

## **ECOSOC 2024 June Management Segment**

### **Agenda item 19, Social and human rights questions, sub-item (b) Social development**

**Statement by Ms. Masumi Ono, Officer-in-Charge,  
Division for Social Inclusive Social Development, DESA**

**5 June 2024**

Chair,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

As the Officer-in-Charge of the Division for Inclusive Social Development of DESA, it is my pleasure to introduce the report of the Secretary-General on “Preparations for and observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family” under agenda item item 19, Social and human rights questions, sub-item (b) Social development.

The Report contained in document [A/79/61-E/2024/48](#) on the “Preparations for and observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family” focuses on the impact of demographic trends on families, one of the megatrends guiding the preparatory work for the thirtieth anniversary.

In view of rapid ageing, the report recommends, inter alia, investment in intergenerational facilities, such as intergenerational shared sites and multigenerational living arrangements, in addition to focusing on family-based care

systems for older persons and institutional health-care provision, especially with regards to long-term care.

In terms of fertility decisions and maternal mortality reduction, the report recommends focusing on ensuring access to reproductive health services and family planning, especially in remote areas. Further, the report emphasizes the importance of promoting work-family balance through the provision of flexible working arrangements, parental leave and childcare for working families.

Moreover, the report describes the initiatives at the national, regional and international level for the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, including the outcomes of regional expert group meetings and awareness raising events.

The report concludes that responsive policies and programmes that strengthen and support families help reduce challenges brought about by demographic shifts and that investing in family-oriented policies and programmes leads to improvements in the social and economic capital of individuals and communities. A coordinated response is needed to achieve stronger relationships and intergenerational solidarity within families and societies in view of challenges brought about by current demographic trends.

Thank you.