United Nations Fiftieth Commission on Population and
Development
New York, USA
3-7 April 2017

Statement Delivered on behalf of the World Health Organization
Madam Chairperson and Distinguished Delegates,
It is my honour to present this statement on behalf of the World Health Organization.
The World Health Organization recognizes the crucial role of sexual and reproductive health and
rights in ensuring the health and well-being of populations and in the achievement of sustainable
development, and welcomes the focus of the fiftieth session of the Commission on Population and
Development on changing population age structures and sustainable development.
We welcome the Secretary General’s report on changing population age structures and sustainable
development and on monitoring population programmes, with the focus on changing population

determine the extent to which peoples’ lives are improved everywhere. Specifically, the ability of
societies to harness the dividends of demographic transition and create an improved paradigm of
health, dignity and wellbeing for the current and next generations