

Thank you Mr. Co-chair!

I will speak on behalf of Romania and Poland and would like to present some comments for today's debate on health and population dynamics.

Health

- Health is central to the three dimensions of sustainable development. Health should be identified as one of the global priorities for SDGs catalogue and post 2015 framework in order to address poverty eradication. Health is an essential component of basic living standards and the ability to enjoy the rights to work and education.
- SDGs catalogue should address health challenges among disadvantaged, marginalized and stigmatized people (women, adolescents, elderly, ethnic minorities and migrants). Socioeconomic, gender, age and other forms of inequity and inequality in this regard should be reduced.
- The goals and targets for health should be compatible with protection and fulfillment of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. A human rights based approach would contribute to realization of other commitments and existing international obligations. We should accelerate progress where MDGS targets have not been achieved and set more ambitious targets for the period to come. A significant progress can be achieved with political support, strategic investments and people centered programmes also as regards the new emerging challenges.
- The future SDG for health should ensure the synergies with other sectors' goals, for example health - employment, health - social protection schemes, health and education. In this context it is very important to protect the health of future generations by providing them with skill and education on health risks, including from climate change and from other long term environmental threats.
- The goal should address issue of the universal health coverage and access to affordable, comprehensive and high quality services at all stages of life. It should take a holistic life – course approach including health promotion and disease prevention (with an emphasis on non-communicable diseases, mental illness, violence and other emerging challenges).
- Long – term, predictable and sustainable financing for health from domestic resources, completed by international resources if appropriate, will contribute to reduce inefficiencies and wastage in the sector.

Population Dynamics

- The Rio+20 Document reaffirmed the important linkages between sustainable development and population dynamics. The world's population is projected to exceed 9 billion by 2050 (two thirds living in the cities). Population dynamics shape the principal developmental challenges of the 21st century such as population growth, ageing, urbanization and migration. These challenges should be reflected in the post 2015 agenda and in the catalogue of sustainable development goals (a single, coherent and integrated agenda).

- The linkages between the population dynamics, human wellbeing and sustainable development should be taken into consideration in the formulation of sustainable strategies, goals, targets and programmes. Population dynamics have far-reaching implications for social, economic and environmental pillars of sustainable development and affect a wide range of thematic areas such as: poverty eradication, consumption, production, employment, education, health, housing, sanitation, water, living conditions, food and energy.
- One of the biggest challenges is to meet needs of a large and growing population, while ensuring the sustainability of the natural environment. In other words to feed the world with more sustainable agricultural system. At the same time we have to address climate change and growing impact on natural resources, water and forests. Sustainable patterns of consumption and production are essential to ensure more inclusive and greener economic growth.
- Development policies should be formulated and carried out with the full respect of fundamental human rights and freedoms, non-discrimination, equal opportunities, women's empowerment and youth participation. The systematic collection, analysis and use of population data and projections are essential for forward looking development strategies, policies and good governance at all levels.
- In the context of the debate on population dynamics and we would like to recall that the rights and freedoms of all migrants should be protected, irrespective of their migration status. Migration should be mainstreamed into development planning at bilateral, regional and global levels. The equal treatments of migrants in terms of employment, salary, working conditions, social protection and health care should be guaranteed.
- Another important issue are sustainable cities which would ensure their inhabitants the access to land, public space, adequate housing, water, sanitation, energy, health care, employment and education. The linkages between rural and urban areas should be strengthened in order to promote sustainable development of rural communities and limit urban sprawl.

Thank you very much.