China’s Strategies for Population Development

— Speech at International Workshop for Senior Officials on S-S Cooperation in Population and Development

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It is important for a country’s development and prosperity as well as for creating harmonious society to study strategies for population and development, rules of population development itself, coordinated development between population and economy, society, resource, environment, and the trend of each country’s population and development.
Part One
China’s Strategies for Population Development
• New situation and issues on population and development has brought with new challenges for us to have strategic thinking
• To take strategic opportunities, identify priorities with clear strategic road map for development
• To formulate strategic plans to initiate development in better and faster ways
Balance in urban & rural development

Balance in regional development

Balance in economic & social development

Balance in harmonious development between human & nature

Balance in domestic development & opening-up

Five Balances
Study on China’s strategies for national population development started in 2004
Three Major Subjects:

- Scientific outlook on development
- Study on population development dynamics
- Study on relations between population and society, resource, environment
• An important base for developing outline of “11th Five-year Plan” for national economy & social development

• Population development plan which is based on national population development strategic study is taken as one of key special plans by the State Council
Main Contents:

(1) Studies of scientific outlook on development
First, meaning of scientific outlook on development:

— The Concept has been brought forward that development is for people, development depends on people, development figures people and people share development results.

— Emphasizing people-oriented concept which takes people’s interest as orientation.

**For Individual:** Achieving everyone free and overall development.

**For Society:** Accomplishing harmonious development among people, between people and society, human and nature.
Second, national population development strategy is to have scientific outlook on development, which is also a fundamental strategy for realizing social and economy development in better and faster way.
Dynamics of Population Development

First, to analyze international population development trend

- Total population growth rate slows down and fertility level declines
- Age structure gets old
- Population quality in terms of health and education plays more important role in social economic development
- Urbanization speeds up
- Polarization between the poor and the rich has increased
Second, to summarize good practices, and experiences of FP Programme in China

Two miracles:

—— Miracle on rapid economy growth
Per capita GDP in China

- 119 Yuan in 1952
- 379 Yuan in 1978
- 13944 Yuan in 2005
Total value of imports and exports in China from 1978-2005

Total value in 1978: 206 million USD
Total value in 2005: 14221 million USD
National Revenue Increased from 1978-2005

Million Yuan

1132

31628

1978年  2005年

National Population and Family Planning Commission of China
Per capita national income from 1978-2005

Yuan

1978年 2005年

379 10539
Miracle on fertility decline

TFR change

Replacement level: 2.1


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400 million births have avoided

No. of avoided births

No. of actual births


National Population and Family Planning Commission of China
Average Life Expectance Increased

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>66.3</td>
<td>69.3</td>
<td>66.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>70.7</td>
<td>75.3</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National Population and Family Planning Commission of China
Maternal Mortality change from 1991-2004
Infant Mortality change from 1991-2004

1991年: 50.2%
2004年: 21.5%
Rapid economy growth and fertility decline has promoted each other and supplemented each other

Two contributing factors:
1) Implementation of opening-up policy;
2) Implementation of family planning as national policy
• Central and local governments take the main roles
人口计生“三位一体”管理服务体系

行政管理

国家人口计生委

省（区、市）人口计生委

地（市）人口计生委

县（市）人口计生委

乡（镇、街道）计生办

业务指导

技术服务

国家人口计生委科研所

省（区、市）服务中心

地（市）服务中心

县（市）服务站

乡（镇）服务所（站）

信息流

群众工作

中国计生协

省（区、市）计生协

地（市）计生协

县（市）计生协

乡（镇）、街道）计生协

社区、村服务室

村（居）民委员会、村计生协
村组计生协、中心户
• Constituted a series of laws and social economic policies which are in favor of family planning.
• Advanced concepts and practices widely used by international society such as human oriented, reproductive heath, quality of care and informed choice are adopted.
Third, to analyze opportunities and challenges faced by China population development

— Stabilizing low fertility level
— Solving population issues in comprehensive way
— Promoting people’s overall development
Opportunities are:

National economy has been keeping rapid growth for 27 years which established substance foundation to solve population issues in comprehensive way;

35 years of population and family planning practices created “Golden Development Period” which means lower population dependent ratio and higher labor saving rate;
Creating population bonus period for about 40 years

Old dependant ratio (over 65 years)

Young dependant ratio (0-14 years)
Scientific outlook of people-oriented approach provides good way to solve population issues coordinately;

Consensus and experience in population and development in international society built good international environment for China to solve population issues coordinately.
Main challenges are:

Three peaks in the first half of this century:

- Total population peak (about 1.5 billion)
- Labor population peak (about 1 billion)
- Aged population peak (about 400 million)
• The status of low population quality unfits integrated national power competition which has become more furious.
• Large number of labor force has made employment situation more challenging.
• Social security has faced huge pressure which comes from population ageing
• Continuous increase of sex ratio at birth has brought intangible issues on social harmony and stabilization.
• Large size of floating population has evolved challenges for public resources allocation.
The disparity between urban and rural areas, the rich and the poor and among different geographic regions, and have been extended constantly. Furthermore, there are various conflicts on interests of different social groups.

The labefaction of the general environment and “bottle neck” of natural resources have become new threat to survival and development of citizens and to the social stability.
3) Strategic concept and objectives of China Population and Development

General Concept:
Implementing a scientific outlook on development, according to the requirements of constructing socialistic and harmonious society.

To maintain low fertility rate, improve population quality, better population structure and rational population distribution.

Achieving the transform which is from large population country to strong human resources country. Accomplishing harmony between population and economy, society and resources. And realizing sustainable development.
Infant mortality change from 2010 to 2020
Average years of schooling change of People above 15 years old from 2010 to 2020

- 2010年: 9 years
- 2020年: 10.5 years
Maternal mortality changes from 2010 to 2020

1/0.1 million

2010年 2020年

2010年孕产妇死亡率 42

2020年孕产妇死亡率 24

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## Population Development
### Objectives from 2010 to 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>Goals in 2010</th>
<th>Goals in 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Population</td>
<td>1.36 Billion</td>
<td>1.45 Billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth-defect Rate</td>
<td>Gradually decrease</td>
<td>Sharply decrease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant Mortality</td>
<td>Below 20‰</td>
<td>Below 13‰</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternal Mortality</td>
<td>Less than 420,000/100,000</td>
<td>Less than 240,000/100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Years of schooling</td>
<td>More than 9 years</td>
<td>More than 10.5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Ratio at birth</td>
<td>Effectively keeping increased momentum within limit</td>
<td>Normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urbanization rate</td>
<td>About 46%</td>
<td>About 53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty Rate</td>
<td>Gradually decrease</td>
<td>Basically eliminating absolute poverty</td>
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In the middle period of 21st Century

- Keeping population peak value at approximately 1.5 billion, and then decreasing gross population gradually, achieving middle level developed country level on per capita income.

- Improving population quality and health standard comprehensively.

- Establishing consummate social security system.

- Rationalizing population distribution and employment structure in a reasonable level. Accomplishing middle developed country level on population urbanization standard.

- Establishing modern human living condition with excellent environment.

- Realizing modernization basically.
Centering the priority of investing on population’s comprehensive development, adopting integrated utilization on population policy and related social-economic policy, innovating system, administrating in connected with law, cooperating and improving, ensuring accomplishment of strategic objectives.
Firstly, establishing and improving the interests-oriented concept on stabilizing low fertility and providing social support for aged people, promoting family planning and reproductive health.
Secondly, making top priority to develop human resources

• Implementing extensive health programs
• Implementing human resources capital accumulation programs
• Implementing civic virtues enhance programs
• Advocating a conservation-minded society, a environment-friendly, and a civilized productive and life style.
• Improving extensive mass’s mind, morals, scientific and cultural awareness and capacity, and improving their health status.
Thirdly, solving issues on population structure, promoting social justice. Establishing and improving social security system and social service system for aged people.

- On the foundation of taking care of elders
- Relying on community service
- Utilizing institutional support for aged people as supplements
- Utilizing Knowledge to deal with aging population
• Synthetically administering issues on imbalance of sex ratio at birth.
• Establishing interests balance system, realizing rational income distributive structure.
Fourthly, organizing regional harmonious development, inducting rational population distribution.

Establishing a labor force market which is nationally-standardized, open, competitive, and in good order.

Forming development structure with large, medium and small city’s rational layout, according to “utilizing industry to promote agriculture” and “utilizing city to influence rural area”. Implementing initiative biological migration policy.
Fifthly, accelerating the functional transform of government, establishing social administration and public service system which center the priority of investing on population’s comprehensive development. Meanwhile, establishing steadily investment security system.
Women, Girls, HIV and AIDS

2004年世界艾滋病防治宣传活动主题
关注妇女 抗击艾滋

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Adjusting expenses structure on public finance

- Technology
- Public Education
- Hygiene
- Family Planning
- Training
- Social Security

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Finally, enhancing international exchange and cooperation in population and development.
Part Two
Some Strategic Thinking for Partners in Population and Development
Since founded in 1994, Partners in Population and Development has become a vibrant alliance of developing countries in population and family planning with the efforts of all the members and the support of the international society.

Member countries have increased from 10 to 21. The Partners attained Permanent Observer Status at the United Nations General Assembly in 2002, which has provided a platform for developing countries to expand high level visits, exchange of experience, cooperation on projects, training courses, production R&D, dialogues on policies and discussion on plans.
• Poverty eradication
• Elimination of sexual discrimination
• Focus on family planning and reproductive health
• Care for adolescent and girl child’s health
• Prevention of AIDS and other infectious disease
• The strategic plan presents the spirit of the ICPD Program of Action and MDGs, and demonstrates the sharp conflicts and problems in the population and development, especially in the reproductive health and comprehensive development of human among member countries and other developing countries.

• The main problems are: high population growth in absolute number, millions of people living in absolute and relative poverty, low economic growth rate, regional in-country inequalities, insufficient services for vulnerable groups, limited resources and brain drain and disappearance of human resources.
The strategic plan pointed out prevalent issues, such as:

- Very high maternal, infant and child mortality;
- Extended HIV/AIDS epidemic, unmet reproductive health needs and insufficient provision of reproductive health commodities and family planning facilities;
- Gender inequality, and high adolescent population with their special reproductive health needs left unmet.
Insufficient finance is the major obstacle which limits the capacity of the Partners to address challenging issues. Other obstacles are insufficient structures and systems at country level for South-South collaboration.
Opportunities lie with challenges:

• The 2005 World Summit Outcome Document reaffirms “Achieving universal access to reproductive health by 2015, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development.” and the importance of South-South cooperation.

• Most member countries of the Partners share the core value, and implement the commitments of promoting South-South cooperation.

• This is the main strength to support the existence and development of the Partners.
Funded by:

• UNFPA
• The Rockefeller Foundation
• The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
• Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
• European Union
• The Government of Netherland
Proposals:

Promoting high-level dialogues to seek for common progress

- The *Partners* should promote further bilateral and multilateral communications and dialogues among high levels in a larger scope; make full use of experience and lessons in population and development from other countries.
- The *Partners* should promote effective collaboration between governments and NGOs; shape an efficient global partnership in population and development; and bring benefits to the people in member countries.
Developing on a sustainable basis

• The *Partners* is making a strategic shift from donor-dependency to a self-sustained mode.
• The structures of the secretariat of the *Partners* have been simplified.
• Developing countries should increase its international financial supports on a self-sustained basis, so as to achieve apparent results and remain sustainable development.
Strengthening capacity and image building

• The existence of an international organization depends upon its efficiency and image.

• The secretariat of the *Partners* is strengthening its mechanism and capacity building, and shaping an efficient and clean image among the donors and member countries.
Implementing political commitments and mobilizing funding resources for South-South collaboration

- The government of the member countries should be responsible to integrate the South-South collaboration in population and development into the framework of the South-South collaboration, in order for the sustainable development of the Partners.
• Issue of the membership dues is now affecting the survival and development of the Partners.
• The development of the Partners not only needs the support from international society but also needs the support from member countries of the Partners.
• Private sector could be the new financial resources of the Partners.
• Partners member countries with better economic conditions could make greater contribution to the in various ways.
• The Chinese Government is earnestly committed to the S-S cooperation in Population and Development, and is an active advocator and promoter of S-S cooperation.

• The type of S-S activities include exchange visits of high-ranking officials, policy dialogues, experience sharing, training and project cooperation.
• The 1st international workshop for over 30 African senior officials on population and development was held in Taicang city in October 2005

H.E. Mr. Caabi Elyachroutu Mohamed, Vice President of Morocco with some villagers in Xiangtangcun, Taicang city.
• The 3rd international workshop for senior officials on population and development will be held in September 2006.
• Chinese President Hu Jingtao announced during the 2005 World Summit that China will train a total of 30,000 personnel of various kinds in the coming three years, which also provides a good opportunity for the S-S cooperation in population field.
The Chinese Government and I myself will make greater efforts to promote S-S cooperation in population and development. Let’s work hand in hand to meet challenges and have a better tomorrow for the Partners in Population and Development.
Thank you.