

**Statement of the Mission Kenya to the United Nations  
after the adoption of the resolution on the**

**“Assessment of the Status of Implementation of the Programme of Action  
of the International Conference on Population and Development”**

**47th session of the Commission on Population and Development  
of the United Nations Economic and Social Council**

**New York, 12 April 2014**

Kenya

• behalf of Africa  
- Deeply sympathetic  
• our experience thrown out the <sup>including</sup> process.

Mr. Chair,

We thank you for your efforts in this important session of the Commission on Population and Development. We also thank the Bureau, especially the Co-facilitators for their contribution in this process. We extend our gratitude to the Secretariat for their useful contribution.

We would like to place on record the following issues:

First, the African Group does not approve the selection of Co-facilitators for the consultations on draft resolution from the same region, which is contrary to the established practice at the United Nations. This unfortunate situation should by no means set a precedent for our future conduct. Moreover, the Africa Group encourages more transparency in the work of this session in the future, both within the bureau and on relations between the bureau and the members of the commission. This session could have benefited a great deal from such levels of transparency.

Second, the position of the African Group was not to have an outcome document during the 47<sup>th</sup> session of the CPD. Such an approach would have prevented us from the attempt to renegotiate the ICPD Programme of Action as underscored in OP 4 of resolution 65/234.

a precedent

If at all we needed a resolution to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ICPD it would have been spelt out in the said General Assembly resolution and it would have been more appropriate to be tabled at the Special session in September 2014 when the ICPD turns 20.

Yet we engaged and we did so constructively! When it was apparent that we wouldn't have a short, procedural outcome, the African Group continued to positively engage by presenting agreed language, which among other things sought to bring balance into the text. We note with appreciation that some of our proposals were taken onboard, while other crucial proposals were completely ignored.

We must express our disappointment that text has evolved with introduction of new and controversial concepts, which not only do not feature in the ICPD Programme of Action but also are not internationally agreed upon. In our view, the introduction of this language was a deliberate attempt to renegotiate the ICPD Programme of Action.

The African Group continues to express serious reservations on references to comprehensive education on human sexuality. We have done this in CSW 58 and we wish to reiterate it here with regard to op 10 and op 11 of the adopted text, though these reservations are well known we would like to see them reflected on the report of this session.

The African Group reaffirms our commitment to the 1994 ICPD Programme of Action and wishes to reaffirm the sovereign right of each country to implement the recommendations of the Programme of Action or other proposals in the CPD resolutions, consistent with national laws and development priorities, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its people, and in conformity with universally recognized international human rights.

The Commission on Population and Development, including its outcomes, should not create any opportunity to consider human rights issues in a non-objective and confrontational manner nor attempt to undermine the international human rights system by seeking to impose concepts or notions pertaining to social matters, including private individual conduct, that fall outside the internationally agreed human rights legal framework.

I thank you for your attention