



Check Against Delivery

**Statement by**

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**on the**

**Report of the Secretary-General on the Flow of Financial Resources for Assisting  
in the Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International  
Conference on Population and Development  
(E/CN.9/2008/5)**

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Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,

I am pleased to introduce the Report of the Secretary-General on *The Flow of Financial Resources for Assisting in the Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development* (E/CN.9/2008/5). The document responds to a request by the Commission on Population and Development (E/1995/27) for an annual report on financial flows to assist the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action.

Mr. Chairman, as you know, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has been given the lead role in monitoring progress towards achieving ICPD goals in the area of resource mobilization. Each year, UNFPA collects data and reports on levels of international population assistance and domestic financial resource flows for population activities. To do this, the Fund works in close collaboration with the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI). UNFPA relies on the cooperation of donor countries and organizations as well as developing countries and UNFPA Country Offices to obtain data. We are very grateful for your continued cooperation in this endeavour.

The present report analyzes international and domestic financial resource flows that are part of the “costed population package” as described in paragraph 13.14 of the ICPD Programme of Action. It includes funding in the following four categories: family planning services; basic reproductive health services; sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)/HIV/AIDS activities; and basic research, data and population and development policy analysis.

The ICPD Programme of Action estimated that the cost of implementing the population and reproductive health package in developing countries and countries with economies in transition would be US \$18.5 billion annually by the year 2005 and \$20.5 billion in 2010. Approximately two thirds of the cost is expected to come from developing countries and one third, or \$6.1 billion and \$6.8 billion, respectively, from the international donor community.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to come before you today to report that both donor assistance and domestic expenditures for population activities continue to increase. Once all data are in, donor assistance is expected to surpass \$8 billion in 2006. We estimate domestic resources to be \$23 billion in 2006. And we expect continued increases in donor and domestic resources in both 2007 and 2008.

Despite the significant increases in funding, the resources mobilized are still not sufficient to meet current needs in developing countries. The reason for this is that the targets were fixed based on experiences as of 1993. The population and health situation in the world is very different today. The needs are greater than anticipated when the Cairo financial targets were agreed upon. Costs have risen astronomically. And the value of the dollar is far lower than it was in 1993. The sad reality is that the ICPD targets are out of date and are not sufficient to meet today’s evolving needs.

Mr. Chairman, we cannot be complacent about reaching the targets if the targets no longer meet our needs. The consequences of resource shortfalls include significant increases in unintended pregnancies, abortions, maternal morbidity and mortality, infant and child mortality, as well as AIDS-related morbidity and mortality. Maternal mortality continues to remain unacceptably high in many parts of the world. Many people do not have access to family planning and reproductive health services they want and need. We should make sure that sufficient resources are mobilized to meet the unmet needs, especially among the poorest populations, for good quality, affordable and accessible family planning, reproductive health, and STD/HIV/AIDS services, including prevention.

The increase in resource mobilization is due in large part to increases in funding for HIV/AIDS. We need a substantial amount of money to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS. But it is also important to mobilize adequate resources for the other equally critical components of the ICPD population package, especially for family planning and reproductive health. If the trend towards decreased funding for family planning is not reversed, it will affect progress in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

It is important for both donors and developing countries to increase efforts to mobilize additional resources. Developing countries need to increase their national budgets for population and substantial donor assistance is essential for the least developed countries to achieve the ICPD goals. The lack of adequate funding remains the chief constraint to full implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action for many developing countries that cannot mobilize sufficient resources to fund much-needed population and AIDS programmes.

Mr. Chairman, the increased levels of funding for population shows renewed commitment on the part of both donor and developing countries to achieve the ICPD goals. We encourage all donor countries, international agencies, and developing countries to continue this increasing trend to ensure that adequate resources are mobilized to meet today's growing needs.

Thank you.