

Check Against Delivery

Statement by

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Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates, Friends and Colleagues

I am pleased to introduce the Annual 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.9/2009/5). The ICPD held in Cairo in 1994 made a ground breaking attempt to estimate the resources needed to achieve the Programme of Action and in particular the goal of universal access to reproductive health care in developing countries.

At the request of the Commission on Population and Development, each year UNFPA publishes estimates 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), the Indian Institute of Health Management Research, WHO and UNAIDS, donor as well as developing countries. We are very grateful for the continued cooperation in this endeavour and we welcome the increasing involvement of institutions of developing countries as well as the harmonization of estimates between UN agencies.

The present report analyzes resource flows for the “costed population package” as described in paragraph 13.14 of the ICPD Programme of Action. It includes funding in four categories: 1. Family planning services; 2. Basic reproductive health services (covering in particular pre- and postnatal care and safe delivery); 3. Sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS prevention; 4. Basic research, data and population and development policy analysis. The ICPD explicitly recognized (in paragraphs 13.17 to 13.19) that the “costed package” did not include all interventions necessary for the achievement of universal access to reproductive health. It has since become possible to cost some of the additional elements, particularly in the context of the MDGs. I will come back to this in a minute.

The ICPD Programme of Action estimated that the cost of implementing the “population package” in developing countries and countries with economies in transition would be US \$18.5 billion annually by the year 2005 and \$ 22 billion by 2015. Approximately two thirds of the costs are expected to come from developing countries and one third from the international donor community.

Donor assistance has been increasing steadily over the past few years and reached over \$8.1 billion in 2007. A rough estimate of resources mobilized by developing countries, as a group, yields a figure of \$18.5 billion for the same year. This total figure of \$27 billion is much larger than estimated in 1994 for the year 2010.

It is however essential to look at the four components of the costed package individually. The increase in funding was essentially dedicated to HIV/AIDS and the published estimates include both prevention activities, which were included in the original costing package, as well

Madam Chair, despite the recent significant increases in funding, it is clear that the resources mobilized for population and development are not sufficient to meet the needs of the poor and in particular of women and girls in developing countries. The targets fixed in Cairo were based on experiences as of 1993 and reflected the available knowledge and costing methodologies of the time. Today, the population and health situation in

Commitment to protect the social sector and mobilize sufficient development funding is now more important than ever.

Madame Chair, the ICPD goals are essential for meeting the Millennium Development Goals. The ICPD Programme of Action promotes prevention through reproductive health including family planning – a highly cost-effective approach. In these times of austerity and crisis, taking action to protect the health and human rights of women and young people is a low-cost investment that brings very high returns. The commemoration of ICPD at 15 provides a good opportunity for the international community to take stock of progress and of gaps in implementing the ICPD Programme of Action, to identify lessons learned and best practices as well as priorities for the next five years of the Programme of Action. This is a unique opportunity for donor countries, international agencies and developing countries to strengthen political will, re-examine priorities and increase allocations for population activities. But it is also an opportunity to intensify collaboration to avoid duplication, and ensure that resources are used as effectively as possible, in line with the Accra Agenda for Action.