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Mr. Chairman,

Let me join other delegations in acknowledging your efforts and leadership.

The Russian Federation is committed to strengthening international cooperation in the implementation of the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

We are glad that all Member States were able to join consensus on the resolution of the 47th session of the Commission on Population and Development entitled “Assessment of the Status of Implementation of the ICPD Program of Action”.

At the same time, we regret to note that the compromise text, submitted by the Chair and adopted by the Commission, does not fully address all our concerns. In this regard we would like to emphasize the sovereign right of each country to implement the recommendations contained in the resolution consistent with national laws and development priorities with full respect for the various national, religious, ethical and cultural values.

We request to put on record our reservation with regard to the operative paragraph 10 that includes the reference to the term “evidence-based comprehensive education on human sexuality”. We are convinced that such education should be considered only with due regard to the rights, duties and responsibilities of parents or persons legally responsible for adolescents.

In the context of operative paragraph 17 we have to reiterate that the Ministerial Declaration of Asian and Pacific Population Conference as well as Addis Ababa Declaration did not enjoy consensus. The Russian Federation voted against the whole text of the Declaration adopted in Bangkok. A number of delegations made reservations. Therefore the Russian Federation reserves the right not to consider this outcome document as guidelines on population and development beyond 2014.

Finally we’d like to register our profound disappointment that a very important operative paragraph 13 on the role of family in promoting sustainable development was deleted from the final text.