

To begin, allow me to join others in congratulating the Chairperson of the 54th Session on Commission on Population and Development for leading the Session, during which we discuss critical issues in population, food security, nutrition, and sustainable development.

The interlinkages between food and nutrition security, and reproductive health are very strong. The IOPD Programme of Action prescribed measures that should be taken to strengthen food, nutrition and agricultural policies and fair-trade relation at all levels. Ensuring proper nutrition is key to optimizing the health of girls, pregnant women, mothers, and new-borns. Thus, interventions should be planned according to human lifecycle, including pre-pregnancy period. Inadequate nutrition for pregnant women can result in adverse maternal and child health outcomes, such as maternal deaths, premature births, miscarriages, stunting, malnutrition and other health risks. The COVID-19 pandemic has hampered the progress in achieving SDGs targets, including in Indonesia. Ensuring the availability of COVID-19 vaccines has been one of the main priorities of the Government of Indonesia in its response to the pandemic.

Indonesia has established a set of legal frameworks related to food and nutrition security, as well as population, reproductive health and family planning. The implementation of food and nutrition security programmes have resulted in namely the establishment of centres of information and counselling for adolescents, integration in school curricula, and involvement of the private sector and other potential partners, both in education and services. So far, this programme has been able to reduce Age-Specific Fertility Rate for the 15-19 age group in 2017.