



Ref.: 2018/OES/183T/PAU

15 May 2018

Excellency,

I would be grateful if you would kindly transmit the enclosed letter to His Excellency Mr. Anders Samuelsen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Algayerova'.

Olga Algayerova

His Excellency  
Mr. Carsten Staur  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of Denmark  
to the United Nations Office  
and other international organizations in Geneva



UNECE



Ref.: 2018/OES/183

14 May 2018

Excellency,

The review and appraisal of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be the main theme of the 52<sup>nd</sup> session of the Commission on Population and Development in 2019. The Regional Commissions and other United Nations system agencies are requested to contribute and provide inputs to the report by the Secretary-General on this occasion. The regional inputs should draw on the five-year progress assessment in the follow-up to the outcome documents of the ICPD beyond 2014 regional review conferences.

The periodic progress assessment in the UNECE region is currently being carried out by UNECE and UNFPA as part of the project *Enhanced integration of population dynamics into development planning: follow-up to the ICPD in the UNECE region*. The assessment will conclude with the UNECE Regional Conference on ICPD@25 on 1-2 October 2018 in Geneva. The title of the Conference is **“Enabling Choices: Population Dynamics and Sustainable Development”**. The Conference will focus on key actions for implementation, highlighted in the Chair’s summary of the regional ICPD Beyond 2014 conference, and address the wider policy concerns related to population dynamics and sustainable development; families, sexual and reproductive health over the life course; and the need to ensure social inclusion and rights and reduce inequalities in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

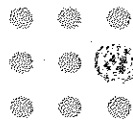
The regional report and conference outcomes will inform the global review of the ICPD which will take place at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the UN Commission on Population and Development.

To achieve these objectives, the Conference expects to draw on strong representation from governmental authorities including high-level officials, leading experts on population issues, key civil society and other stakeholder organizations at national and international levels active in this field as well as those involved in multidisciplinary research.

His Excellency  
Mr. Anders Samuelsen  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of Denmark  
Copenhagen



UNECE



UNFPA

It is our honour to invite you to nominate an official delegation to represent Denmark at the UNECE Regional Conference on ICPD@25. We encourage you to include members of the National Parliament and civil society organizations in your country's delegation. You may also wish to consider the inclusion of SDG national coordinating bodies in the delegation to ensure strong synergies between ICPD and SDG processes.

A concept note on the Conference is attached for your information. The provisional agenda and various background materials will be published on the Conference website (<http://www.unece.org/pau/icpd25>) in due course. The UNECE member States are invited to send delegations of up to three persons, including the head of delegation. The UNFPA programme countries may receive some financial support to cover the participation costs of their delegations.

Registration for the Conference will be open until 5 September 2018. Should you need any further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich, Chief of Population Unit at: [vitalija.gaucaite@un.org](mailto:vitalija.gaucaite@un.org) and copy to [pau@unece.org](mailto:pau@unece.org).

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Olga Algayerova  
Under-Secretary-General  
& Executive Secretary  
United Nations  
Economic Commission for Europe

Alanna Armitage  
Regional Director  
United Nations Population Fund  
Eastern Europe and Central Asia  
Regional office

Enclosure: Concept note



UNECE



## UNECE Regional Conference on ICPD@25 Enabling Choices: Population Dynamics and Sustainable Development

Geneva, Palais des Nations, 1-2 October 2018  
Organized jointly by UNECE and UNFPA

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### BACKGROUND

In 2014, the international community reviewed progress on 20 years of implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) at national, regional and global levels. The regional reviews were led by the United Nations Regional Commissions in close collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Their outcomes contributed to the global review of the ICPD Beyond 2014, which took place at the 47th session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) and culminated in the 29th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2014.

In its Resolution 2014/1, the CPD emphasized that the outcome documents of the regional conferences provide region-specific guidance on population and development beyond 2014 for each region. They requested the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations system and relevant organizations, to continue assessing and reporting on progress towards the full implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD.

In the UNECE region<sup>1</sup>, the ICPD beyond 2014 review concluded with the UNECE Regional Conference *Enabling choices: Population Priorities for the 21st Century* (1-2 July 2013, Geneva). The UNECE regional report and the ICPD beyond 2014 Chair's summary, which was the unanimously agreed outcome of the Conference, outlined the main findings and recommendations for the way forward. Now, five years later, and within the context of the joint project *Enhanced integration of population dynamics into development planning: Follow-up to the ICPD in the UNECE region*, the UNECE Population Unit and UNFPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office are working with member States, civil society partners and other stakeholders to assess progress made, identify challenges and gaps in implementation and prepare a regional report for the UNECE region on ICPD@25, based on the ICPD beyond 2014 Chair's summary and its monitoring framework.

The UNECE Regional Report on ICPD@25 will be launched at the **UNECE Regional Conference *Enabling Choices: Population Dynamics and Sustainable Development***, on 1-2 October 2018, which will conclude the five-year periodic assessment.

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<sup>1</sup> The UNECE region comprises 56 member States in Europe, North America and Asia: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Uzbekistan.

applies to all participants in the Conference. The registration form is available at <http://www.unece.org/pau/icpd25>.

#### Languages and interpretation services

English, French, and Russian are the languages of the Conference. Statements made in any of these languages will be interpreted into the other two languages.

#### Conference venue

The Conference will take place in the Palais des Nations, Salle XVIII, Geneva, Switzerland.

#### Calendar of preparatory events

Venue and date	Event
Sofia, Bulgaria 4-6 December 2017	SDGs for Young People, Young people for SDGs: Europe and Central Asia Regional Dialogue on ICPD and SDGs.
Geneva, Switzerland 13-14 December 2017 & 10 April 2018 (WEBEX)	Ad-hoc expert meetings on regional monitoring framework to review progress in the implementation of the Framework of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) beyond 2014 in the UNECE region
Geneva, Switzerland 28 February 2018	CSO Briefing on ICPD@25 during Civil Society Consultation for the UNECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
Minsk, Belarus 19 March 2018	Technical consultation on population dynamics and family policies in the UNECE region
Sofia, Bulgaria 15-16 April 2018	ICPD@25 Youth Consultation for Western Balkans and Eastern Partnership Countries, back to back with the 2018 EU Youth Conference

#### Contact details

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)  
Population Unit, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

E-mail: [pau@unece.org](mailto:pau@unece.org)

Telephone: +41 22 917 1204

For more information please visit <http://www.unece.org/pau/icpd25>



PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHAD

14 May 2018

Excellency,

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Chad to the United Nations Office in Geneva and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), which provides the secretariat to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention), have the honour to invite you to a high-level ceremony to celebrate the accession of the Republic of Chad to the Water Convention

The Convention, which entered into force in 1996, represents the only United Nations legal and intergovernmental framework promoting the quantity, quality and sustainable use of transboundary water resources by facilitating cooperation. Originally negotiated as a regional framework for the pan-European region, following its amendment, the Convention is open for accession by all United Nations Member States since 1 March 2016. Chad was the first country outside the pan-European region to accede to this instrument in February 2018.

The ceremony will take place on **Tuesday 29 May 2018 from 9:00 to 10:30 in Room XXIV** of the Palais des Nations in the presence of the Minister of Environment, Water and Fisheries of Chad.

The ceremony aims to share the experience of Chad's accession process together with the rationale and benefits derived thereby. The ceremony will also allow sharing views from Parties on the globalization of the Convention and from countries which have started or consider starting a national accession process.

The ceremony will take place in the margins of the joint meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment under the Water Convention (28 to 30 May 2018) which will discuss the preparations for the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties (Astana, Kazakhstan, 10 to 12 October 2018).

We hope that you will join us in celebrating this important step in the global opening of the Water Convention. For planning purposes, please confirm your attendance no later than 20 May to: [water.convention@un.org](mailto:water.convention@un.org).

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration,

Olga Algayerova  
Executive Secretary  
United Nations Economic Commission for  
Europe

P.O.

Bamanga Abbas Malloum  
Extraordinary Ambassador and  
Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative  
of the Republic of Chad to the United  
Nations in Geneva