

Mr. President,

New Zealand remains fully committed to the International Conference on Population and Development, and the Programme of Action. During this thirtieth anniversary of the ICPD conference in Cairo, we acknowledge that universal access to sexual and reproductive health services still remains out of reach for many - we must all do more.

New Zealand is supporting efforts to increase access to these critical health services - both domestically and through our international development assistance. In 2020, we began a trial to rollout free menstrual products in schools. This trial was expanded in 2021, and is set to continue, benefitting up to 200,000 students. Cervical self-testing and investment in Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives are also helping increase access to sexual and reproductive health services for many.

We remain committed to empowering women to lead independent and self-determining lives, including the ability to decide freely whether and when to have children. New Zealand has completely legalized abortion up to 20 weeks, and there are regulated safe zones to protect the safety, wellbeing, privacy and dignity of people who are accessing or providing abortion services.

In 2023, New Zealand began implem26 cZeb 62.04 reW* nB 5 f1 0 0 1 2.02 Tm0 g

New Zealand is committed to working in partnership to fully implement the ICPD Programme of Action and to realise sustainable development for all.

Thank you.