



Ministry of Women,
Family and Community Development

**PRESS STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Realizing the Future We Want: Integrating Population Issues Into Sustainable Development, Including in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

NEW YORK, APRIL 16, 2015 - Malaysia has achieved most of the objectives and goals of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) - Programme of Action. However, **ageing** has profound effects on the nation's population size and composition. Malaysia is expected to be in the category of ageing nations by year 2030.

This statement was made by Dato' Sri Rohani Abdul Karim, Minister of Women, Family and Community Development during the 48th Session of the Commission on Population and Development. The 48th Session of the Commission on Population and Development, taking place at the United Nations in New York on the theme *Realizing the Future We Want: Integrating Population Issues Into Sustainable Development, Including in the Post-2015 Development Agenda*.

Dato' Sri Rohani said, in the context of Malaysia, population ageing poses a host of challenges not only in forms of health, but also in other areas that affect the elderly overall quality of life such as the issue of inadequacy of savings among the elderly; the increased demand for public facilities with universal design elements to encourage older persons to be more mobile and independence; and changing family trends, which has caused a decline in the care for the elderly within the family system.

She also stressed that the Government of Malaysia has extended the retirement age for both the public and private sector employees to 60 years old, developed Private Retirement Scheme as an alternative saving channel and 1Malaysia Retirement Scheme for unemployed persons such as housewives, farmers and others without formal employment. The Government of Malaysia has established the National Policy for Older Persons and the Plan of Action (2010 – 2020) together with the National Advisory and Consultative Council of Older Persons, act as the main body that overlooks the implementation of the policy status of the

National Policy for Older Persons. In addition, the Ministry of Health Malaysia also has developed a National Health Policy for Older Persons in 2008.

Mr. Srinivas Tata, Chief for Social Policy and Population Section, Social Development Division, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) really impressed with the Malaysian intervention note on our nation's achievements delivered by Dato' Sri Rohani Abdul Karim during the conference consequently. He also expressed his intention to invite YB Dato'Sri Rohani to convey a keynote address on elderly in an event which will be held later this year.

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