

**Statement of the Mission of Qatar 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

"Thank you Mr. Chairman.

My delegation would like to make an explanation of position, as well as kindly request that our observations be duly reflected in the records of this meeting.

We share the concerns that many delegations have already expressed regarding procedural arrangements. This final document before us has new language which was not considered by all delegations. In this regard, for the interest of time, and in the spirit of cooperation, my delegation joined the consensus. However, we would like to express that we would have appreciated being included in a more adequate manner during the final negotiations of this text, so that we would have been able to better contribute to the text and appropriately reflect our position in the text.

In addition, we would also like to make an observation regarding the subject of Family. My country attaches great importance to the issue of the empowerment of the family, and we firmly believe that family is the basic unit of society, and plays a pivotal role in societies and in overall development efforts. Therefore, we would have liked to see the subject of family reflected in the text, however we would not like to see it politicized as it has been during the negotiations.

In reference to the paragraphs which deal with the subjects of sex education and reproductive rights, my country would like to further re-emphasize one of the most important principles of the Cairo Programme of Action, namely the sovereign right of countries to implement recommendations and policies in a manner consistent with their national legislation and development priorities, and in total respect of their cultural and ethical values, and religious backgrounds, and in line with internationally recognized human rights.

To conclude, my delegation aligns itself with the observations made by the delegations of Egypt and Oman on behalf of the Arab Group, on the issue of protection of populations living in situations of armed conflicts or living under occupation.

I thank you Mr. Chairman."