



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
31 December 2019

English only

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## Commission on Population and Development

### Fifty-third session

30 March–3 April 2020

Item 3 of the provisional agenda<sup>1</sup>

**General Debate 3 (a): Actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at the global, regional and national levels**

**3 (b): Population, food security, nutrition and sustainable development**

### **Statement submitted by People of Good Heart, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council**

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> E/CN.9/2020/1.

<sup>2</sup> The present statement is issued without formal editing.



## **Statement**

Globally the themes below are challenges faced by the world in general and in our country the government is less concerned about the way to a solution.

### **Population**

One major defining factor that evidently determines the capacity, physical growth, economic growth and fertility of any nation, particularly when the human resources of such nation are properly and positively harnessed, is her population. It remains one of the preeminent best gifts that can ever happen to a nation. As a matter of fact, the value of every other form of endowments and resources of any nation is absolutely dependent on the quality of the nation's population.

However, when such defining preeminent factor is allowed to lay fallow, the nation suffers grievously beneath the foot of deterioration, and so, what should have amounted to an advantageous virtue will regrettably turn out to become the nation's most dreadful enemy.

We, therefore, won't be wrong to express at this point that the secret of every developed nation is clenched in the palm of how well and deliberate the strength of her populace is harnessed whereas the underdeveloped status of the underdeveloped nation is caused by her failure to explore the hidden potential on her population.

### **Food security**

There is a saying in our country "Bi ebi ba kuro ninu ise, ise buse", that is, when the challenge of what to eat is solved, poverty poses less threat.

To contain the venom of poverty of any nation or race, conscientious effort must be invested into food security. And that can only be made feasible by endowing the agricultural sector with more than the needed capital, so that there can be abundance to harvest.

Not only should we be concerned about the availability of food, but most importantly, the available food must be factored towards affordability.

### **Nutrition**

The diverse unannounced emergence of the various types of diseases and sickness across the globe is most likely a pointer to human's failure to let nutrition play its unmatched role. As a matter of fact, little or never would we have to worry about our health being endangered if proper nutritional culture was observed as a way of life. I am unrepentant of the opinion that if proper nutritional culture is adapted as a way of life, humans will not only enjoy healthiness but also enjoy longevity.

It is pertinent that good nutrition culture is not limited to a healthy choice of what we eat and drink, but most importantly HOW we eat what we eat and drink what we drink.

In a nutshell, a sickness-free and disease-free society is feasible if we focus and adopt a healthy nutritional culture. Beyond adequate intake of calories, proper nutrition has other dimensions that deserve attention, including micronutrient availability and healthy diets. Inadequate micronutrient intake of mothers and infants can have long-term developmental impacts. Unhealthy diets and lifestyles are closely linked to the growing incidence of non-communicable diseases in both developed and developing countries

**Sustainable development**

Sustainable development seeks to produce sustainable economic growth while ensuring future generations' ability to do the same by not exceeding the regenerative capacity of nature. In other words, trying to protect the environment. The Sustainable Development Goal to "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture" (SDG2) also promotes all the topics above recognizes the interlinkages among supporting sustainable agriculture, empowering small farmers, promoting gender equality, ending rural poverty, ensuring healthy lifestyles, tackling climate change, and other issues addressed within the set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals in the Post-2015 Development Agenda as mentioned by United Nations in its past campaign.

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