

Mr. Chair,

Distinguished delegates and guests,

The Polish government follows with keen interest all UN activities related to implementation of sustainable development goals. The findings of the ICPD and the current work of the CPD are an important inspiration for the Polish government's activities in the field of impact on population and development policies. I would like to express my thanks to UN employees and their colleagues from the international community for their efforts in supporting Member States to achieve the SDGs.

Like many other European countries, Poland has experienced a number of unfavorable population changes in recent years. Higher mortality was already observed before the emergence of Covid-19, and due to the so called health debt, mortality is still higher than before the epidemic. The fertility level dropped below the lowest low fertility limit, and in 2023 it reached a record low value of just below 1.2. The vast majority of local communities are subject to depopulation and a change in the age profile, which in some cases even manifests itself in the age pyramid deformation. Since 2015, Poland has become an inflow country when it comes to international migration, and the phenomenon of immigration inflow was particularly visible in 2022, when Poland became home to over a million Ukrainian war refugees fleeing from the Russian aggressor.

