Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

At the outset, I wish to extend my delegation’s sincere appreciation to the leadership of the ESCAP and the UN Population Fund for convening this timely and important conference to take stock of our efforts in implementing the regional Declaration on Population and Development and jointly identify our road ahead.

As seen from the relevant reports, prepared by the Secretariat, Asia and the Pacific has made considerable progress, albeit uneven, in terms of socio-economic development over the last decade. However, the progress has been challenged by existing and new threats, including climate change, disasters, conflicts, COVID-19 pandemic and digital divide. The region has been also undergoing tremendous demographic changes, including decreasing fertility and mortality rates and increasing migration, which are resulting in older and more urban population.

Mongolia, for one, has not been immune to the above challenges and dynamics.

COVID-19, geopolitical tensions, subsequent food, energy and financial crises along with increased climate change impact have reversed our decades-long development gains, especially on poverty reduction.

To address these challenges my Government has taken a number of policy responses, including the introduction of the "New Recovery Policy", national programs on “Food Security and Supply”, “Healthy Mongolian” as well as proper fiscal and monetary policies, digitalization of social protection and public services along with enhanced anti-corruption action. As a result, the
The expanding population presents us with both opportunities and challenges. The SDGs are grounded in the principle of "leaving no one behind", emphasizing that all internationally agreed development goals are people-centered. Access to food, healthcare, clean water, sanitation, education and decent work represents fundamental human rights.

Our collective responsibility is to ensure widespread access to these essentials, fostering both opportunity and human security. It is essential to underscore that comprehending population trends and proactively addressing demographic shifts are crucial for national development planning and the effective realization of the 2030 Agenda.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation will be taking an active part in the planned thematic discussions to share our experience and lessons learned in implementing the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development and the Program of Action of the ICPD to jointly identify challenges, gaps, and key future actions.

In concluding may I draw the kind attention of fellow member States and international organizations to the World Women's Forum to be hosted by Mongolia in August 2024 in collaboration with the United Nations. Concept note of the forum along with invitations will be shortly sent through diplomatic channels. I count on your active support and participation in this initiative.

I thank you for your attention.