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Statement

Lunch

**11 July 2022, 12:00-1:00pm
UN Press Briefing Room S-237**

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you on World Population Day. This day was established by the United Nations to focus the world's attention on the urgency and importance of population issues.

Today, our Department, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), is releasing a report, *World Population Prospects 2022*. The title is intentionally factual, but the findings are quite exciting!

The report provides an overview of global population trends. It focuses on a 100-year period, between 1950 and 2050, underpinned by analyses of historical demographic trends. But it also presents population projections to the year 2100, reflecting a range of plausible outcomes at the global, regional and national levels.

[Show report].

The report is accompanied by a dataset, *World Population Prospects 2022*, the twenty-seventh edition of the United Nations estimates and projections of the global population, a series that began in 1951. The WPP dataset and report are some of the most downloaded products of UN DESA.

Timely and accurate estimates and projections of population trends are critical for anticipating future demographic trends in support of national development planning. The WPP dataset also provides inputs for the calculation of numerous development indicators used by the United Nations system, including for about one quarter of the indicators used for the global monitoring of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

Ladies and gentlemen,

On 15 November 2022, the world will mark an important milestone, as the global population surpasses 8 billion people. What a number; 8 billion people!

This historic moment calls for celebration. Population growth is a tangible sign of our collective success in improving the living conditions of everyday people throughout the world. But the challenge remains: how do we ensure that the benefits of growth are shared by all?