at endeavors. You are reporting to see how countries have gone, how the MDGs have passed, how much we are making sure that we transform the bad situation in our countries for the people on a daily basis. I think this is an area that we need to discuss.

I wanted to use an example of a doctor in the health sector traditionally trained to handle

patients. That is why you find there are many big hospitals being built up.

But the new era is to do preventive healthcare programmes, so these are the types of politics we should be undertaking — preventively and proactively as my boss mentioned it very well. He serves as Ugandan Parliamentarians Forum of Food Security, Population and Development (UPFFSP&D), but we have very less engagement on ensuring every human soul we represent as parliamentarians have food.

And when we are discussing population issues, there is no way we tell somebody to have family planning pills, when there is no food at home. Vulnerability of women is related to lack of food in the houses. So we can go to the fundamentals of making sure that food is available, and then other services can be awaited. This is my submission Mr. Chair. We need to improve the life of the people we represent. These are the small interventions we can do and engage government, engage development partners, engage ODA, engage JICA. I thank you.

**Chair:**

Parliamentarians' voices have not been strong in the last two decades and I think that emphasis really helps us to remain ourselves. Any other interventions, Honorable Members? I

will ask Dr. Baryomunsi to make comments and respond so that we can move on to the next presenter.

**Hon. Chris Baryomunsi, Uganda:**

Thank you very much Hon. Kasamba for raising the point of concern that basically enhanced the comments I made. Let me just add that what we also realized is that the global aspect has been leaving out the Members of Parliament when engagements were held. When countries constitute delegation to go to the UN or to most of these meetings, they forget to include parliamentarians. That has been one of the weaknesses. As the Forum, we have written to the UN General Secretary Dr. Ban Ki Moon for minding the importance of parliamentarians to ensure that these global summits and conventions, which are held under the UN, should include Members of Parliaments as part of their discussion. Because most often our governments go to negotiate treaties and conventions, and when they come back, they expect parliament to domesticate some of these agreements. But if you have not involved parliamentarians, how do you expect them to be helpful in terms of translating these treaties and conventions into domestic legislation.

So they need to involve parliamentarians in most of these discussions. That is why we want to build capacity within our own parliaments for us to be proactive. For instance, if you know your country is preparing a report on the performance of the MDGs on HIV/AIDS or any other issues, we as parliamentarians must be organized to be invited in this process so that the report which the governments will submit to the UN have our own input as parliamentarians. That is why we think every parliament should have a parliamentary committee or network dealing with issues of population and development. Once we have a strong network in our parliaments, we should be able to engage into our governments, executives, for those issues.

One of the key activities of the Forum is to ensure that we have a strong parliamentary

network among all national parliaments and regional parliamentary fora in order for us to engage our governments and all actors. So time is for us as Members of Parliaments to be very active to ensure that all these processes involve us.

**Chair:**

Briefly I will allow you to make your interventions, Malawi and Uganda again.

**Hon. Juliana Lunguzi, Malawi:**

I will be very brief. Your presentation is really good and on one of your slide, you said in Africa 70% of the ICPD interventions are behind the schedule on implementation. I look at our network as parliamentarians to be something at the macro level. We can show that these MDGs can happen at the micro level, because we all belong to the constituency so that at meeting level like this, we can go to one constituency where we implement something really changeable and we can see its result. So instead of waiting for the government to see us, we can make noise that we are doing something in contributing to what we are seeing at the macro level. Then people can see a difference that can affect human rights. It is something you may think, as we go on the way forward for the need of family planning activities.

**Chair:**

Thank you. Now my brother from Uganda, please.

**Mr. Musa Wamala, Uganda:**

As we are trying to strengthen this kind of network, we should not forget that parliamentary platforms move along with coordination units, or secretariats. We should all appreciate that we are working with politicians. They save much time for this kind of arrangement and it is valued. When time comes we need custodians of continuity and it is the secretariats of various countries. How we improve them, how we sustain them especially when the Members of Parliament are on other issues, or when some did not make it to the next parliament. It is important to think about

how to strengthen the secretariats, thank you.

**Chair:**

Great intervention. Do you want to respond to them quickly?

**Hon. Chris Baryomunsi, Uganda:**

Yes, you are right that for us Members of Parliaments, we are seasonal. But we must create a strong secretariat in our various parliaments in order to ensure that we can survive from one parliament to the other.

And also I agree with my sister from Malawi for that point. Whatever we are doing must be aimed improving the life of the people. When I used to work in reproductive health programmes, we used to say that whatever decisions we are making in New York or everywhere, we must be able to influence those two people who are making decision whether to use family planning methods and so on. Yes, you are right that you might be a high politician but in the end we must know whatever we do must be aimed at improving the welfare of people in Malawi or Uganda, in Asia or elsewhere. Thank you very much for emphasizing that point.

**Chair:**

I see Honorable from India.

**Hon. Avinash Khanna, India:**

I have a few questions to Honorable from Romania as he did a very good presentation. First, my question is, what facilities is the government of Romania giving to pregnant women? Second, how many women are staying at hospital or other health sectors. Third, in which case is the abortion allowed? Is sex determination allowed or not? Lastly, how many houses in rural areas have toilets? In our country in rural areas, we do not have toilets in each house. Now can I ask all Members of Parliament or one by one?

**Chair:**

Yes, you can ask others as well.

**Hon. Avinash Khanna, India:**

Madam from Malawi made a very good

presentation, but my question is how much spot you are getting to get ideas for the implementation from the government?

**Chair:**

These are a handful of questions. We may ask you to repeat some of these questions in case we have not understood. But maybe shall we get one other person to get interventions before they respond? Anyone? If not, then Romania, you may respond.

**Hon. Florian Bodog, Romania:**

I will try to answer to your questions, but please remind me if I missed any. For pregnant women in Romania, we have National Programmes, which include assistance from family doctors in order to have healthy pregnancy. If they have pregnancy with problems, they have to go to a hospital and have free access to the specialist and have free treatment. At the same time, in this programme, there is prevention for babies if they have some pathological components of the pregnancy.

For the second question about abortion, in Romania abortion is allowed to all women who want to do so. You asked me about sex determination, the answer is no. It is not possible, because abortion is made within 16 weeks of internal life. In fact, within this period they cannot make decision to make abortion because of child's sex.

**Hon. Avinash Khanna, India:**

There is a male dominancy in India, and no women in India can go and check whether a child is boy or girl. So my question is whether it is allowed in your country?

**Hon. Florin Bodog, Romania:**

No, it is not allowed. It is illegal. I work now for the law on medical assistance fertilization, but even in this law, it is not allowed. And other question was how many houses in rural areas have toilets? Almost in all houses people have toilets, except in Roma community. They maybe have one toilet for 10-15 houses, but this is specifically for some places of Romania.

**Chair:**

Malawi, please.

**Hon. Juliana Lunguzi, Malawi:**

On the support they get, as I indicated, I just got into the House in May, and these are some of the gaps that I realized, but I have the hope you can get necessary support that we need to move the agenda. For instance, the parliamentary committee on health is now called a committee on health and population. The “population” used to be taken aside, and that means we did not have Committee within

Parliament to talk about population issues, which is a very big issue. So I look at that as one of our achievements. We need to talk about population. So if you have any ideas, then bring it on, especially how we can get support. But I am sure we will get that support. UNFPA is there and I do not think they will leave us. Thank you.

**Chair:**

Great, thank you very much. Shall we all clap our hands for presenters? It was a very fruitful session and we managed to do it within the stipulated time.



## **SESSION 6**

### **Discussion and Adoption for the Parliamentary Statement: Synthesis of Projects 2009-2014**



## **Discussion for the Adoption of the Draft Statement**

**Chair: Hon. Nidup Zangpo**

MP, Bhutan

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### **Curriculum Vitae**

Hon. Nidup Zangpo is a member of the National Assembly of Bhutan and serves as Vice-Chair of the Environment, Land and Urban Settlement Committee. Since 2008 , he has been a member of the Cultural Committee of the Parliament.

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Under the chairpersonship of Hon. Nidup Zangpo, various points of view were aired and debated to highlight the importance of population issues. The session resulted in the “Asian and African Parliamentarians’ Capacity Development on the Integration of Population Issues into National Development Frameworks Statement Part III”, which was adopted unanimously by the participants.



# **CLOSING CEREMONY**



## ***Address***

**Ms. Junko Sasaki**

**Director of UNFPA Tokyo Office, Japan**

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I have been honored to participate in this meeting today here in Zambia, and earlier this year in Uganda and previously in Japan. I have been following this process and the more I participate, the more convinced I am that it is very important to have this kind of exchange among parliamentarians on population and development issues, especially from African and Asian countries.

Thank you very much to the Government of Japan for funding the parliamentarians networking and advocacy activities through the Japan Trust Fund (JTF). As JTF, US\$1 million to the UNFPA is used to support these activities in Asia through the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD). The Africa-Arab region used to receive the fund together, but they have been separated. Currently, the African Forum, supported by IPPF and Hon. Chris Baryomunsi from Uganda, serves as Chair. We have this kind of regional forum in Latin America and Europe as well, and I think cooperation and exchange among them is very important.

At this meeting, thank you very much for such excellent presentations and very fruitful discussions from which I have learned quite a lot. I have been working with UNFPA in my entire life for 25 years in different regions. I have been working with parliamentarians even before the Cairo Conference and we have come to such a fruitful time to discuss about reproductive health and rights.

This is a critical time, especially for 2014-2015, and we have very much successful UN General Assembly Special Sessions on ICPD beyond 2014 (UNGASS), which took place 22 September in New York. Many Presidents, Vice-Presidents and

Ministers of Foreign Affairs participated from 120 countries. They declared strong support to the ICPD Programme of Action that should continue and should be incorporated into the post-MDG agenda. We work very much on this, but sometimes they consider it as politically controversial, especially reproductive rights. Every person or couple should have right to decide how many children they have, and it is related to basic human rights.

That is especially important for empowerment of women and poverty elimination. Every woman and every couple should be responsible for how many children they have, and they are also responsible to give them education and health. In that sense, we need more support from every one of you who participate in this meeting to support this process.

We know that at this moment we have about 17 goals in the post-MDG agenda based on working group's discussion. On the MDGs, we have only 8 goals, so we have to make them less. We are very confident that two goals will remain – one is health and the other is education. For health, we would like to make sure that sexual reproductive health, especially universal access to service and information, will be incorporated.

Also, under the education goal, we would like to make sure that reproductive rights, especially access to information as comprehensive sexual education will be included. Everybody should have access to information in order to avoid unwanted pregnancies. For that, we are working very closely with NGOs, IPPF, parliamentarians and governments. We foresee that it should be successful, but there needs a lot of lobbying to be done. We have almost 300 or probably 350

days left before the next General Assembly where this will be determined. Lastly, I would like to say that it would be great if AFPPD, African Forum, Latin American Forum and European Forum cooperate together, and it would be meaningful if we have IT communication network, where all participants can continuously communicate with each other, and not only when APDA organizes this kind of meeting.

On behalf of Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of UNFPA and former Minister of Health, we admire the leaders of this field, and we would like to express our appreciation for your active participation. It took you long time to come here from your countries where you have important work to do. We would like to continuously work together.

Thank you very much.



## ***Address***

### **Mr. Emmanuel Obeng**

MIS & Evaluation Advisor of IPPF Africa Regional Office

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It is a great honour for IPPF to be part of this important programme. First of all, kindly accept the apologies of the IPPF Director-General and the Regional Director, who could not attend because of the UN General Assembly.

On behalf of IPPF and on my own behalf, I wish to express IPPF's appreciation and gratitude to the Asian Parliamentarian and Development Association (APDA) for this initiative. Furthermore, IPPF wishes to congratulate the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JFPF) and APDA on the occasion of your 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

IPPF has a long history of collaboration with Japan, which dates back to 1952. Indeed, Madam Shizue Kato, a Japanese Parliamentarian and leader of the Japanese Family Planning Movement was a founding member of IPPF. Japan has been providing IPPF financial support on consistent basis since 1969 under the leadership of the former Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi (the grandfather of the current Japanese Prime Minister). Between 1985 and 2004, Japan was the largest donor of IPPF, and has remained one of IPPF's major donors and strongest supporters up to date.

Unlike other major donors, IPPF does not have a funding agreement with the Japanese government. This requires closer working relations between IPPF and key Japanese stakeholders including parliamentarians. JFPF, which is the world's first parliamentarian group working specifically on population and development, has been the single most important stakeholder group in Japan for IPPF. The support of JFPF has enabled IPPF to retain its special status in Japan and to secure high levels of funding. A recent example of IPPF's

special status in Japan was the meeting between IPPF Director-General and the Japanese Prime Minister Abe in 2013.

Back home in Africa, IPPF works through indigenous Member Associations (MAs) in almost all the countries in sub-Saharan Africa to promote the population and development agenda. The leading role IPPF played in Maputo Plan of Action (MPoA) and continues to play in other continental and global sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) processes is a living testimony. IPPF Africa Region (IPPFAR) will continue to provide quality SRHR information and services to millions of marginalized and deprived young people and women as part of our commitment toward the socio-economic development of the continent.

IPPF's support to parliamentary networks on population and development at the continental and country levels has moved a step further and we hope to do more in the coming years. We will continue to empower and equip parliamentarians with the relevant knowledge, skills and advocacy tools necessary to advance population and SRHR agenda; most importantly the post-2015 development agenda on the continent.

There is an urgent need for sub-Saharan Africa to consider adolescent RH as part of the global agenda to reap the demographic dividends associated with our youthful population. And for sub-Saharan Africa to realize its full development potentials, population, SRHR and youth development should be integral components of the post-2015 development agenda. All these call for stronger collaboration between IPPF, parliamentarians and other partners. Participants at this meeting are

respectfully requested to work closely with our MAs to fulfill this mission. IPPF is committed to working closely with the Africa Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development and other related networks in the years ahead.

IPPF wishes to take this opportunity to call for a sustained and mutual partnership among all key development partners including parliamentarian networks to work toward one common agenda of making SRHR information and services accessible and affordable to women and young people particularly in Africa.

This common agenda requires working together to intensify our advocacy efforts to promote population, SRHR, women and youth as high priorities on the post-2015 development agenda. To complete the unfinished business of the MGDs, particularly those related to population and SRHR, as agreed by the UN

General Assembly would require concerted efforts and total commitment of all. IPPF extends special appeal to the governments of Japan, other Asian and European countries, as well as governments of African countries, the donor community and indeed the entire international community to mobilize adequate resources to address the various population and SRHR challenges.

Finally, IPPF wishes to recommend closer collaboration among the various parliamentary networks on population and development; and our MAs at the country level. Given the role IPPF Member Associations have played and continue to play in the areas of population and SRHR in their various countries, JPPF and APDA should consider engaging them to support the project coordination at the county level.

Thank you very much for your attention.

## ***Address of Organizer***

### **Hon. Hiroyuki Nagahama**

MP; Vice-Chair of JPFP, Japan

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The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) provides the secretariat for the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP), and as Chair's Office of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), has been conducting the parliamentarians' meeting and study visits relating to population and development over the last 30 years in Japan and the rest of Asia and other regions. This being the final year of a programme of activities, in which our involvement commenced in 2009, has great meaning for us.

As Vice-Chair Teruhiko Mashiko noted in his keynote speech, this year we celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of JPFP. The world has seen many changes over those 40 years. The population of the world has grown from around 4 billion to 7.2 billion, while economic activity has increased and now imposes more than twice the burden on the global environment than it did back then. In those days, the population of Africa was less than 400 million; now it is believed to exceed 1 billion.

Forty years ago, the issue for the world population was how to control the rapidly growing population. While some demographers were sounding the alarm on the impact of aging populations in Japan and elsewhere, attention was almost entirely focused on controlling the rapid growth in population, as the population issue which needed to be dealt with.

Japan is now facing an unprecedented aging society, with the fastest rate of aging in the world. Dealing with this is an urgent problem. In the near future, aging populations will become an issue for the countries of Southeast Asia, as well as Japan. On the other hand, dealing with

the pressure of population increase is the important issue for the African region. As a result of our efforts over 40 years, the issue of population has become more diverse, and can no longer be expressed in a few words.

Two days before we began our work here, the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) was held at UN Headquarters in New York to review the ICPD Programme of Action and to form international agreement on the areas of population that should be incorporated into the post-2015 development agenda.

Having mentioned the ICPD, while it deals with the rate of increase in population, this is not the only population issue; its objective is to improve the lives of each of us. From this perspective, a centerpiece of the population programme is action to reduce maternal mortality and child mortality rates.

This does not at present appear as often as it used to be, but the Preamble and Principles of ICPD, which set out the overall direction and philosophy of the ICPD PoA, clearly state that population issues are to be treated from the context of sustainable development.

Placing this in the context of contemporary Africa, the fundamental approach of the ICPD is to uphold the dignity as human beings of the people living in the natural environment of the continent of Africa and to allow them to live as human beings. Of course, this does not apply only to Africa but also to our entire world. This is a question asked of all of us who must live in our limited natural environment.

The conference held in Uganda in February

included the relationship between population growth and food security in its declaration. It is a foundation of all societies that people are born into that they should have enough to eat. It is a fact that we cannot increase food supplies infinitely, and this combines with the restrictions imposed by environmental conditions. Those of us alive now have a responsibility to the generations which will follow, and it is absolutely incumbent on us to see the big picture and to take appropriate action.

A central part of our work on population and development as parliamentarians has been to educate people in relation to these issues. However, some years ago, JFPF expanded its activities "from advocacy to substantial, practical functions and roles". It was once the case that the significance of parliamentarians dealing with population issues was not understood, however, thanks to the efforts of all concerned, I now believe that Members of Parliaments are quite well aware of the importance of the issues of population.

It appears to me that the distinct reaction of placing human resources and national budgets in the field of population in different countries has very largely vanished. Of course, finances and human resources are still inadequate when seen from the perspective of the United Nations and other organizations, but even so, this is a very different world from what it was 40 years ago. We must thank the parliamentarians who have gone before us for this.

Our efforts on population programmes as parliamentarians have been crowned with success, and now the question is the role that we can play, in our special positions as Members of Parliaments. Our role as parliamentarians is clear: we must see that the

current programme proceeds smoothly, and from our special positions as parliamentarians, we must work toward solutions for the questions of population and sustainable development.

I believe that it is obvious that we must work together to accept our responsibilities to the future and that our role as parliamentarians is essentially vital in working toward a solution to the population issue and building sustainable societies.

In this regard, there is clarity on the framework of inter-regional cooperation in parliamentary work, the direction which we should take, and the feasibility of our concrete programmes for the future, thanks to the cooperation from all of you participants. I expect JFPF to work hand in hand with all of you to reinforce our roles as parliamentarians, to continue building networks and to work to the utmost to reinvigorate our work as parliamentarians.

This year in November, the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception of JFPF and the 30<sup>th</sup> Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development (APDA Meeting) will be held in Tokyo.

As parliamentarians, we can hardly perform our tasks seriously alone, since we are not governments or development assistance organizations. However there is a unique and important role that we can play as parliamentarians. Let us take up our roles and speak out as parliamentarians, to accept our responsibility to the future and build a better tomorrow. Let us make the responsible choice.

I look forward to meeting you all again through our activities.

## ***Official Closing***

### **Hon. Vincent Mwale**

MP; Secretary of ZAPPD, Zambia

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I must thank the organizer for bringing this meeting to Zambia. We are very much honored that many countries that participate in this project wanted to host this activity, so we feel honored and very special about it.

And I know that when you received the invitation to come to Zambia, a few of you might have gone on internet to check where Zambia was because you may not know much about Zambia. I think this meeting has helped us to publicize ourselves as a country and now you can come with your family to visit. It is a pity that you have no chance to go to the Seventh Wonder of the World, the Victoria Waterfall in Livingstone, to see how the river makes a turn and falls down, which is spectacular.

We hope that we made your stay in Zambia comfortable. If we have not, then that is because of the timing of the parliament's seating where many of us are involved in many activities and we could not fully participate. However, we are very grateful for your coming.

I must say as Mr. Nyirenda said, "whatever goes up must come down". This project started in year 2009 with support of Japan. I am feeling much more competent Member of Parliament right now to deal with population issues because I had chance to participate in this project. I want the organizers of this project to feel very proud that you invested in a very valuable project that have lifted the capacity of many of us.

I have been asked questions in the Parliament, and I have discussed population issues at the Parliament very competently and with a lot of confidence, because I fully participated in this

project at least for the last three years. You should be very proud for African and Asia brothers and sisters. Shall we put our hands together for the Japanese for this contribution?

The capacity building was very necessary. I will speak for my country Zambia. We need to address population and development issues earnestly. We have challenges of water, where one-third of the population cannot get access to clean water. We have challenges with maternal mortality, as we have 591 women who die out of 100,000. We have issues of unmet family planning needs.

We also have issues of poverty, as about 70% of the population is living below the poverty line. We have the issue of unemployment, which is very huge. We have early marriage in this country. Since people have no education in rural areas, girls rather get married so that they get support from a husband. Gender issues arise from this and girls become subjects of their husbands and have no say in such kind of marriage. We have HIV/AIDS, which was once 25% and now 12% for maternal infection.

We have a lot of challenges and need to have this kind of projects. There is a need that Members of Parliament are involved in population issues to solve them. Therefore, there is so much value that we have got from this.

We needed to have champions in our parliament to talk about these issues. We come from different backgrounds. Before becoming Members of Parliament, some were teachers, others were farmers, and so forth. In order for them to be able to handle these issues competently, it is very difficult without their

capacity building. So I am a little worried that the project comes to an end as it needs still to go on. And I feel that all of us should think what we do next to address the challenges that we still have. So we need champions who have to be trained and participate in this to carry on.

I also wish to give my congratulations to the Japan Parliamentarians Federation on Population (JPFP) for clocking 40 years. You have been able to share your experience with the

rest of us. Please carry, on behalf of Zambia, on behalf of all Africans, this message of congratulations to everybody else out there.

I do not need to overemphasize the need of appreciation that we got from this project. We are so grateful and I think I declare the event officially closed.

Thank you very much.

## Participants' List

<b>MPs and National Committees</b>				
1	Hon.	Nidup Zangpo	Bhutan	MP
2	Hon.	Jérémie Kekenwa	Brundi	Senator
3	Hon.	Lemlem Hadgu Yifter	Ethiopia	MP
4	Hon.	Avinash Rai Khanna	India	MP
5	Mr.	Manmohan Sharma	India	Executive Secretary of IAPPD
6	Hon.	Teruhiko Mashiko	Japan	MP; Vice-Chair of JPFP
7	Hon.	Hiroyuki Nagahama	Japan	MP; Vice-Chair of JPFP
8	Hon.	Fredrick Outa	Kenya	MP
9	Hon.	Juliana Lunguzi	Malawi	MP; Chair for Parliamentary Committee on Health and Population
10	Hon.	Mariany Mohammad Yit	Malaysia	Senator
11	Hon. Dr.	Florian Bodog	Romania	MP
12	Hon.	Tissa Karalliyadde	Sri Lanka	MP; Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs
13	Hon.	Christowaja Mtinda	Tanzania	MP
14	Hon. Dr.	Chris Baryomunsi	Uganda	MP; Chair of UPPFSP&D; President of APFPD
15	Hon.	Kasamba Mathias	Uganda	MP; Publicity Secretary of UPPFSP&D
16	Mr.	Musa Wamala	Uganda	Coordinator of UPPFSP&D
17	Hon.	Mkhondo Danwood Lungu	Zambia	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
18	Hon.	Boniface Mutale	Zambia	Vice-Chair of ZAPPD
19	Hon.	Vincent Mwale	Zambia	MP; Secretary of ZAPPD
20	Hon.	Jean Kapata	Zambia	MP; Minister of Tourism and Arts
21	Hon.	Stephen Kampyongo	Zambia	MP; Deputy Minister of Home Affairs
22	Hon.	Ingrid Mphande	Zambia	MP; Deputy Minister of Community Development
23	Hon.	Munji Habeenzu	Zambia	MP
24	Hon.	Whiteson Banda	Zambia	MP
25	Hon.	Derick Livune	Zambia	MP
26	Hon.	Mushili Malama	Zambia	MP
27	Hon.	Reuben Phiri Mtolo	Zambia	MP
28	Hon.	Nathaniel Mubukwanu	Zambia	MP
29	Hon.	Brian M. Ntundu	Zambia	MP
30	Hon.	Conellius Mweetwa	Zambia	MP
31	Hon.	Mulumemui Imenda	Zambia	MP
32	Hon.	Victoria Kalima	Zambia	MP
33	Hon.	Garry Nkombo	Zambia	MP
34	Hon.	Chinga Miyutu	Zambia	MP
<b>Resource Persons</b>				
35	Mr.	Peo Ekberg	Japan	Director, Environmental Manager of One Planet Café
36	Mr.	Billy Nkhoma	Zambia	Director One Planet Café Zambia
<b>United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)</b>				
37	Ms.	Junko Sasaki	Japan	Director of the UNFPA Tokyo Office

38	Dr.	Mary Otieno	Zambia	Resident Representative of UNFPA in Zambia
<b>International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and Member Association (MA)</b>				
39	Mr.	Emmanuel Obeng	Kenya	MIS & Evaluation Advisor of IPPF Africa Regional Office
40	Dr.	Mary M.Zulu	Zambia	Chair of the PPAZ
41	Mr.	Henry Kaimba	Zambia	Acting Executive Director of PPAZ
<b>Embassies, Government and Parliament Officials</b>				
42	Mr.	Hideki Yamaji	Zambia	Chargé d'Affaires ad intérim of Japan to Zambia
43	Mr.	Hideaki Machida	Zambia	First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan
44	Mr.	Masahiro Yamao	Zambia	First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan
45	Ms.	Jun Yamazaki	Zambia	Coordinator for Economic Cooperation of the Embassy of Japan
46	Ms.	Ayumi Matsumoto	Zambia	Administrative Section of the Embassy of Japan
47	Dr.	Godfrey H. N. Haantobolo	Zambia	Deputy Clerk (Procedure), National Assembly
48	Mr.	Anthony K. Mpolokoso	Zambia	Senior Public & International Relations Officer of the National Assembly
49	Mr.	Julius Musumali	Zambia	Parliamentary Officer
50	Ms	Sibonelo Jere	Zambia	Parliamentary Officer
51	Ms.	Pauline Monga	Zambia	Parliamentary Officer
52	Ms.	Isabel Kombe	Zambia	Parliamentary Officer
<b>Cooperating Organizations/Observers</b>				
53	Ms.	<b>Adrienne Quintana</b>	Zambia	Country Director of Marie Stopes Zambia
Zambia All Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (ZAPPD)				
54	Mr.	Temwa Nyirenda	Zambia	Ag. International Relations Officer & ZAPPD Desk Officer
55	Ms.	Judy Sankhulani	Zambia	Senior International Relations Assistant
<b>The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)</b>				
56	Dr.	Osamu Kusumoto	Japan	Secretary-General/Executive Director
57	Ms.	Hitomi Tsunekawa	Japan	APDA
58	Mr.	Farrukh Usmonov	Japan	APDA
<b>Interpreter</b>				
59	Mr.	Tsukushi Ikeda	Japan	Interpreter