



STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. MASUD BIN MOMEN, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BANGLADESH TO THE UNITED NATIONS, AT THE 51ST SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (New York, 11TH APRIL 2018)

Mr. Chair,

1. First of all, I would like to join others in congratulating you on your election as **Chair** of the **Commission on Population and Development**. We wish you and your Bureau a successful session and assure you of our full support and cooperation.
2. I also thank the Secretary General for his report which has contributed immensely to our deliberations and discussions.
3. I reiterate Bangladesh's strong support for the principles, goals and objectives of the Program of Action of International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and this session's special theme for *sustainable cities, human mobility and international migration*.
4. We also align ourselves with the Group of 77 and China, particularly in recognizing adolescents and youths as key agents for social change, economic development, and technological innovation across the world.

Mr. Chair,

5. The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** underscores the close relationship between ever increasing urban-bound human mobility and the sustainable cities. The Agenda calls for making both cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. We believe that the concepts of sustainable cities and safe, orderly and regular migration as illustrated in 2030 Agenda are inter-twined and inter-connected. They rest on some common guiding principles and policy choices. As such, we need to bridge our gaps in terms of promoting people-centered, human rights based, gender responsive, child sensitive, and non-discriminatory policies at national and international levels.
6. In Bangladesh, like any other developing countries, we are experiencing rapid urbanization and unprecedented human mobility towards city centers. As the economy is transforming from agrarian towards manufacturing and organized

services, urbanization continues to grow in leaps and bounds. The challenges include balanced distribution of urban centers in terms of population size, employment opportunities, housing, sanitation, water supply, urban transport and other essential infrastructure and services, urban governance, urban environmental management etc. On the top of that there are challenges from increased cosmopolitanism, assimilation of divergent cultures etc. Essentially, we have adequate reflections of these challenges and their solutions in our strategic planning namely perspective plan, 7th Five Year Plan, and SDG mapping in alignment with 2030 Agenda. We believe in a whole of society and whole of Government approach to make sure no one is left behind.

Mr. Chair,

7. We are also mindful of our global responsibilities, particularly our commitments towards the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Climate Agreement, the New Urban Agenda, and the New York Declaration on the Refugees and Migrants. As such, we remain deeply engaged with the Global Compacts on Migration and that of the Refugees. We firmly believe that the progress in these fronts largely depends on broadening our understanding of shared responsibility. We m