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Closing Statement by

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Mr. Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Executive Director of UNFPA, Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, I wish to express our thanks to you, Mr. Chairman and to the Members of the Bureau for your leadership of the 45th session of the Commission. We would also like to thank the facilitator and members of the Informal Consultations for all the hard work that went into the negotiations and the drafting of the text. We appreciate the efforts of the Member States on reaching a compromise.

For the first time, the member states agreed to protect the human rights of adolescents and youth to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health; to protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms regardless of age and marital status; and to give the full attention to meeting the reproductive health service, information and education needs of young people.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Distinguished Delegates for the active participation and their continued support for the Commission's work in the area of population and development. We wish to express also our gratitude to the many Civil Society participants and in particular the young people for their contributions and active participation. Thanks also goes to the Secretariat and our colleagues at the Population Division for their contribution

achieve universal access to reproductive health