



Chairperson, distinguished delegates.

Allow me to thank the Bureau of the Commission on Population and Development and the Secretary General for the very thorough preparations that have been made for this Session of the Commission on Population and Development, with the very relevant theme "Health, Morbidity, Mortality and Development".

[REDACTED]

Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (1984) and its Further Actions (1990) have entered the critical last five

[REDACTED]

The expansion of the country's health care services, and access thereto, since 1994 has assisted in greatly mitigating the impact that the epidemic would have had. It also contributed to significant improvements in the

longevity of South Africans who do not contract HIV during their lifetimes. This, combined with a drastic decline in fertility rates, are contributing to our

demographic transition and the consequent ageing of our population. In

recent years the occurrence of old age related diseases as underlying cause of death have increased in real terms amongst adults, although statistically

