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**Commission on Population and
Development
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Economic and Social Council**

**Statement by
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Republic of Indonesia**

Agenda Item 3:

**“Actions in follow-up to the recommendations of the
International Conference on Population and Development”**

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Mr. Chairperson,

I would like, first of all, to congratulate you, Mr. Chairperson and other members of the bureau on your election.

I have every confidence the Commission, under your able leadership and with the support of the other bureau members, will have a successful session in discussing the challenging theme: "Adolescent and Youth".

Let me also thank H.E. Mr Ban Ki-moon, the UN Secretary-General for the reports and for taking the time to join us, the CPD members and observers, to open the current session.

Indeed, such an auspicious presence reaffirms the strong commitment of the UN System in addressing population and development matters. It also reflects the importance attached to the work of the Commission in addressing the needs of young people.

Mr. Chairperson,

There is every reason to anticipate meaningful agreements by this session on the development of young people who need to be prepared for leadership responsibilities in the 21st century. What we do and produce here today will help to determine the nature and quality of life for all in this century.

Guided by our collective conscience, we must act with courage to lift the heavy social burdens from the shoulders of young people in order to allow them the freedom to become agents of positive change for the future.

In this regards, the reports provide us with a comprehensive demographic picture of challenges affecting adolescents and youth. They also make recommendations to accelerate the achievement of the goals and objectives of the ICPD Program of Action on adolescents and youth.

Mr. Chairperson,

Indonesia agrees that successful family planning in recent decades in many countries has resulted in increasing numbers of elderly people as part of the world's population. At the same time, the proportion of the adolescent and youth in many countries has passed its peak. Indonesia is numbered among those countries. It is projected that the size of this particular age structure will remain stable over the next few years and will actually go into decline in some countries.

However, investment in adolescents and youth, priority being given to their sexual and reproductive health should not be controlled exclusively by demographic factors. The decision to invest in adolescents and youth should be influenced by their rights and expected roles in society. By investing in their well being, society is provided will a solid development foundation. As developed human capital, young people will serve society as productive workers, heads of households, civic-minded citizens, and competent community leaders.

The consequences of failing to make these investments will very likely result in high dropout rates from school, an abundance of unskilled labour with slim chances for employment, risky health behaviour, all of which could inflict permanent scars on society.

Mr. Chairperson,

Successful implementation of programs for adolescent and youth depends on several things.

First of all, the different policies adopted by each must be sensitive to and shaped by its specific social and economic context. These policies must be easily integrated into the socio-cultural environment of the country.

Secondly, a well articulated set of objectives for adolescent and youth, developed jointly by key ministries and stakeholders, with meaningful inputs from young people themselves, especially young women and girls, should be pursued at the national level. Those objectives should be integrated into national policy planning and implementation processes.

Finally, it will be imperative for the country to be able to undertake analysis, policy development, implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the programmes that have been formulated. This capacity has traditionally been weak in many developing countries. We should, therefore, promote capacity building among us.

In addition, civil society organizations, particularly those led by young people and women, should play a role and become the partner to complement national capacity.

The fact of the matter is that although many countries have conceptualized programmes for adolescent and youth, they find implementation to be a formidable challenge. Indonesia is of the view

that this matter requires serious consideration. This should be addressed in the discussion of ICPD 2014 and beyond.

Before concluding Mr. Chairpersons,

Positive aspect has been elaborated in the report with regard to migrant adolescents and youth. Migrants contribute to the development of country of origin and destination. Yet, they are facing more and more challenges.

My delegation believes that more cooperation among us, among the countries of origin, transit and destination is imperative in coping their challenges. This includes by utilizing the minimum framework of cooperation sets forth in the international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families.

In this context, my delegation would like to share that we are in the final stages to becoming the party to the Convention and joining others to promote universal ratification of the Convention.

I thank you