

CPD 49 -- Closing Remarks – CANADA
Gloria Wiseman, Head of Delegation, 15 April 2016

Canada would like to join others in indicating our appreciation to you Madam Chair, the vice chairs, and the facilitators for a successful outcome from this year's Commission. The constructive and positive engagement by all delegations clearly demonstrated how committed we all are to the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, the emerging and evolving population issues that the World is facing, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This session and its decision have clearly reaffirmed the importance of strengthening the demographic evidence base so that no-one is left behind.

My delegation wishes to reiterate the importance of human rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, including achieving universal sexual and reproductive health and rights. We see these as critical in achieving the goals and targets of the SDGs. The full and active engagement of youth and civil society is equally important if we are to address critical gaps in implementation.

While we are joining consensus on this resolution, Canada would have welcomed explicit references to gender responsive data, policies and program. With the adoption of this resolution by consensus, we have unequivocally agreed today to strengthen capacity at all levels to monitor and measure our collective progress, and build the evidence for sound policy and program decisions. Canada believes this is crucial in order to make a real difference in the lives of people and in particular the most marginalized and hardest to count and reach. Decisions driven by evidence and quality gender-responsive data will ensure we are focussing where our support and resources are most needed.

In closing, Madam Chair, Canada would like to express its satisfaction of the decision approved earlier this week on the revision of the methods of work of the Commission. Our collaborative efforts will no doubt lead to a more impactful and effective CPD, well aligned with the work of ECOSOC and the High Level Political Forum, and ultimately making concrete contribution to an effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

I thank you.