



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA  
BY H.E. DR. JOHN W. ASHE, AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVE OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS,  
AT THE 41st SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT  
New York, 7 APRIL 2008**

Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Colleagues,

The Group of 77 and China would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, and the other members of the bureau on your election to lead this 41<sup>st</sup> session of the Commission on Population and Development. Be assured that the G77 and China

several days.

We thank the Secretariat for the preparation and presentation of the reports

some other causes of accelerated migration from rural to urban areas in developing  
countries which could affect the economic and social stability of these countries

regions. We therefore reaffirm Principle 7 of the ICPD Programme of Action, which  
states that migration is a result of a wide range of factors, including

and welcomes the commitment of the President of the General Assembly to track, annually, our progress towards achieving the MDG targets.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the G77 and China wishes to commend the work of the UN Population Division and the role it plays in follow-up of the implementation of the ~~ICPD Programme of Action~~. We also wish to acknowledge the United Nations

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