



Remarks

by

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General Assembly

on behalf of

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General Assembly

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the Commission on Population and Development**

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Commission Chairman Ambassador Gonzalo Koncke,
Under-Secretary-General Wu Hongbo,
UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I am delighted to join you today for this forty-seventh session of the Commission on Population and Development

This year we celebrate an important anniversary: the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Programme of Action (POA) at the historic International Conference on Population and Development

global consensus on the necessity to invest in all age groups, to protect the human rights and dignity of all individuals and to cultivate their capabilities throughout their life cycle.

- 5) Sustainable development includes investing in life long health and education, especially for young people, women and adolescent girls. Good health, education and lifelong learning lead to social and economic dividends for societies.
- 6) Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights allow women and young people to stay healthy and make choices on the number, spacing and timing of their children contributing to equitable growth and economic well

furthering the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action. Deliberations are underway in the Open Working Group to finalize recommendations on Sustainable Development Goals. With the collective wisdom and support of Member States, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, we can fully integrate existing and emerging population challenges into the post-2015 UN development agenda.

Distinguished Guests,

Much has changed since 1994, and we can expect many more changes to come. To adapt and respond to new challenges, we must be bold and aspirational in setting new development goals and targets, and resolute in seeing the goals of the ICPD Programme of Action realized. Population dynamics must be integrated into development planning processes at national, regional and international levels through global leadership, political will, and partnership with grassroots and civil society organizations.

Let me assure you that, during my Presidency, I am standing by you as you work to ensure that the post-2015 development agenda reflects your priorities.

I wish you productive deliberations and look forward to your guidance.

Thank you.
