Statement by Dr. Toshiko Abe
At the 47th Session of the Commission on Population and Development

Agenda item 3: Assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme
of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished delegates,

I would like to express my gratitude to HisExcellency, Ambassador Gonzalo Koncke of Uruguayand the other distinguished members of the Bureau for the successful organization of the 47th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD).

It is my honor to addressthis importantmeeting toreview the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action. Japanrecognizesthat the Programme of Action contributes to the achievement of human security, which is one of the most important guiding principlesof my country’sdevelopment cooperation. Wehavebeen fully committed to the implementation of the Programme of Action, and we renew our commitment to contribute to the successful implementation of the framework of ICPD Beyond 2014 and to a fruitful debate to formulate the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

The key to addressing population and development issues is the empowerment of

Japan intends to assist developing countries in enhancing measures such as increasing girls’ participation in society, providing vocational-training, and improving water-supply systems in rural areas. Japan will supportfemalefarmers, especially small farmers, and femaleentrepreneurs particularly in Africa as stated by Prime Minister Abe at the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) last year. Japan’s effortstowardwomen’s empowerment and gender equality will be conducted inclose

It is a special pleasure for me to be the first Member of Parliament from Japanto speak
at CPD. Our parliament has a substantial number of memberswho are champions of population and development issues, and our forerunners established the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) in 1974 as the world’s first non-partisan organization committed to these issues. We make every effort to tackle these issues in close cooperation with our counterparts in other countries.

In closing, allow me to emphasize howimportant it is thatthe legislatorsof all Member States, who represent the people, play a vital role in addressing population and development issues.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

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