



GROUP OF FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY

CSocD62 Side Event Concept Note “The Importance of the Family in the Eradication of Poverty and for Peace and Prosperity”

Date: 9 February 2024, 1.15-2.30 p.m., Conference Room 6

Sponsoring Member State:

Group of Friends of the Family

Co-sponsoring Civil Society Organizations:

Center for Family and Human Rights (C-Fam)

Campaign Life Coalition

Family Watch International

BACKGROUND:

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 1994 “The International Year of the Family” in resolution 44/82. The year 2024 marks the 30th anniversary of that observance, which emphasized that governments, civil society, and international agencies should focus on “creating among Governments, policy-makers, and the public a greater awareness of the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society.”

The family is recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as “the natural and fundamental group unit of society” and “entitled to protection by society and the State.” All efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development must necessarily emphasize the role of the family because of its essential function as primary educator, economic driver, and social safety net.

In a world where the family is the most powerful predictor of upward economic mobility and the most important social safety net, and where social protection systems are at the breaking point, the international community and governments must make sure the family is a central focus of economic and social protection policies.

EVENT OBJECTIVE

To provide a platform to hear the views of experts in demography, economics, security and family policy, as well as their findings on family-oriented policies in their respective areas of expertise, and to provide an opportunity for Member States and civil society organizations to exchange views and best practices.

Bangladesh

Belarus

Comoros

Egypt

Gambia

Indonesia

Iran

Iraq

Kuwait

Kyrgyzstan

Libya

Malaysia

Nicaragua

Nigeria

Oman

Pakistan

Qatar

Russian

Federation

Saudi Arabia

Somalia

Sri Lanka

Sudan

Syria

Tajikistan

Turkmenistan

Uganda

Yemen

Zimbabwe

AGENDA

OPENING REMARKS:

Representative of Belarus (tbc)

Representative of Egypt (tbc)

Representative of Qatar (tbc)

PANELISTS:

Timothy Rarick, Ph.D., Professor, Brigham Young University – Idaho, *“Family formation, stability, and poverty eradication”*;

Suzanne Nortier Hollman, Psy.D., Ph.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Clinical Psychology, George Washington University, *“Poverty impact on the well-being of the family”*;

Errol Naidoo, Founder and Executive Director, Family Policy Institute, South Africa, *“The Significance of the Family to Poverty Eradication in Africa”*;

THRIVE: Empowering parents economically to break the cycle of poverty and sustainably improve family conditions, World Vision International (speaker pending)

STATEMENTS BY MEMBER STATES AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Statements in support of the Family in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the International Year of the Family

Moderator - **Austin Ruse**, President, Center for Family and Human Rights