



SOUTH AFRICA'S EXPLANATION OF POSITION (EOP)

ADOPTION OF POLITICAL DECLARATION FOR THE 57th SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Madam Chair,

Allow me to take this opportunity to express South Africa's appreciation to you and your co-facilitator, for your astute leadership in ensuring that we have an outcome for CPD, especially as we commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the ICPD PoA.

South Africa aligns itself to the statement delivered by (Albania) on behalf of a cross-regional like-minded group.

As many member states have highlighted in the General Debate, although we have seen progress since Cairo 1994, the progress has been unequal. With this in mind, South Africa would like to further highlight its appreciation for the important message the text also sends as it relates to the specific needs of the developing countries, namely :

- Recognising the need for adequate and sufficient mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as predictable, sustainable and sufficient development finance to developing countries from all sources
- The call for member states to enhance North-South, South-South and Triangular cooperation in order to ensure that we accelerate the achievement of the principles of the PoA.

By including these aspects in the Political Declaration, member states here today have emphasised our commitment to ensuring that no one is left behind on our journey towards a more peaceful, equitable, just, and sustainable future for all.

Lastly Madam Chair, as we look forward to the next 30 years of CPD, it is South Africa's hope that we can approach future engagements in a balanced manner where we uphold all the principles of the ICPD PoA equally. This should be cognisant that we can address population development issues, such as teenage pregnancy, through positive enabling actions, like gender equality and enjoyment of the right to education, whilst also accounting for historic discrimination that inhibits positive policy intervention and ensuring that all voices are represented. This will enable a truly inclusive development.

I thank you.