

Seventh African Population Conference Report Union for African Population Studies (UAPS)

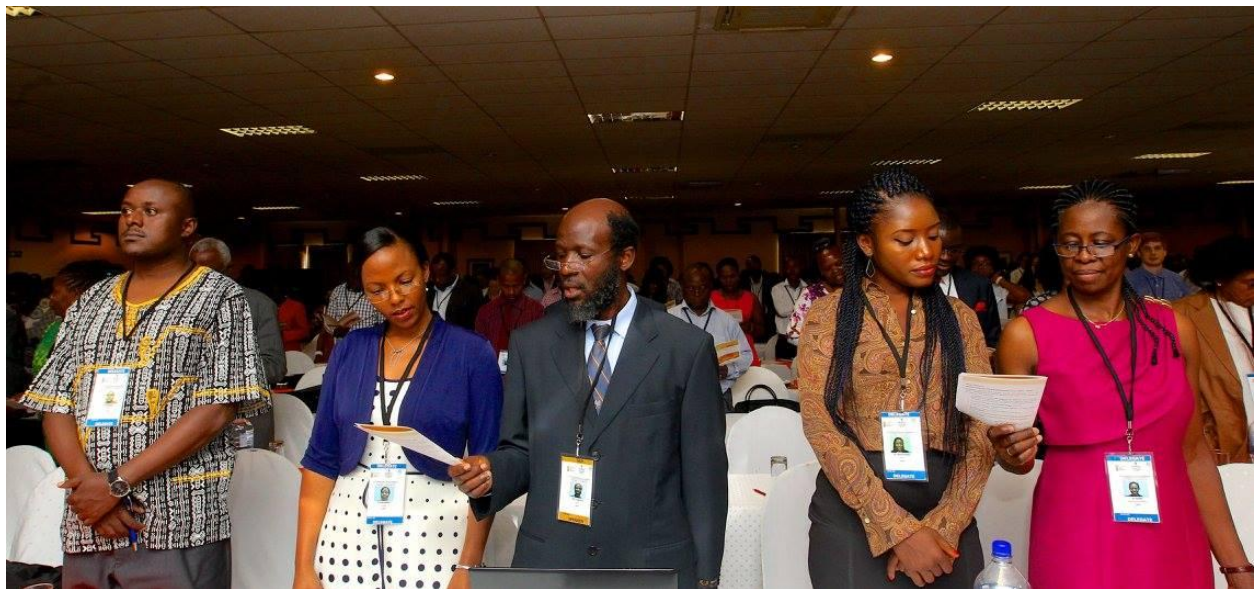


social development

Department:
Social Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND IN AFRICA:
PROSPECTS, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES
7th African Population Conference
30 November - 04 December 2015
Gauteng, South Africa



November 30 – December 4, Pretoria, South Africa, 2015

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Introduction

The Seventh African Population conference was held from November 30th to 4th December 2015 in Pretoria, Republic of South Africa. It was jointly organized by the Union for African Population Studies and hosted by the Government of the Republic of South Africa through the National Population Unit, Department of Social Development. The theme of the 7th APC was “Demographic dividends in Africa: Prospects, Opportunities and Challenges”.

UAPS is a non-profit making Pan-African organization, established in 1984, to promote the scientific study of population and the application of research evidence in development planning in Africa. The mission of UAPS is to contribute to the development of Africa, by enhancing networking and capacities of professionals to generate, communicate and use evidence-based information on population to enrich policy-making and planning in various sectors. Since its formation, UAPS has worked to promote the generation of research evidence, to strengthen research capacity, and to advance the use of population-related scientific evidence in development policies and programmes in Africa. UAPS also publishes a highly recognized scientific journal, the African Population Studies.

The African Population Conference is the largest scientific meeting on population issues organized every four years by UAPS to examine the state and knowledge gaps regarding various population and development issues on the African continent. The aim of these conferences is to share and disseminate research on population, health and development issues, and for reviewing research evidence to enhance the quality of policies and programs aimed at improving the well-being of peoples on African continent. The conferences provide opportunities for networking and knowledge sharing between researchers, policy makers, international development partners, non-governmental institutions and other key stakeholders in the population field. Previous UAPS conference includes:

Frist Conference – Dakar, Senegal in 1988

Second Conference - 4 sub-conferences in Kenya in 1990; Burkino Faso in 1991; Botswana in 1992, and Ivory Coast in 1993

Third Conference: Durban, South Africa in 1999

Fourth Conference: Tunisia, 2003

Fifth Conference: Arusha, Tanzania in 2007

Sixth Conference: Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in 2011

The theme for the seventh African Population Conference, “*Demographic Dividends in Africa: Prospects, Opportunities and Challenges*” was organised at a time when there was an increasing awareness of the central role that population dynamics played in the development of the continent. A major characteristic of the African population is the youthfulness of its age structure, associated with rapid population growth. This demographic traits signal economic and social challenges with implications for government policies in the spheres of reproductive health, education, vocational and technical training and employment. On the other hand, the youthfulness of the population implies that the new two decades in several sub-Saharan countries will be characterized by a working population proportionally greater than the dependent population. This window of opportunity could be exploited by the implementation of appropriate economic and social policies that should enable African countries realize a demographic dividend which has become central to the current debate on the emergence of Africa. Several dimensions of population issues including migration, population and environment and cross cutting issues of gender relations are significant on the agenda as these pose unique challenges in terms of sustainable human development on the African continent.

The 7th APC 2015 provided a platform for policymakers, civil society, representatives of regional and international organizations to review and explore ways for applying research evidence to enhance the qualities of policies and programs aimed at improving the quality of life and promoting sustainable development.

1. Conference Objectives and Themes

- To facilitate dissemination and critical evaluation of new research findings on emerging issues on population and their implications for the socio economic development of Africa
- To facilitate creation and strengthening of individual and institutional networking between researchers, service providers, policy makers, and other stakeholders in the field of population, and development in Africa
- To promote an integrated approach to the study and application of knowledge on population dynamics in development planning by bringing together a multidisciplinary audience of scholars, practitioners, policy makers, and other stakeholders
- To enhance the visibility of African population issues on the global scientific and development discourses through the intense publicity of the conference at local, national, regional and international levels;
- To identify key knowledge and methodological gaps to improve quality of science and application of research evidence in formulating effective policies and programmes in Africa:
- To facilitate capacity building and development of analytical and communication skills of the next generation of experts in population and development through various technical training workshops and side meetings attached to the conference.

2. Thematic areas

The conference was organized around the following thematic areas:

- Fertility Transitions
- Sexual and Reproductive health
- Family Planning
- Adult Health, Mortality, and Ageing
- Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
- Children, Youth and Transition to Adulthood
- Migration Patterns, trends and Consequences

- Determinants and Consequences of Urbanization
- Marriage and Family
- Population and Development
- Population, Environment and Climate Change
- Population and Gender
- HIV/AIDS, STI's, and Sexual Behaviour
- Programs and Policies
- Methodological Issues and Data Sources

3. Pre-conference Preparations

3.1 International Organizing Committee (IOC) and National Organizing Committee (NOC) meetings

Two committees, the International Organizing Committee (IOC) and National Organizing Committee (NOC) facilitated the organization of this event. The IOC composed of representatives from the UAPS Council, National Population Unit of the Department of social development (DSD) South Africa, Statistic South Africa and six southern Africa Universities. Prof. Samuel Nii Ardey Codjoe chaired the (IOC). The Government of South Africa and UAPS officially launched the 7th APC on October 1st 2014 during the PASA conference in East London, South Africa. After the launch, the IOC and NOC held a total of 9 meetings (4 joint IOC/NOC meetings and 5 NOC meetings) the last being a joint meeting from 5th - 6th November 2015. The IOC was responsible for all strategic decisions such as selecting conference dates, developing a communication and information dissemination strategy, setting conference registration fees, reviewing the conference budget, reviewing organizational and logistical matters.

3.2 Call for Papers and Abstract Submission

UAPS made the official announcement of the 7th APC in April 2015. The Submissions were made online on the 7th African Population Conference Website, <http://uaps2015.princeton.edu> . Authors were given permission to modify their submissions online until July 31, 2015. In August

2015, authors were notified of papers accepted to regular sessions by session organizers. Authors whose submissions were accepted in regular sessions were instructed to upload the full paper by September 30, 2015. Session organizers revised final abstracts for inclusion in the conference program. The www.uaps2015.princeton.edu and www.uaps-uepa.org websites were constantly updated with details about registration and all other information related to the conference.

3.3 Sponsorship

The Department of Social Development in partnership with the Union for African Population Studies (UAPS) and Statistics South Africa hosted the 7th African Population Conference (APC) at St. George's Hotel, Irene, Gauteng Province. Many participants were sponsored to participate in the conference by various research institutions and organizations.

UAPS announced scholarships on the UAPS and conference website. Only Early-career authors whose abstracts had been accepted were eligible to apply for these grants. Over 150 scholarship applications were received. In selecting travel grants, priority was given to participants whose papers had been accepted for Oral presentation and the following considerations:

- Paid up UAPS member
- PhD students and researchers (who unlike others might not easily have access to university conference funds etc)
- Payment of conference registration fee (the scholarship excluded registration fee, so those who had already paid their registration fees
- Applied before scholarship deadline.
- Gender and regional balance.

UAPS offered travel and accommodation scholarships to 22 participants (8 females and 14 males selected from the following Countries: Egypt, Ethiopia, Uganda, Botswana, Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, Congo, Togo, Burkina Faso, UK and Kenya.

UAPS also offered partial scholarships (accommodation) to three participants from Botswana, Cameroon and India who secured funding for their flights and requested help with accommodation. Various institutions also sponsored participants to the conference, including the **UNFPA ESARO** program which sponsored 23 participants to the conference.

4. Conference Program

The official languages of the Seventh African Population Conference were English and French. Hence, simultaneous translation was provided in most of the formal sessions. Participants received a conference book which contained general information on the Conference, the conference program and the Book of Abstracts.

4.1 Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony of the 7th African Population Conference (APC) of the Union for African Population Studies (UAPS) was held on 30 November 2015 at the St George's Hotel and Conference Centre, Pretoria - South Africa. Over 700 participants were present at the event. Ms Bathabile Dlamini who is the South Africa Minister of Social Development opened the ceremony.

Other key personalities who participated in the opening ceremony included the President of UAPS, Professor Jean Francois Kobiane, the Vice-President of UAPS, Professor Samuel Codjoe, Ms Thandie Hlabana, the South African representative for UAPS, Mr Pali Lehohla, the South African Statistician-General (SG), Mr Jacques van Zuydam, Chief Director Population and Development at the Department of Social Development, Dr Wiseman Magasela, the Deputy Director General of Social Policy at the Department of Social Development and Dr Rachel Snow, Chief Population and Development Officer at the UNFPA.

In her opening speech, Minister Dlamini spoke of the importance of recognizing that statistics, and especially population statistics because, they are more than mere numbers – they are about people. Minister Dlamini said the conference was particularly important because some African countries continued to resist the African agenda on population as expressed in the Addis Ababa Declaration which is, Africa's Consensus Position on the review of the ICPD (International Conference on Population and Development) Program of Action. This agenda was adopted by Ministers responsible for Population in November 2013 and endorsed by African Heads of State

and Government during the African Union Summit in January 2014. The minister observed that the conference will play a key role in strengthening networks, enhancing the visibility of African population issues, and promoting an integrated approach to the study and application of knowledge on population dynamics in developing countries.

Dr Snow of UNFPA remarked that the conference was timely because of the recent adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Statistician-General for South Africa, Mr Pali Lehohla, started his opening address with a quote by Longfellow: “The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night.” He asked whether Africa is able to reach and keep great heights, and posed this as a challenge and question the current generation of leaders has to answer.

Prof Kobiane observed that if current demographic patterns continued for another 85 years then Africa would have 4.2 billion people by the end of the century against 1.1 billion today. This means that 1 of every 4 people in the world will be based in Africa, with 1 of every 3 African aged between 15 and 29 years. This poses huge challenges in meeting the socio-economic needs of this group, while presenting a unique opportunity to boost the economy, if the demographic dividend can be harnessed, as it was in Asia.

4.2 Conference Participation

More than 800 participants representing 44 countries participated at the 7th APC. Some representatives from the United Nations identified with the UN and not their countries of origin. 445 participants came from South Africa and 374 from other countries within and without the African continent.

Countries represented at the 7th APC 2015

African Countries		Australia /Asia/ EU/USA /Latin America/
DR Congo (9)	Zimbabwe (11)	Canada (6)
Senegal (12)	Rwanda (1)	United Kingdom (8)
Cameroon (22)	Zambia (9)	Belgium (6)
Ethiopia (9)	Swaziland (5)	Mongolia (1)
Kenya (19)	Sierra Leone (2)	Netherlands (2)
Togo (1)	Algeria (2)	France (23)
Burkina Faso (17)	Burundi (01)	USA (29)
Nigeria (43)	Botswana (10)	India (1)
South Africa (445)	Chad (2)	Australia (2)
Malawi (14)	Congo Brazzaville (2)	Bangladesh (2)
Lesotho (6)	Egypt (1)	Argentina (1)
Ivory Coast (19)	Mozambique (3)	Italy (6)
Uganda (22)	Angola (2)	Norway (1)
Benin (8)	Tanzania (5)	Uruguay (1)
Ghana (27)		Switzerland (1)
*United Nations (9)		

164 sessions were organized at the conference: 128 formal sessions including the opening and closing ceremonies, 15 special sessions and panel discussions, 11 side meetings, 08 sessions dedicated to the South Africa Day and 02 sessions for UAPS general Assembly and Council Elections.

Four poster sessions were organized with 371 posters registered. Authors displayed their posters during scheduled periods as indicated on the conference programme, and received feedback from participants.

As in previous UAPS conferences, special sessions were dedicated to the host country, Wednesday the 2nd of December was designated as South Africa Day. The Honorable Minister for Social Development, South Africa, Ms Bathabile Dlamini and other dignitaries presided over the events of the day. The South Africa day consisted of sessions which reflected on the challenges and opportunities facing South Africa and the African continent and thus offered the opportunity for the Government of South Africa, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and other local stakeholders to interact, network and showcase research evidences generated in the country. As part of South Africa Day Statistics, South Africa released a series of Monographs and separate workshops were held for each of the following monographs: Mortality, Fertility, Migration, Population Dynamics, Education, Youth, Nuptiality, and Income Dynamics.

Representatives from the Population Association of Latin America and Population Association of Asia also participated at the conference. Other population associations present included the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and Population Association of South Africa (PASA).

09 international and local exhibitors were present at the 7thAPC 2015

1. IUSSP (International Union for the Scientific Study of Population)
2. IPUMS (Integrated Public Use Micro data Series)
3. INED (National Institute for Demographic Studies)
4. PASA
5. UNICEF

6. Partners in Sexual Health (PSH) & International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)
7. STATSSA
8. North West University
9. National Population Unit

Various institutions held side meetings during the conference. These included:

National Population Unit - IPPF/Kansai

National Population Unit - South African Sexual and Reproductive Justice Coalition

Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (ASRHR)

Wits DPS Alumni and Associates Network

IPUMS-International Data Dissemination Partnership

National Population Unit - Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD)

National Population Unit - North West University

World Bank Group

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

4.3 UAPS General Assembly Meeting and Council Elections

The Union held a General assembly meeting and also elected the new council members for 2016-2019 during the conference.

New Council (2016 - 2019)

Position	Name	Country
President	Codjoe Nii Ardey Samuel	Ghana
Vice-President	Beguy Donatien	Tchad
Treasurer	Kusi-Appouh Dela	Ghana

General Secretary	Hlabana Thandie	Lesotho
Eastern Africa Representative	Lubaale Yovani Moses	Uganda
Central Africa Representative	Emina Jacques B. O.	Democratic Republic of Congo
Northern Africa Representative	Bedrouni Mohammed	Algeria
Western Africa Representative	Soura Abdramane	Burkina Faso
Southern Africa Representative	Leon Swartz	South Africa

4.4 Media Coverage:

Several national and international press institutions covered the conference activities. Journalists attended the opening ceremony, formal sessions and closing ceremony. Three Newsletters were produced during the conference and distributed to participants throughout the conference period. The Zkhiphani.com platform was commissioned to assist in communicating and creating social media awareness around the conference. See annex for report by Zkhiphani.com

4.5 Awards

The Statistician-General for South Africa, Mr. Pali Lehohla, received an award from his alma mater, the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), University of Ghana. This award was presented during the opening ceremony of the conference. Professor Samuel Codjoe, Vice-President of UAPS and current director of RIPS presented the award that recognizes his contribution to demography and his many achievements nationally, continentally and globally.

Other members of the organization team including the UAPS Secretariat received awards in recognition of their contribution in the successful organization of the conference. These awards were handed during the Special dinner which took place on the South Africa Day.

Sixteen journalists from print and broadcast media of some African countries were invited to a training workshop prior to the conference. The theme of the workshop was on “Effective Reporting of Demographic Dividend Research” and aimed at equipping the journalists with skills to be able to identify storylines during the conference and to file these to their respective media organizations. Selected journalists specializing in population, health and development issues from Cameroon, Benin, Uganda, Malawi, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Swaziland, and Ghana attended the workshop. The training session was facilitated by Dr Marlene Lee, Programme Director of Academic Research and Relations of the International Programme, Population Reference Bureau and Victoria Ebin, a Health Journalism trainer.

4.6 Closing Ceremony

The conference ended with the official closing ceremony which focused on conference proceedings, the continental population and development agenda, and the strategic direction for the UAPS council. Mr. Jacques Van Zuydam of the National Population Unit in South Africa chaired this event. A number of guest and signatories were present at the closing ceremony including the Minister in the Presidency, Mr. Jeff Radebe. The outgoing UAPS President Prof. Jean-Francois Kobiane thanked the South African government for its hospitality and emphasized the need to uphold the Addis Ababa Declaration. The newly elected UAPS Council members were introduced. The new UAPS President, Professor Samuel Codjoe stated that, the priorities for the new tenure of the UAPS Council are fundraising and contribution to scientific scholarships. Professor Anastasia Gage, the president of the IUSSP thanked the South African hosts for their commitment towards hosting the IUSSP conference in 2017. Professor Clifford Odimegwu delivered the Tshwane Declaration at the ceremony. The Minister in the Presidency, Mr. Jeff Radebe delivered the closing remarks while Dr Wiseman Magasela gave the vote of thanks.

4.6.1 The Tshawane Declaration

One of the outcomes of the 7th APC conference was the “**The Tshawane Declaration**”; the Declaration was birthed after five days of intense discussions on diverse themes bordering on the prospects, opportunities and challenges of Africa harnessing her youthful population to reap the benefits of the built-in demographic dividend. The Declaration was presented at the closing ceremony. The Declaration urges African Governments to create enabling environments through enactment or amendment of relevant laws, policies to empower citizens to realize their potential and enjoy rights; and to accord the highest priority to improved investment in the demographic dividend by investing in quality education, health, skills development, and employment in order to promote inclusive economic participation.

5. Submission of Manuscripts for Review and publication

Conference participants who presented papers during the conference were invited to submit their manuscripts for review by the editorial team. The deadline for submission was February 26th 2016. The manuscripts will be published as Journal articles in a four-volume series of the African Population Studies Journal, subject to the peer-review processes and decisions of the Journal.

6. Conference Partners and Sponsors

The 7th APC was a success thanks to the support of various institutions; special thanks goes to the Government of the Republic of South Africa who provided generous financial support through the National Population Unit of the Department of Social Development.

Other sponsors and partners who provided material and financial support for the organization of the conference included: the David & Lucile Packard Foundation, UNFPA, Statistics South Africa, South Africa Tourism, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), UNICEF, Population Association of South Africa (PASA) Demography and Population Studies, Population Reference Bureau (PRB), Population Association of America (PAA), UNICEF, Institut National d'études Démographiques (INED), Princeton University.

**Logos of Partners/Sponsors 7th African Population Conference, 2015
Pretoria, South Africa**



UAPS / UEPA



Population Association of America



Annexes

Annex 1: International Organizing Committee Name

Samuel Nii Ardey Codjoe
Jacques van Zuydam

ThandieHlabana
Thabo Letsoalo
Gervais Beningguisse
Martin Bangha
MouftaouAmadouSanni
Anne Khasakala
Gideon Rutaremwa
Henry Doctor
Deladem Kusi-Appouh
Mohammed Bedrouni
Esther Dungumaro
AkaniIbukun Akinyemi
Ola Tolulope
Gwendolene, Asare-Konadou
Yvonne Bosso
Jean-Francois Kobiane
Kofi Awusabo-Asare
Cheikh Mbacke
Eliya Zulu
Koffi N'Guessan
Alex Ezeh
Parfait Eloundou-Enyegue
Richard Marcoux
Nyovani Madise
David Lam
Tom Moultrie
Murray Leibbrandt

Organization

Chair, RIPS, Ghana
National Population Unit, Pretoria, South Africa
National University of Lesotho
National Population Unit
UAPS
INDEPTH
University of Benin
University of Kenya
Makerere University
Colombia University

Universite de Blida
University of Dares-Salam, Tanzania
Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria
Ekiti State University, Nigeria
University of Ghana, Accra
Cote d'Ivoire
UAPS
Ghana
UIESP/IUSSP
AFIDEP
ENSEA
APHRC
Cornell University
Universite Lava
University of Southampton
University of Michigan
University of Cape Town
University of Cape Town

Annex 2: International Scientific Committee

Clifford Odimegwu (Chair)	University of the Witwatersrand
Soura, A (Vice Chair)	IUSSP, Burkina Faso
Parfait Eloundou-Enyegue (President/Chair)	Cornell University
Jean-Francois Kobiane	UEPA/UAPS
Eliya Zulu	AFIDEP
Mouftaou Amadou Sanni	Benin
Kofi Awusabo Asare	Ghana
Gervais Beninguisse	UEPA/UAPS
Anne Khasakhala	University of Kenya, Nairobi
Martin Palamuleni	North West University
Gideon Rutaremwa	Makerere University
Bawah Ayaga	Columbia University, NY
Akin Bankole	Guttmacher Institute
Banza Baya	BF Statistical Unit
Ann Biddlecom	Guttmacher Institute
Philippe Bocquier	CRDS/Universite Catholique de Louvain
Helena Choi	Hawlett Foundation
Henry Doctor	World Health Organization, Cairo
Jean-Christophe Fotso	Concern World Wide, New York
Anastasia Gage	Tulane University

Brathelemy Kuate Defo	Universite de Montreal
Thomas K. LeGrand	Universite de Montreal & UIESP/IUSSP
Nancy Luke	Penn State University
Sunday Adedini	Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria
Nyovani Madise	University of Southampton
Monica Magadi	Hull University
Richard Marcoux	Universite Laval
Blessings Mberu	APHRC
Tom Moultrie	University of Cape Town
Akim Mturi	North West University, South Africa
Bruno Schoumaker	CRDS/Universite Catholique de Louvain
Richeman Tiemoko	UNFPA Johannesburg
Steve Tollman	University of Witwatersrand
Michael White	Brown University
Samuel Codjoe	RIPS
Winfred Avogo	Illinois State University
Nicole De Wet	University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg
Daniel Rakgoasi	University of Botswana
Enock Ngome	University of Botswana
Donatien Beguy	APHRC, Nairobi
Caro Kabiru	APHRC, Nairobi
Chima Izugbara	APHRC, Nairobi

**Annex 3: UAPS Secretariat
Organization Team**

Tah Nancy Akwen Secretariat, Accra, Ghana	UAPS
Priscilla Annor Secretariat, Accra, Ghana	UAPS
Abubakar Abdulai Secretariat, Accra, Ghana	UAPS

**Annex 4: National Organizing
Committee**

	Medical Research Council (MRC)
Yanga Zembe Monde Makiwane	Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)
Nompumelelo Nzimande Nelly Sharply Visseho Adjiwanou Thandie Hlabane (Southern African Representative) Sibusiso Mkwanzazi Bjorn Hufkie Jacque Van Zuydam	University of KwaZulu Natal Walter Sisulu University University of Cape Town University of Lesotho/Union of African Population Studies Witwatersrand University South African Tourism Department of Social Development (DSD) National Population Unit
Leon Swartz	DSD
Linda Van Staden	DSD
Olga Mabitsela	DSD
Manogrie Golden	DSD
Alicia Corneelsen	DSD
Carol Lombard	DSD
Murongwa Serumula	DSD
Mibert Gamaya	DSD
Whynie Adams	DSD
Jabulani Msomi	DSD
Poppy Nkau	DSD
Neloufar Khan	DSD
Gerda Erasmus	DSD
Thabile Ngcobo	DSD
Vusumuzi Maduna	DSD
Julia Molefe	DSD
Lumka Olifant	DSD-Communications
Sello Thang	DSD

Cathy Matamela	DSD
Morapedi Sibeko	DSD
Len Len Esterhuizen	DSD-Security
Vishal Haripersad	DSD
David Jacobs	Department of Communications
Ramutle Sikue	National Department of Health
Diego Iturralde	Statistics South Africa
Christine Khoza	Statistics South Africa
Angeline Nhansti	Statistics South Africa
Mpho Makgotlwe	Statistics South Africa
Itani Mbedzi	Special Events (State Security)
Mpume Mguni	Department International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO)
Siyabonga Ponco	DIRCO
Lunga Bengu	DIRCO
Siza Shongwe	Department of Basic Education

Annex 5: List of side meetings/events

Innovations in strengthening CRVS systems
 Real Time Mortality Monitoring on under five mortality(RMM)
 Demographic dividend for Journalists (media workshop)
 LEAD session
 Sexual& Reproductive Justice Coalition session
 (realizing SRH Challenges &gains: reflecting on South Africa)
 STATTSA Monograph workshop
 DEMOSTAF programme presentation
 Side session on the National Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
 (ASRH&R) Framework Strategy
 Population &Policy Analysis
 Side session
 SWOP Launch

Annex 6

Media Report by Zkhiphani.com (PDF)