



Resolution on the demographic explosion in Africa

CDI-IDC recognizes that the increase in life expectancy, the improvement of sanitary and hygiene conditions, better nutrition and a high fertility rate is favouring a demographic explosion which cannot be ignored. On the African continent, the statistics and predictions are truly alarming. For example, it is estimated that by 2050 approximately 26 African countries will have doubled their population, of which 38 per cent will be children.

Hence, CDI-IDC is conscious of the fact that this exponential demographic increase will make it necessary to develop forward-looking and balanced policies of growth, the aim of which should be the eradication poverty, the reduction of inequality, combating hunger and malnutrition, improving the level of education as well as the provision of basic services and health care. Similarly, demographic development and the resulting migration flows require coordinated international action, to which we should all contribute in solidarity.

We therefore encourage the African Union and in particular the governments affected by this explosive growth to take anticipative and well-coordinated decisions in developing policies pairing integral economic growth with the integral development of the human person - with full gender equality - in order to ensure a dignified level of life. The preservation of human rights should be the central pillar in making these decisions.

We urge steadfast investments in the fields of health care, information and education in order to guarantee a sustainable population growth, especially in view of the fact that, by the year 2030, there will be some 251 million children in need of primary and secondary education. Only sustainable development, based on the social market system - which favours the social and economic well-being of citizens – and by means of policies of inclusiveness - and paying special attention to the less-favoured, will enable the emergence of a middle-class which, in turn, will shape a sound demographic balance. This will include policies facilitating re-population and redistribution.

Reiterating that cooperation in the field of development aid and specifically the granting of financial funds must correspond to the highest democracy and rule of law standards in Africa.

Sal, Cape Verde 26th November 2018