

# Challenges Faced by China in Population Development and the Countermeasures

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#### China: A country with the greatest population in the world

- The proportion of china's population to world population has been swinging 1/5 and 1/3. In 2011, the gross population of Mainland China was 1.347 billion, accounting for 19% of world population.
- China started to implement the family planning policy from 1970s and rapid population growth has been effectively curbed since then. At present, the total fertility rate of China is about 1.6.

#### Variance in TFR among Reproductive-age Women in China (1949-2009)



# Challenges Faced by China in Population Development



- Pressure from total population
- Active population movement
- Rapid population aging
- ▶ Change of family structure
- Population quality

### Challenges faced by China in population development: Pressure from total population

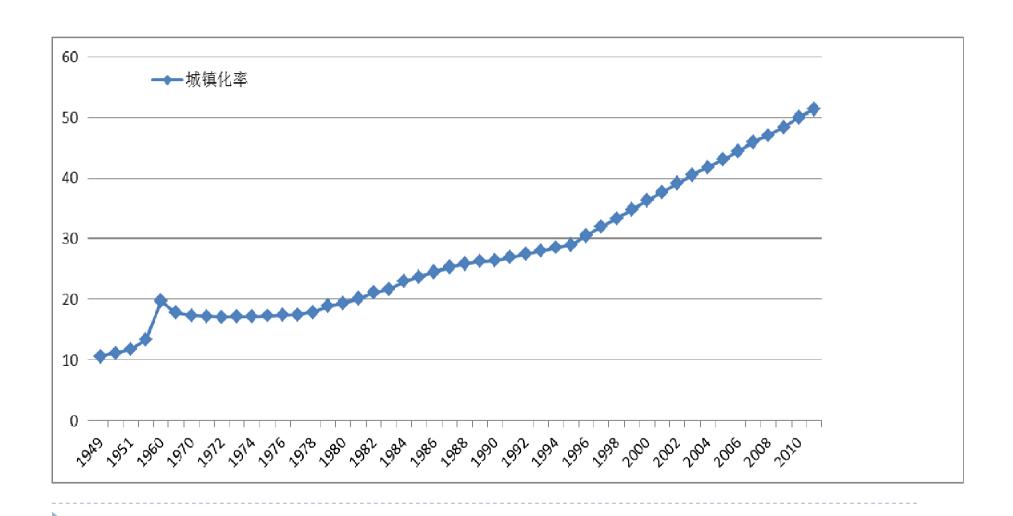
- In the near future, the total population will continue to grow due to the inertia, and is expected to reach its peak around 2030, increasing by over 100 million.
- The population is still imposing significant pressure on sustainable development:

Relatively insufficient resources, limited environmental capacity, and the high resource/environment costs paid for development.

### Challenges faced by China in population development: Active population movement

- In 2011, China's urbanization rate was 51.27%, with migrant population reaching 230 million, accounting for 17% of total population. The population movement is mainly featured by rural-to-urban migration.
- In the next 20 years, an additional 300 million population will migrate to cities and towns. Such large-scale population movement will bring about significant challenges to China's social management and public services.

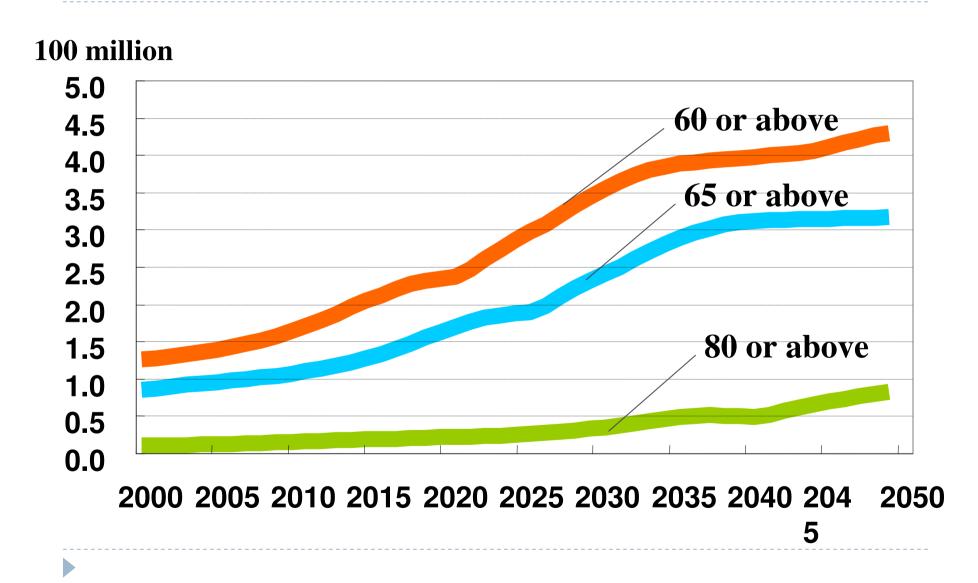
#### During the 15 years from 1997 to 2011, China's urbanization rate increased from 30% to 50%.



### Challenges faced by China in population development: Rapid population aging

- In 2010, the size of population aged 60 or above was 178 million, accounting for 13% of total population. This number is expected to reach 200 million, 300 million and 400 million respectively by 2014, 2026 and 2035.
- ▶ Rapid population aging will impose significant pressure on social security and public services.

#### Rapid expansion of aged population



# Challenges faced by China in population development: Change of family structure

- China's family size has reduced from 3.4 persons in 2000 to 3.14 persons in 2010.
- The traditional family functions are weakening: shrunk family size, diversified structure, scattered residence, and loose connection.

### Challenges faced by China in population development: Population quality

- The occurrence rate of congenital anomalies has been high around 4%-6%.
- The overall cultural quality of the population is good enough. As of 2010, the average schooling length of population aged 15 or above is 9 years.
- ▶ The public health services need further improvement.

#### Government's Population Strategies

- ▶ Taking population as the fundamental element of economic and social development;
- ▶ Emphasizing the compound decisions for population and development and giving priority to population development in national development strategies;
- Including population and family planning into the overall planning for national economic and social development;
- Integrating family planning with women development and family development;

#### **Key Countermeasures**

- ▶ To improve population policies;
- ▶ To guide orderly movement and rational distribution of population;
- ▶ To enhance the growth capability of family;
- ▶ To improve the security and service system for the elderly;
- ▶ To enhance population quality;

### Countermeasures: To improve population policies

- ▶ To deepen studies on strategies regarding long-term balanced population development and to study population policy orientations and tasks at different development stages;
- To uphold and improve the existing reproductive policies and explore ways to improve such policies;
- To strengthen the comprehensive coordination of population policies and explore the inter-department population policy negotiation mechanism;

### Countermeasures: To guide orderly movement and rational distribution of population

- To improve spatial planning of lands and enhance the matching between population distribution and the bearing capacity of ecological resources;
- ▶ To improve regional and industrial development policies and promote coordinated population movement and productivity distribution;
- ▶ To promote the equalization of basic public services and promote the social integration of migrant population;

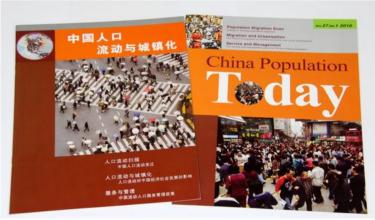
### Outcomes of NPFPC's initiatives to promote the service for and management of migrant population:

- 1) Establishing the system for statistics-taking and dynamic monitoring of migrant population;
- 2) Carrying out studies on policies to guide the orderly movement and rational distribution of population;
- 3) Promoting the innovation upon population service & management system and the equalization of basic public services for migrant population;

#### NPFPC has made significant achievements through the bilateral cooperation with German partners









### Countermeasures: To enhance the growth capability of family

- ► To include family growth capability enhancement into "National 11th Five-Year Planning for Population Development";
- To establish and improve family development policies: to give priority to healthy pregnancy & scientific nurture, home education, children's cultivation, risk avoidance, reproductive health, family enrichment and elderly support;
- ▶ To develop domestic service industry and gradually establish a sound domestic service system benefiting urban and rural residents;
- ▶ To implement the pilot work of "Happy Family Building" and carry out advocacy, health promotion, enrichment and etc.

### Countermeasures: To improve the security and service system for the elderly

- ▶ To accelerate the establishment of human resources nurturing and development strategies adapting to the aging society;
- To improve the endowment insurance system, social aid system and social welfare system for the elderly;
- To strengthen the construction of social security system: to develop home-based care and strengthen the construction of service team;
- To enhance the capacity of home-based care and improve the living environment of the elderly;

#### Countermeasure: To enhance population quality

- To carry out free pre-pregnancy health examination and strengthen the prevention of congenital anomalies;
- To comprehensively strengthen public health services and improve the physical constitution of all people;
- To coordinate all kinds of educational development and enhance the education level of all people;



Thank you!

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