

Joint Statement of Australia, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Japan, Laos PDR, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal ,New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Vietnam at the 47th Session of the Commission on Population and Development

- i. We reaffirm our commitment to the principles of International Conference on Population and Development and the full implementation of its Programme of Action and the Framework of Action, for its follow-up beyond 2014.
- ii. We are also firmly committed to bringing our regional outcome achieved in the 6th Asian and Pacific Population Conference (APPC) Ministerial Meeting on September 16th to 20th, 2013 held in Bangkok, and the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development (APMD) to the global level. ¹
- iii. We reaffirm our determination to ensure sexual and reproductive health and rights ² through achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health, information and services, as well as take measures to eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination based on age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, income, ethnicity, race, religion, migrant status, disability, HIV status or other status. ³
- iv. We reinforce the strong outcome of the Asia and Pacific Ministerial Declaration and affirm that population and development policies must be founded on human rights principles to achieve sustainable development⁴. This includes the implementation of programmes and policies that enable all women, adolescents and young people, including those that are marginalized and in vulnerable situations, to have universal access to sexual and reproductive health information and services, including modern contraceptives of choice, comprehensive maternity care, including pre- and postnatal care, access to safe legal abortion under criteria permitted by national laws, post-abortion care, safe delivery services, prevention and treatment of infertility, prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections, HIV and cancers of reproductive system and other communicable and non-communicable diseases, and to enable the sexual and reproductive rights of all, including through comprehensive sexuality education programmes that affirm full participation of adolescents and young people that are consistent with the evolving capacities of adolescents and young people, age appropriate, while recognizing the roles and responsibilities of their parents and teachers⁵

¹ APMD, Para 218 (g)

² APMD, Section C, Paras 109-119.

³ APMD , Para.8, 84

⁴ APMD , Para 7; 26; 27; 33; 40; 45; 72.

⁵ APMD , Para 58; 59; 85; 110, 122; 145; 146.

- v. We reject all forms of coercion, violence and discrimination against women and girls⁶ that affect the progress and goals of the ICPD.⁷
- vi. We call on all countries to consider legislation, that will lead to the elimination of all forms of violence and discrimination⁸ based on age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, income, ethnicity, race, religion, migrant status, disability, HIV status or other status and hold to account all perpetrators of gender-based violence.⁹
- vii. We acknowledge the achievements of the ICPD and its regional conferences twenty years after and are committed to responding to the new challenges, including changing population dynamics, with a large young population, ageing, migration, urbanisation, as well as all forms of disasters, conflicts, complex emergencies, strengthening efforts to address climate change, including mitigation and adaptation, the loss of biodiversity, poverty, food safety, and food insecurity.¹⁰ We emphasize the importance of integrating population and development agenda into the Post-2015 development agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).¹¹
- viii. We reaffirm the important role of partnerships among key stakeholders, including Governments, community-based organizations, civil society, the not-for-profit sector and the private sector, to jointly implement the Programme of Action and the key actions.¹² We call on governments to accord high priority to sexual and reproductive health and rights as an integral part of national health plans and public budgets,¹³ and also call on international donors to ensure the continuation of official development assistance¹⁴ and to ensure greater coordination amongst each other in addressing these issues.¹⁵
- ix. We express support to the statement made by the 14 Pacific Countries, namely, Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

⁶ APMD , Para 18; 44; 47; 81; 133; 135; 172;

⁷ APMD, Para 126;

⁸ APMD, Para 81; based on Para 84;

⁹ APMD. Para 8; 24; 25; 26; 42; 133; 174;

¹⁰ APMD, Para 20; 21; 24; 31; 52; 53; 61; 62; 64; 65; 66; 70; 90; 167; 196.

¹¹ APMD , Para 205;

¹² APMD , Para 88;

¹³ APMD , Para 75; 129;

¹⁴ APMD , Para 210;

¹⁵ APMD , Para 88; 213; 218 (d);