

Statement by the United States at the

49th UN Commission on Population and Development

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Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

As a founding member of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

one is left behind, we must continue to focus our efforts where they will have the greatest impact – tackling issues like women’s and girls’ empowerment, investing in girls’ education, advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights, and providing resources for survivors of gender-based violence across the life course.

We are pleased that targets under SDGs 3 and 5 address the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly MDG 5 – to reduce maternal mortality and provide universal access to reproductive health – the goal

where the least progress has been made, particularly among the world’s poorest and most marginalized women. By 2050, the number of women with an unmet need for family planning will increase by 40 percent as a record number of young people enter their reproductive years. Along with opportunities for education and employment, adolescents need access to information and health care, including access to comprehensive sexuality education and youth-friendly health services, so