



**Statement by the
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Suriname**

His Excellency Sunil Sitaldin

**At the General discussion of the 56th Session of the
Commission on Population and Development**

New York, 11 April 2023

Please check against delivery

Mr. Chair,

Excellencies, Distinguished delegates

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Cuba on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

At the outset I congratulate you Chair, and members of the Bureau on your appointment, and wish you the very best during your tenure.

Mr. Chair, the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development and the outcomes of its review conferences are significant to the lives of multitudes, especially vulnerable groups, who look to the United Nations and to this Commission to help improve their lives and livelihoods.

The ICPD Plan of Action emphasizes the crucial role of universal access to quality education in achieving sustainable development and realizing human rights.

Education is key to unlocking developmental potential and it provides the condition to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty!

We live in uncertain times with many interlocked crises: food insecurity, inflation, high energy costs, the climate crisis, and the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In these very uncertain times, we have to take firm and bold steps to modernize our educational systems to create better citizens, in a knowledge-based and ICT- driven society.

We must improve our education, to deliver expertise and skills that fit the needs of our citizens.

Based on our commitments arising from the UN 2030 agenda including SDG 4, it is important that beyond the traditional way of teaching – within formal education – emphasis is also placed on creating opportunities for tailor-made low-threshold and affordable training co

Suriname is currently facing several financial and economic challenges. The effects of the many crises in the world have exacerbated the macroeconomic situation and affected the socio-economic conditions in the country. Nevertheless, the government of Suriname remains committed to accelerated implementation of the ICPD plan of action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and we continue striving to fulfill that promise.

With the support of the UNFPA, the Surinamese government has worked on
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We emphasize that the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation are essential to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thank you.