



MALAYSIA

Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. MR. AHMAD FAISAL MUHAMAD
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE GENERAL DEBATE OF THE
56TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

TUESDAY, 11 APRIL 2023, CONFERENCE ROOM 1, UNHQ, NEW YORK

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I congratulate you on your appointment as Chair of this session of the Commission. Malaysia aligns itself with the statements delivered by Cuba on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and Belarus on behalf of the Group of Friends of the Family.

Mr. Chair,

2. Education is a longstanding right enshrined in human rights and developmental instruments, including in the Plan of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). The ICPD Plan of Action also recognises the key role of education in sustainable development, as well as the responsibilities of different stakeholders, particularly parents, in this regard.

3. Investments in education systems are of utmost importance for population growth, as it empowers people to lead better, healthier and sustainable lives. For Malaysia, the education system serves as a fundamental component in our quest to be a developed nation, and in

through the Malaysian Education Blueprint and the Malaysian Higher Education Blueprint respectively.

Mr. Chair,

5. Social and reproductive health education is essential to the development of healthy individuals. It includes lifelong learning on biological, sociocultural, and spiritual aspects. The policies regarding reproductive rights in Malaysia takes into consideration religious