

The Sixth Regional Review of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in the Arab Region

Arab Regional Conference on Population and Development: Challenges and Prospects Ten Years After the 2013 Cairo Declaration

Beirut 13-14 September 2023

Proposed Programme of Work

Day 1: 13 September 2023	
8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:30	Opening session Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)- League of Arab States (LAS)- International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF- Arab World Region)
9:30 – 10:00	Setting the Scene: Findings of the Regional Review Report on Progress Made in Implementing the 2013 Cairo Declaration <p>This session will set the scene for the two-days discussions. It will provide an overview of the ICPD regional review process, present key demographic trends and prospects in the Arab region, highlight common trends, challenges and gaps in implementing the 2013 Cairo Declaration, as identified in the regional review report.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> <i>Speakers:</i></p>

10:00 – 11:30	<p>Plenary Session I: Ten Years after the 2013 Cairo Declaration: Voluntary Reporting by Arab States (A) This plenary session will provide Arab States with the opportunity to reflect on the progress made since the adoption of the 2013 Cairo Declaration and present their national experiences, highlighting the challenges faced, success stories, existing and emerging priorities, and lessons learned. Arab States that have opted to prepare a voluntary national review report on the 2013 Cairo Declaration are invited to present their key findings and messages.</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Arab State representative</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Country A - Country B - Country C - Country D - Country E - Country F <p>General discussion</p>
11:30 - 11:45	Coffee break
11:45 – 13:15	<p>Plenary session II: Ten Years after the 2013 Cairo Declaration: Voluntary Reporting by Arab States (B)</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Arab State representative</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Country G - Country H - Country I - Country J - Country K - Country L <p>General discussion</p>
13:15 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 15:00	<p>Plenary Session III: Key Messages from the Regional Multi-stakeholder Consultations on the 10-Year Review of the 2013 Cairo Declaration</p> <p>This session will offer an open platform for different stakeholders to deliver the outcomes of the regional stakeholders’ consultations that were organized during the ICPD regional review process leading up to the Arab regional conference.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaker 1: - Speaker 2: - Speaker 3:

15:00 – 16:30	<p>Plenary Session IV: Human Rights, Dignity and Achieving Equality: Priorities, Challenges and Prospects in the Arab Region</p> <p>Multiple and intersecting forms of inequalities, including gender inequalities, constitute a major challenge for achieving the agreed-upon Cairo Declaration principles in the Arab region. These inequalities are often at the root of multidimensional forms of poverty as exclusion and discrimination prevent access to key resources and development benefits and they must be addressed to ensure the sustainable development of the Arab region. This session will focus on the issues of dignity and equality in the Arab region. It will discuss the priorities that need to be addressed, including strengthening human rights-based approaches, and the implications of inequalities, exclusion and discrimination. It will also present some promising practices and explore possible policy solutions to ensure a more dignified life for all.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaker 1: - Speaker 2: - Speaker 3: - Speaker 4: - Speaker 5: <p>General Discussion</p>
16:30-16:45	Wrap Up of Day 1
Day 2: 14 September 2023	
9:00 - 10:30	<p>Plenary Session V: High-Level Panel on ICPD and 2013 Cairo Declaration Achievements in Population Policies: Linkages and Contributions to Socio-Economic Development Agenda</p> <p>Arab Countries recognize the population and development nexus and are aware of the interlinkages and mutual impact of population characteristics and demographic trends on development. As a result, several countries across the region have adopted population policies and mainstreamed population realities and priorities in development planning. This panel brings together high-level policymakers to reflect on their countries' experiences and the challenges faced in developing population policies and integrating population issues in their development policies and plans, and what remains to be done to achieve full integration and coherence of population and other public policies.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaker 1: Arab State representative - Speaker 2: Arab State representative - Speaker 3: Arab State representative - Speaker 4: Arab State representative - Speaker 5: Arab State representative - Speaker 6: Arab State representative

	General discussion
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee break
10:45 – 12:00	<p>Plenary Session VI- Sexual and Reproductive Health for All: A Priority for Delivering on the Promise of ICPD</p> <p>The promotion and protection of health, including sexual and reproductive health, and the protection of reproductive rights are critical for people’s well-being and building human capital. It is also key for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. However, the achievement of universal health coverage is yet to be seen in the Arab region. This session will discuss the social determinants of health, the importance of sexual and reproductive health for all, the challenges faced, and the urgency of developing responsive sexual and reproductive healthcare policies and systems. It also considers sociocultural barriers to accessing comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and information and to enjoy sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, and the need to adopt a holistic and life cycle approach in tackling health priorities for all population groups.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaker 1: - Speaker 2: - Speaker 3: - Speaker 4: <p>General discussion</p>
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Plenary Session VII- Environmental Sustainability and Population Dynamics: Priorities for Planning a Better Future for All</p> <p>The interlinkages between population, the environment, and development were acknowledged as a key priority area in the ICPD. Population growth and spatial distribution pose additional pressures on the environment. Increasingly, the region’s vulnerability to climate change is becoming more visible. Adaptation to climate change must be considerably improved in order to reduce the human suffering that climate change is causing. In addition, climate change and environmental degradation are one of the drivers for internal displacement and migration. This session will tackle the interlinkages between environmental sustainability and the implementation of the Programme of action of the ICPD in the region. It will identify key trends and challenges regarding climate change and environmental degradation and discuss means to integrate population and environmental considerations in building resilience and adaptive capacity and development planning processes, including by supporting the most vulnerable.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaker 1:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaker 2: - Speaker 3: - Speaker 4: <p>General discussion</p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	<p>Plenary Session VIII- The Impact of Humanitarian Crises on Population and Development</p> <p>During the last decade, countries across the region have suffered from a cumulative effect of multiple crises including occupation, protracted conflict, political instability, the impact of Covid-19, and infectious disease outbreaks, in addition to natural disasters. As a result, Arab countries face a range of challenges that may risk a setback in delivering on the commitments made in the 2013 Cairo Declaration and the 2030 Agenda. This session aims to unpack the impact of multiple overlapping hazards on population and development, particularly on those furthest behind.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaker 1: - Speaker 2: - Speaker 3: - Speaker 4: - Speaker 5: <p>General Discussion</p>
15:15 – 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 - 16:30	<p>Plenary Session IX: 10-Years After Cairo Declaration 2013: Bridging the Gaps and Accelerating Progress</p> <p>Thirty years after the adoption of the Programme of Action of the ICPD and 10 years after the Cairo Declaration 2013, the Arab region still lags behind in delivering on most of its commitments, though there has been progress. This session will identify ways to address key challenges hindering progress and will explore means to accelerate the rate of progress toward achieving ICPD.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaker 1: - Speaker 2: - Speaker 3: - Speaker 4: - Speaker 5: <p>General Discussion</p>

16:30 – 17:00	<p>Plenary Session X: Key Messages of the Regional Conference</p> <p>This session will present the key messages and recommendations that emanated from the two days' discussions. They will feed the outcome document of the Conference and presented as input to the Report of the UN Secretary-General on “Programmes and Interventions Assessing the Status of Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its Contribution to the Follow-up and Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development During the Decade of Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development”.</p> <p><i>Speaker:</i> Arab State Representative</p>
	<p>Closing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNFPA - LAS - IPPF - ESCWA