



UGANDA

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STATEMENT

BY

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CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

**AT THE 48TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION
ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

New York, April 13-14, 2015

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Chairperson

Excellencies

Distinguished Delegates

Uganda aligns itself with the statement made by South Africa on behalf of G77& China and Niger on behalf of Africa Group.

I thank the United Nations Leadership and partners for spearheading the ICPD Beyond 2014 review and Post 2015 Development process that inform our discussions on the future we want. Uganda is delighted to be part of this process and commits itself to ensuring that the provisions of the common strategic direction are domesticated and implemented at country level.

Uganda has consistently implemented the ICPD Programme of Action and our people have greatly benefited from the interventions undertaken. Significant achievements in the last ten years include; reduction in poverty by 30%; reduction in infant and child mortality; increased enrollment of young people in schools with attainment of gender equality at primary level; increased number of women participating in governance at all levels; and integration of population dynamics in the country's planning frameworks.

In order to address marginalization and exclusion, Uganda has embraced the Human Rights Based Approach in its National Development Frameworks namely; National Development Plan and

Vision 2040. In addition, the country has integrated Sustainable Development Goals in its National Development Plan

Uganda continues to pursue people centred approach to development which is essential to achieving structural economic transformation and inclusive growth, taking into account the proposed Sustainable Development Goals and Post 2015 Development Agenda.

Chairperson,

Seventy Eight percent (78%) of Uganda's population are young people below 30 years of age. To harness this youthful population, my government has put in place policies and programmes to address issues of the young people. Our investments prioritize universal primary & secondary education, skilling young people, creating opportunities for employment and ensuring their access to health services.

For these and many other achievements, I would like to thank UNFPA and other development partners for the partnership.

In spite of these achievements, we are cognizant of the unfinished agenda regarding the ICPD Programme of Action and the Millennium Development Goals. Our efforts in addressing issues such as HIV/AIDs and maternal mortality among others will continue to take top priority in our development agenda. In this

regard my country is committed to scaling up investments in programs to improve the overall wellbeing of Ugandans. Specifically our focus will be on improving maternal health; increasing access to sexual and reproductive health as well HIV/AIDs services; strengthening health systems and, tackling all forms of inequality. Equally important is investment in the needs of adolescents and youth to empower them with capabilities and avail them opportunities to realize their full potential as a way of harnessing the demographic dividend.

Chairperson,

Uganda conducted the National Population and Housing Census in August 2014 under the theme “**Counting for Planning and Improved Service Delivery**”. We are committed to strengthening national capacity to generate, disseminate and effectively use data on population dynamics to address key population concerns such as urbanization. We also plan to put in place systems that promote proactive planning and monitoring of progress towards Sustainable Development Goals.

In conclusion, my country is at a stage where the theme of this meeting provides us an opportunity to concretize on what we have already started. This meeting will galvanize our resolve to build on the gains made and to use the lessons learned to address persistent

poor socio-economic indices under the common and uniting agenda.

It is our conviction that this meeting will provide a platform for us to build stronger partnerships and to mobilize the necessary human and financial resources to pursue our set goals and targets in the post 2015 development agenda.

I thank you.