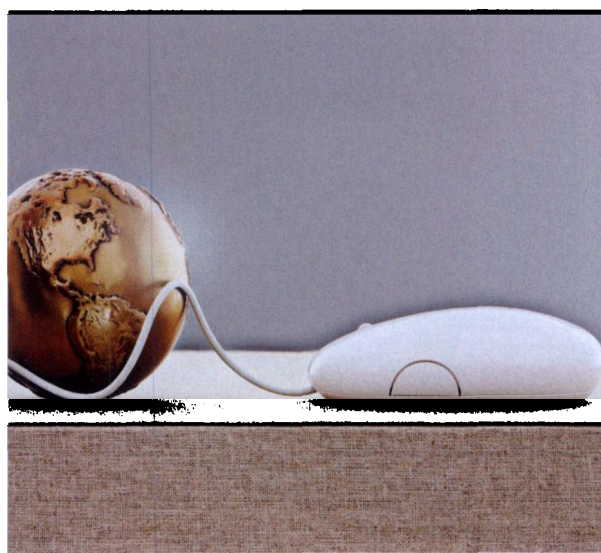


# PADIS-INT Successfully Launched at UN Side Event

*By Editorial Staff*



Invited by Dr. Hania Zlotnik, Director, Population Division/DESA, United Nations, a delegation of National Population and Family Planning Commission (NPFPC), headed by Vice Minister Wang Pei'an, and composed of Deputy Director-General Zhang Yang of International Cooperation Department, Director-General Jiang Weiping of China Population and Development Research Centre (CPDRC) and other members, attended the 44th Session of the UN Commission on Population and Development from April 11th to 15th, 2011 and the Side Event on the launching of PADIS-INT - a web-based population projection software at UN Headquarters on April 14th. The Side Event attracted extensive attention and was of great success.





## Success of the Side Event

The delegation introduced and presented PADIS-INT at the Side Event, which was the first demographic event held by the Chinese government at the UN Headquarters. It was also the first time in UN that such a high-level event was held, during which NPFPC Vice Minister Wang Pei'an was present; Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of UN, Wang Min, Deputy Permanent Representative of China to UN, and Dr. Osotimehin, UNFPA Executive Director made keynote speeches; and Dr. Hania Zlotnik, Director, Population Division/DESA, United Nations made technical comments.. Zhang Yang, Deputy Director-General of NPFPC International Cooperation Department chaired the side event. Jiang Weiping, Director-General of CPDRC introduced the development process of PADIS-INT and CPDRC experts demonstrated main functions and operational process of PADIS-INT at the event. More than 100 participants from UN member countries, institutions and NGOs were present at the event.

It was under the guidance of Population Division/DESA, United Nations and based on the Population Administration and Decision Information System (PADIS) that CPDRC had developed the international version of PADIS-INT. The software has seven advantages. Firstly, it has powerful functions, which allows the combination of short- and long-term projections, can trace back 100 years and predict the next 400 years. It can be used for 8 countries' population



projections simultaneously in 3 different trends of high, medium and low patterns. It was the first of such software with the above functions in history. Secondly, it adopts advanced technologies. By integrating modern information technology like Java into demographic techniques for the first time in history, it forms a decision-making supporting platform based on the analog computing of different parameters. Thirdly, it operates conveniently and quickly. It is the first time for population projection software to operate in real time on different web browsers of all countries based on the Internet. Fourthly, it is accurate. Compared with UN population projection results, the error rate is less than 1%. Fifthly, easy input and rich output will be effectively supportive to decision-making on economic and social development policies. Sixthly, demonstration through graphs and charts makes the comparison very clear. Seventhly, it works in six UN working languages, which is easy to be applied internationally. In the opinion of Population Division/DESA, United Nations, PADIS-INT is an advanced population projection software

independently developed by China, of which the Chinese government should be proud. It is also a breakthrough in China's software sector, which proves that China has been among the leading countries in terms of population informationization.

Mr. Sha Zukang, on behalf of UN, congratulated on the success of the side event and pointed out that PADIS-INT was an innovative tool in population projection with great potential and it would help increase the population projection ability of the developing countries, promote the scientific promulgation of the social and economic development strategy and population policies, and

contribute to the realization of ICPD Program of Action and MDGs. Dr. Osotimehin sincerely congratulated on China's PADIS-INT and said that UNFPA would promote the prevalence of the software among the developing countries, which would be seen as a successful example of South-South Cooperation. Mr. Wang Min pointed out that the Chinese government attached great importance to the role of PADIS-INT in population projection and would positively promote the innovation and application of the population projection technology. PADIS-INT, which contained the Chinese experience and wisdom in population development, was the right example of it. The Chinese government







would like to share it with all the countries and regions in the world. PADIS-INT was believed to serve all the countries' benefits. Dr. Hania also sent her congratulations on the success of the side event. She said that PADIS-INT was "a very good and valuable projection tool. I had never seen such dynamic display which I like very much". Population Division would continue to offer technological support for the improvement of PADIS-INT, in order to make it more powerful in function, more popular in application and more advanced in technology.

Participants from various countries showed great interests and asked for more than 200 USBs. There were more than 100 participants, some of whom even had to sit in the aisle, for the people present at the side event were more than the meeting room could hold. Many countries, especially the African countries, were keen to know more about PADIS-INT, hoping

that China could offer technical support and training on PADIS-INT so that they could use it for their own national economic and social development. The participants also congratulated on the success of the side event and raised many questions, some of which had to be answered after the event because of the limited time. Malaysian delegate who sat in the back row missed the opportunity to make remarks, so he took out a picture of Dr. Li Bin's (Minister of NPFPC) recent visit to their country, hoping China would help Malaysia to establish a population projection system. Delegates from some institutions, for example Peter Wei, Director of International Program Center of U.S. Census Bureau, expressed their willingness to cooperate with China on PADIS-INT.



### Main Achievements

1. Mr. Wang Pei, an invited Dr. Osotimehin to attend the side event during their talk on April 12th. Dr. Osotimehin accepted the invitation and agreed to make a keynote speech, during which he expressed UNFPA's great





support to the promotion and application of PADIS-INT.

2. The comprehensive cooperation with Population Division/DESA, United Nations, was expanded. After the side event, Dr. Hania chaired a meeting with CPDRC with the presence of the staff from projection, policy and mortality sections. They had decided to fulfill another 8 missions to further improve PADIS-INT in three steps according to priority order. The Population Division would offer detailed technical support.

3. The contact with United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD) was established. Two experts in UNSD said that, since there would be no officials from National Statistic Bureau of China to attend the Seminar on Revision of Mortality and Fertility Standards in June this year, CPDRC would be invited to attend the seminar. They also suggested a meeting with the Director General of UNSD in due time, where the two sides could discuss related cooperation issues, and the placement of a mirror server in UN computer room to assist the international application of PADIS-INT. The head of UN IT expressed similar opinions, too.

4. The U.S. Census Bureau spoke highly of PADIS-INT and thought it was better than that of UN.

They would like to introduce their advanced methods and cooperate with CPDRC to develop even better population projection software.

The success of PADIS-INT and the side event proved that China's population projection software technology was in the front rank in the world. China had the initiative in the international population projection standards, regulations and methods. The way China participated in the UN affairs was diversified and China played more important role in it as a responsible power. It also proved that China was more positive in population development and international cooperation and communication, which had been another contribution ever since the low fertility rate.



### Coming Activities

1. Based on the suggestions of Population Division/DESA, United Nations, CPDRC will further develop PADIS-INT and host an international symposium in due time.

2. CPDRC will further improve PADIS-INT website, place a mirror server in UN and further promote the software.

3. Based on the experience of PADIS-INT, CPDRC will improve PADIS-CHINA and include it into the second phase of PADIS.

4. CPDRC will analyze the data of the sixth population census of China on PADIS-INT to have the result of national and provincial level population projections. ●

