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Closing Remarks to the Forty-fourth Session of the Commission on Population and Development

By Ms. Hania Zlotnik Director, Population Division

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Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

If staying up late is preparation for sweet dreams, I am sure that all participants in this 44th session of the Commission have earned a very good dose of sweet and relaxing dreams. And for those who cannot quit until they see their dreams realized, this session should spur you to continue working hard toward the realization of the goals and objectives of the Cairo Programme of Action.

When the General Assembly reviews the status of implementation of the Programme of Action in 2014, I hope that it will corroborate that an acceleration of the efforts made to reach the goals that have not been fully achieved as yet dates from 15 April 2011 and owes much to the hard work and dedication that you have put this week to ensure that sexual and reproductive health is attainable by all and that women and men the world over enjoy fully their reproductive rights.

Let me conclude, Mr. Chairman, by thanking our many colleagues from the Department of General Assembly and Conference Services, the Department of Public Information and UNFPA for supporting the work of this session. They collaborate with us in providing the services that the Commission requires, disseminating the messages coming out of this session, and allowing us to communicate seamlessly. My special appreciation goes to the interpreters and translators, the sound engineers, the précis writers, those servicing our conference room, those supporting the video equipment and countless other persons who ensure that our work proceeds smoothly. And, of course, our deep appreciation goes to the members of the Bureau and especially to you, Ambassador Bowler, for conducting the deliberations, to each of your colleagues, Mr. Suljuk Tarar, Mr. Easton Williams and Mr. Attila Zimonyi, who ably supported your work for the Commission, and, in particular, to Mr. Christophe de Bassompierre, facilitator of the Working Group, whose patience and efficiency greatly contributed to the successful conclusion of this session.

It has been a pleasure working with you all. Many thanks!