

**POINTS RAISED BY THE DELEGATION OF EGYPT IN THE NAME OF THE ARAB GROUP**  
**BEFORE THE ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE 46<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF**  
**THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION & DEVELOPMENT ON**  
**“NEW TRENDS IN MIGRATION: DEMOGRAPHIC ASPECTS” (NY, 26 APRIL 2013)**

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- **The Arab Group aligns itself fully with the statement delivered by Fiji on behalf of the G77 & China.**
- **The Arab Group would like to thank the following persons for the tremendous efforts exerted over the past days:**
  - The Chair of the 46<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission, HE. Ambassador Vladimir Lupan.
  - The members of the Bureau.
  - The facilitator Mr. Eduardo de Vega, the DPR of The Philippines.
  - All the lead negotiators, especially the negotiators of G77 & the African Group.
- **The Chair’s text is not perfect. But as the Chair has mentioned in his remarks: no one will leave the session totally happy. The Arab Group joins consensus on this draft resolution, and would like to make the following remarks which we request to be put in the official records of the Commission:**
  - **On the paragraph dealing with foreign occupation (op6):**
    - We fully support the intervention made by the distinguished representative of the State of Palestine on this matter.
    - The Arab Group believes that this paragraph as it stands does not reflect the reality of the people who are forced to migrate due to foreign occupation.
    - We must intensify our efforts to address the root causes of this situation.
    - People living under foreign occupation are not only facing expropriation of land, but also demolition of houses. They are not allowed to live in their homes & country. They cannot access basic services, including health and education; and this could lead to violence and harassment.
  - **In general, the Arab Group would have liked to see more focus in the Chair’s text on the most pressing needs of migrants, such as housing, education and employment and less focus on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in accordance with the Programme of Action of the ICPD.**
    - Even though these issues are important, they do not constitute the most urgent priority for migrants.
  - **Finally, the Arab Group is pleased that the Chair’s text includes the Sovereignty paragraph (OP3).**
    - This is a crucial paragraph. It puts our collective efforts to reach common goals in the perspective of our specific circumstances and our religious & cultural diversity.
- **Thank you for your attention.**

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