

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Forty-fifth session, 23-27 April 2012

**Statement of Egypt on behalf of the Arab Group
in closing 45th session CPD**

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Egypt is speaking on behalf of 21 Arab states; Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. Allow me Mr. Chair to join all delegations to congratulate you on reaching an agreement on the draft resolution entitled “Adolescents and youth” and adopting it. I extend also our appreciation to the facilitator and secretariat who worked hard to help all of us during the negotiations.

The Arab Group joined the consensus on the draft resolution despite of the reservations it has on the draft resolution in the framework and atmosphere of cooperation and friendship which appeared from the very beginning of the negotiation process. The Arab Group reserves on PP15 in line of its member states’ reservations on ICPD.

The Arab Group would like to stress on “child marriages” not “early marriages” according to the UNFPA programs on child marriages and would like also to reiterate its rejection to any attempts to impose any concepts, ideas or values that don’t enjoy the international recognition.

Finally, Mr. Chair the Arab Group reiterates its appreciation to your wisdom and leadership that helped us to reach a compromised text that we have just adopted.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.

Amira Fahmy
1st Secretary
Permanent Mission of The Arab Republic of Egypt
to the United Nations in New York.