Directory of statistical services of international organisations



United Nations Population Division/DESA

| Brief description of the organisation ¹ | The Population Division (UNPD) is responsible for the monitoring and appraisal of the broad range of areas in the field of population. It is located in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in New York The work of UNPD is overseen by the Commission on Population and Development, one of the Functional Commissions of the Economic and Social Council. The Commission, created in 1946 as the Population Commission, was renamed to its current name after the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (GA Res. 49/128). |
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| Mission ² | The Population Division's mission is to facilitate access by Governments and other to information on population trends and their interrelationships with social and economic development. UNPD provides support and servicing of such intergovernmental bodies as the Commission on Population and Development, as well as related work of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, through the preparation of high-quality documentation, analytical work and facilitation of consensus-building and policy development. It supports the implementation of the recommendations in the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development, including monitoring progress towards the achievement of the goals set out in the Programme of Action, as well as identifying, analyzing and investigating policy issues and salient global trends in the field of population and development. |
| Fields of Activity/ structure Statistics | Fields of activity – Monitoring, evaluating and analysing population trends and their impact on social and economic development; collecting and documenting relevant trends in national population policies. UNPD prepares demographic information on a broad range of issues, in particular: |
| Similarica | The official United Nations demographic estimates and projections for all countries and areas of the world (biannually) Estimates and projections of populations in urban and rural areas and major cities (biannually) Reports on fertility levels, trends and their determinants, including contraceptive use, on international migration levels |

¹ Description of the statistics section/department in the organization ² Mission of the statistics section/department of the organization

- and policies, on mortality trends, on national population policies and the relationships among population dynamics and development issues.
- o [MDG indicators 5.3. Contraceptive prevalence rate, 5.4. Adolescent birth rate and 5.6. Unmet need for family planning
- UNPD is organised into two branches and six sections. The Population Studies Branch comprises the Population Estimates and Projections Section, the Population and Development Section and the Population Policy Section; the Population Analysis Branch consists of the Fertility and Family Planning Section, the Mortality Section and the Migration Section.

Mandate

The terms of reference of the Commission on Population and Development are set forth in Annex I of the Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its twenty-eights session, endorsed by Economic and Social Council decision 1995/55 of 28 July 1995. They are as follows:

The Commission on Population and Development shall assist the Council by:

- (a) Arranging for studies and advising the Council on:
 - (i) Population issues and trends, including determinants and consequences;
 - (ii) Integrating population and development strategies;
 - (iii) Population and related development policies and programmes;
- (iv) Provision of population assistance, upon request, to developing countries and, on a temporary basis, to countries with economies in transition:
- (v) Any other population and development questions on which either the principal or the subsidiary organs of the United Nations or the specialized agencies may seek advice;
- (b) Monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at the national, regional and global levels, identifying reasons for success and failure, and advising the Council thereon. Such considerations shall include:
- (i) Adopting a topic-oriented and prioritized multi-year work programme, culminating in a quinquennial review and appraisal of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. That work programme, inter alia, will provide a framework to assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the Programme of Action:
- (ii) Monitoring the implementation of the Programme of Action through periodic reports on population trends and policies, population programmes and population and related development activities;
- (iii) Reviewing on a regular basis the flow of financial resources and the funding mechanisms to achieve the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action;

- (iv) Undertaking a quinquennial review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action and in implementing its recommendations, and reporting its findings to the Council;
- (v) Maintaining and enhancing public attention and support for the implementation of the Programme of Action, through the dissemination of its monitoring, review and assessment reports in a concise and clear format;
- (vi) Considering the reports of the meetings of inter-agency mechanisms established by the Secretary-General to ensure coordination, collaboration and harmonization in the implementation of the Programme of Action:
- (vii) Considering reports on the activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for the implementation of the Programme of Action, in accordance with the arrangements adopted by the Economic and Social Council for consultation with those organizations;
- (c) Providing appropriate recommendations to the Economic and Social Council, on the basis of an integrated consideration of the reports and issues related to the implementation of the Programme of Action.

The methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) were subsequently the object of CPD decisions 2004/1 ans 2005/2.

In its resolution 2004/1 the Commission on Population and Development addressed the work programme in the field of population, reaffirming "the importance of the work of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in providing the United Nations system and the international community with comprehensive and scientifically sound inputs for the analysis of progress made in achieving the goals and objectives on population and development set in the outcomes of major United Nations summits and conferences, especially the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,2 the key actions for its further implementation3 and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS. It also emphasized that the Population Division should continue basic work on population estimates and projections; patterns of rural and urban population change; the analysis of international migration; the implications of the changing age structure of the population for development; the increasing diversity of fertility and mortality levels and trends; the interrelations among population, resources, the environment and development; and the evolution of population policies, applying a gender perspective in this regard.

Statistical work programme

- Multi-year programme of work of the Commission on Population and Development
- UNPD executes a two-year work programme cycle.

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Number of staff

• 46 regular posts, of which 29 are professional demographers.

| Total / Statistical division | |
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| Flagship | World Population Prospects (http://esa.un.org/unpp/index.asp) |
| Publications | World Urbanization Prospects (http://esa.un.org/unup/index.asp) |
| | World Population Policies |
| | International Migration Report (http://esa.un.org/migration/) |
| | Levels and Trends in contraceptive use |
| | ■ World Fertility Report |
| Website | http://www.unpopulation.org |

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