



Check Against Delivery

**Statement by**

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**on the**

**Report of the Secretary-General on the Flow of Financial Resources for Assisting  
in the Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International  
Conference on Population and Development  
(E/CN.9/2011/5)**

**44th Session of the Commission on Population and Development**

**New York**

**11 April 2011**

Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,

I am pleased to introduce the Report of the Secretary-General on *The Flow of Financial Resources for Assisting in the Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development* (E/CN.9/2011/5). The document responds to a request by the Commission on Population and Development (E/1995/27) for an annual report on financial flows to assist the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action. It also complies with General Assembly resolutions 49/128 and 50/124 which called for the preparation of periodic reports on the financial resources allocated for the implementation of the Programme of Action.

Mr. Chairman, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has been given the lead role in monitoring resource flows for assisting in the implementation of the ICPD. Each year, UNFPA collects data and reports on levels of international population assistance and domestic financial resource flows for population activities. To do this, the Fund works in close collaboration with the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI). To strengthen local capacity to track domestic resource flows for population activities in developing countries, UNFPA and NIDI work with regional institutions – with the Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR) since 2005 and, as of this year, with the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC). In addition, a number of countries have identified government ministries or offices to collect data on expenditures for population activities. UNFPA encourages all countries to work with us in collecting the data. Reliable and timely data are essential to inform policy. They are also essential for planning and budgeting purposes, and to improve aid effectiveness and donor harmonization.

UNFPA relies on the cooperation of donor and developing countries as well as organizations and development banks to obtain data. We are very grateful for the continued cooperation of all partners. We are also grateful to UNAIDS for providing information on expenditures for AIDS. By using data on AIDS expenditures directly from UNAIDS, we ensure that there is only one figure that captures spending on AIDS and we also help to minimize respondent fatigue.

The present report analyzes international and domestic financial resource flows that are part of the “costed population package” as described in paragraph 13.14 of the ICPD Programme of Action. It includes funding in the following four categories: family planning services; basic reproductive health services; sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV/AIDS activities; and basic research, data, and population and development policy analysis.

What do the current figures show?

Mr. Chairman, the news is not good. We do not see the progress we had hoped for. Indeed, we are far from meeting our needs. The latest available data show that donor assistance has stabilized at around \$10 billion. We had hoped that it would continue to increase. Our projections show that this situation will not improve anytime soon given the current financial

scenario. We estimate that developing countries mobilized around \$30 billion in domestic resources for population activities. This is most welcome.

But we need more. Two years ago, UNFPA revised the original ICPD cost estimates to ensure that they are more in line with current needs and costs. A total of \$65 billion was needed by 2010 to fully fund the necessary sexual and reproductive health including family planning and HIV/AIDS services, as well as censuses, surveys, civil registration and population research and training. UNFPA projects that donor assistance will remain at around \$10 billion in 2010 and domestic resources will be around \$31 billion. If our estimates hold, this means that we will be \$24 billion short of what is needed to finance population programmes in developing countries.

We need more donor assistance and more national investments in developing countries. Resource mobilization is dependent on a few key players. Population assistance originates with a few major donors and the majority of domestic resources are mobilized in a few large developing countries. Not all donors provide substantial funding and most developing countries cannot afford to mobilize sufficient resources to fund their population and AIDS programmes. Most domestic expenditures in developing countries come not from the government, but from consumers in the form of out-of-pocket expenditures for population goods and services. Out-of-pocket spending by the poor can drive them even further into poverty and negatively impact spending on other essentials such as food and education.

Current funding levels are simply not enough to meet the growing needs in developing countries. These needs are felt in all four components of the ICPD costed population package: family planning, reproductive health, STD/HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, and data, research and population and development policy analysis.

The price may be high, but the cost of not mobilizing adequate financial resources is definitely higher. It is measured in increased infant and child mortality, higher rates of maternal deaths as well as morbidity and mortality due to HIV/AIDS. We cannot be complacent when such morbidity and mortality remains unacceptably high in many parts of the world. It is especially important to ensure that the needs of the poorest populations are met. Some countries are facing difficulties in finding sufficient resources to properly conduct censuses and analyze and disseminate data that are essential for defining vulnerable populations and providing the evidence base needed for policy formulation, programme planning, as well as monitoring of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Mr. Chairman, we will never achieve the Millennium Development Goals if we do not address population and reproductive health issues. Implementing the ICPD Programme of Action, especially the reproductive health goal, is essential for meeting the MDGs directly related to health, social and economic outcomes, especially those concerning children, mothers, HIV/AIDS, gender and poverty.

The success of the ICPD and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals depend greatly upon the willingness of Governments, local communities, the non-governmental sector, the international community and all concerned organizations and individuals to turn the ICPD recommendations into action.

We need higher levels of development assistance, and an increasing level of ODA to population and reproductive health to help eliminate poverty and improve social conditions. The challenge before the international community, both donor and developing countries, is to mobilize the additional resources required to fully implement the ICPD agenda.

Thank you.