



**Closing remarks**

**by**

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**and**

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**57th Commission on Population and Development (CPD57)**

**Friday, 1 May 2024**

**from 10 am to 1 pm EDT**

**Venue: Conference Room 4, UN Headquarters**

**(Word count: 981 | 7 minutes)**

- Madam Chairperson, Excelentísima Embajadora Noemi Espinosa Madrid,
- Excellences, Ministers, Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives,
- UN DESA Assistant Secretary-General Navid Hanif,
- Distinguished delegates,
- Dear civil society friends, youth Ambassadors, youth participants and esteemed colleagues,
- This is the conclusion of a remarkable year of hard work.
- As we close the 57th session of the Commission on Population and Development, we stand at a critical juncture in our journey – a journey that began 30 years ago at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in 1994, in Cairo.
- We were very pleased that this Commission adopted, by consensus, a Political Declaration that reaffirms the international community’s unwavering commitment to the ICPD agenda and, thereby, to the advancement of the rights and well-being of individuals around the world.
- I thank our distinguished Chair, Her Excellency Ambassador Noemi Espinosa Madrid of Honduras, who has magisterially led the work of this Commission. Madam Chair your, leadership in steering discussions to its positive conclusion has been crucial in this landmark year. Thank you.
- I also commend the members of the Bureau, and in particular the co-facilitators, yourself, Madam Chair and Dr. Yosuke Kita from Japan, for their commitment and tireless efforts in pursuit of a substantive and celebratory session. Congratulations as well to Kenya and all members of the Bureau.
- I also want to say a big “thank you” to our partner, UNDESA, and particularly the Population Division, for their collaboration and invaluable stewardship of the Commission.

- Of course, my deepest gratitude to my very own dedicated UNFPA colleagues - for their contributions to this year's session. the New York based team as much as all our colleagues around the world who are by your side in your countries. For as the UN Secretary General has said from all of us, whatever your specific circumstances, we are proud to stay and deliver.
- We must recognize all the work that this session built on. Starting with the more than 100 countries that prepared national review reports of the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, which largely provided the backdrop for the five Regional Reviews. These played a crucial role in this week's success. I extend my sincere thanks to all the Members States, including Chairs of the Regional Reviews, for providing concrete findings and recommendations that foster mutual learning among countries and regions. Allow me to extend the gratitude to my colleagues in all Regional Economic Commissions as well.
- Ultimately, the Commission for Population and Development is composed of Member States. Our thanks go out to you, Excellencies and distinguished delegates, for your hard work and active engagement in this session, and for your record-setting participation at the highest level.
- To our friends and strong advocate from civil society: thank you for your constant efforts and for your drive. You are our partners on the ground all the way to the last miles to reach the furthest behind – you work to ensure that SRHR information and services are available, and that rights and choices remain front and center.
- Dear youth delegates, we see you, and recognize you. You matter, you belong, you decide.
- Your unwavering enthusiasm, knowledge and perspectives reflect the breadth and depth of the ICPD agenda.
- The promise of Cairo was to reconcile the imperatives of national development with cultural values and human rights.
- Implementing it means that countries themselves have taken ownership of population and development on their own terms, tackling challenges such as poverty, inequality, environmental sustainability and inclusive economic growth.

- On behalf of UNFPA and in complementarity with our sister agencies, I reiterate our commitment to work alongside you towards realizing the Programme of Action that matters to you for the benefit of your populations.
- While the CPD57 closes, the ICPD30 journey continues.
- Earlier this month, we rallied together at the Global Youth Dialogue. Over 500 young leaders from 130 countries gathered in Benin to define their vision for the ICPD. Representing the largest generation of young people in history, they called for urgent action to realize their right to bodily autonomy, to education, to decent work, to live in peaceful societies and to take lead in decision-making.
- Our thanks to parliamentarians as well. They met in Oslos, Norway earlier this month to ensure that what matter most to your constituencies will not be forgotten.
- Later this month, the Global Dialogue on Demographic Diversity and Sustainable Development will take place in Bangladesh. This will explore practical and policy responses to demographic change in our rapidly evolving world.
- And at the end of June, in New York, the third global dialogue will explore how to harness the power of technology for advancing women’s health, rights, and choices.
- As we look to the future, let us build on the momentum generated in this session, together. The declaration we have crafted through collaboration and consensus lays a foundation for accelerated action.
- The Summit of the Future in September is calling upon all of us to act together, in solidarity, on the vision set by the ICPD.
- Together, we can ensure that the ambitious targets we set are not aspirational, but above all, achievable. Our future, the future of 8 billion people on this planet, depends on it.
- Madam Chair, distinguished participants,
- I trust that you join me in moving forward, with a renewed energy, a clear vision, and a collective spirit, inspired by our successes and ready to tackle the challenges the work still ahead. The challenges are great, it is in our collective hands to overcome them with the right policies and actions plan everywhere.

- Allow me to thank you once again and I look forward to the continued momentum as we advance the promise of Cairo into the future.
- Muchísimas gracias.