



Madam Chair,

At the outset let me express warmest congratulations to you and the other members of the Bureau on

dropped from an average of 5.1 to 4.9 children in a woman's lifetime due to increased use of modern family planning methods among married women, which more than doubled from 7 to 16 percent

services providers rose from 42 to 60 percent. Delivery at health facilities doubled from 25 to 54 percent

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in their villages and are training other local women in their communities

I would therefore like to seize this opportunity, on behalf of the Government and people of Sierra Leone,

~~to reiterate our profound appreciation and sincere gratitude to all our bilateral friends and multilateral~~

development partners, especially the UN Family, for their moral support and various invaluable