Statement of the delegation of Ukraine at the 47th session of the Commission on Population and Development
(7-11 April 2014, New York)

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,
Dear colleagues,

First of all we would like to thank the Secretariat for the organization of the session. We consider the 47th session of the CPD as a critical opportunity once again to single our efforts and speak out about the equity and dignity by ensuring the sustained economic growth and sustainable development.

Dear colleagues,

The ICPD Programme of Action is as relevant today as ever before. We must ensure its full implementation, on all levels.

Ukraine welcomes the ICPD Beyond 2014 Review report and the Secretary General’s reports.

We appreciate the fact that UNFPA, as the lead agency for the review, arranged a number of consultations to keep Member States informed of the process and to receive guidance.

Ukraine acknowledges that a lot of work has gone into producing a review report.

We take this opportunity to welcome the report and note that the report addresses in a comprehensive manner ways to enhance individual capabilities and resilience and ensure sustainable development. We share the conclusion that investing in individual human rights, capabilities and dignity-across the multiple sectors of the ICPD and throughout the life-course is the foundation of sustainable development.

We would like to note that Ukraine achieved significant progress regarding the objectives of the ICPD to guarantee equality before law and non-discrimination for people. Ukraine was the second state in the Former Soviet Union that adopted Gender Law and the first state of the Eastern Europe that adopted the Law on prevention of domestic violence. Ukraine conducts gender expertise of legislation in order to move closer to European standards of gender equality.

For the last ten years the gap between the salary of woman and men was reduced from 35 % to 22%. The gap between length of life of women and men in Ukraine was one of the largest in Europe and was near 13 years. Nowadays it is 10 years. While it is still too much but the evident tendency exists.
To strengthen the educational system we develop a number of projects to meet special needs of different age and vulnerable groups of people. For example, in order to meet needs of young parents there are special services for child care while their parents are getting education in the institution. At the same time the project called University of Third Age is designed to teach older people to overcome difficulties and to get familiar with new knowledge.

Our country has launched a number of projects to reduce HIV transmission from mother to child, transmission among injectable drugs users. According to the UNAIDS indicators Ukraine is achieving the localization and managing of the spread of the HIV.

In Ukraine we develop gender education approach through all system of education sexuality education being one of its aspects.

We develop the model of individual education that joins traditions and modern challenges.

We agree with the delegations who support comprehensive gender education for youth both in and out of school as a measure to enable youth to protect themselves from unwanted pregnancy, HIV and sexually transmitted infections, to promote values of tolerance, mutual respect and non-violence in relationships, to overcome the patriarchal stereotypes as to the gender roles and to plan their lives.

According to the survey a large majority of parents support the introduction of relevant school subject.

Note with the surprise that not all states accept necessity of such education. For these reasons we draw the attention that lack of comprehensive education leads to violations of human rights and violence, intolerance and hate crimes. In this connection we thank to delegation of Sweden for the proved statement that information about anatomy and sexualities does not lead to earlier sexual debut or greater sexual frequency.

Creation of the system of Family Planning Services in Ukraine also positively affected the decrease in the number of abortions and sexually transmitted infections. The key objectives of the national policies related to abortion are aimed at improving the quality of care in such cases along with an active policy to prevent abortions.

**Dear colleagues,**

This session, as part of the twenty year review of the ICPD, is an important milestone for the reaffirmation of the full implementation of the Cairo agenda with it’s strong focus on human putting them and dignity at the heart of development

We have to further advance the agenda, including sexual and reproductive health and rights for all, for the benefit of all people and societies.

In conclusion we note with appreciation all contributions to the negotiations on the draft resolution presented by the Chairman of the Commission. We expect that the outcome would recognize all regional review outcomes and recommendations of the ICPD beyond 2014 review.

We also believe that the outcome must recognize the linkage between the review and the findings for the post-2015 Development Agenda.

Thank you.