

**55<sup>th</sup> Commission on Population and Development**  
**“Population and sustainable development, in particular sustained and inclusive economic growth”**

**INDIA STATEMENT**

**By**

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**Namaskar,**

**Mr. Chair,**

We congratulate you and members of the Bureau of the 55 Session of the Commission on Population and Development and assure you of India's full support in the conduct of this Commission. We thank the Secretary General for the reports and the keynotes Speakers for their presentations.

**Mr. Chair,**

India is a young country with half of the population under 25 years of age. It provided us with a great opportunity to reap the benefits of the demographic dividends by making the necessary investment in health, education, skill, employment and social protection. Through progressive national programmes and policy for the adolescent and girl child, family welfare, maternity and childcare, India is empowering and protecting its vulnerable groups for their increased productive participation in the society. Gender equality remains a central

available free of cost for all eligible citizens. To date, 85% of our adult population has been fully vaccinated and we are also vaccinating children about 12 years of age. We also provided our vaccines to more than 100 countries reducing vaccine inequality.

The 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the National Family Health Survey highlights that our population growth is stabilizing, family planning services have improved and health system are delivering better. Maternal health services are gradually improving. Institutional births have increased by 9.8% points to 88.6%. A large proportion of the increase in institutional delivery has come from public facility 61.9% from 52.1%.

**Mr. Chair,**

India remains committed to accelerating progress for the full and effective implementation of the program of action. We believe that the inter-linkage between the International Conference on Population development and the SDGs and their common emphasis on placing people at the center of inclusive sustainable development efforts provided a pathway to building forward better from the COVID 19 pandemic.

**Thank you, Jai Hind!**