



Statement by ...

and its member States.

I have a pleasure speaking ...

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Mister Chair,

Over the past 20 years The EU and its Member States have strongly promoted human rights and

anti-discrimination, gender equality and women's empowerment and provided considerable support for the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action in areas such as education, health services, safe drinking water and sanitation, benefiting millions, women and men, girls and boys, older and younger, especially the most vulnerable, thus contributing to reduce inequalities.

Development and human rights are interrelated and we are committed to move towards a rights-based approach in EU development policy. Human rights violations are both a cause and a consequence of poverty. Persistent inequalities are faced by groups that are discriminated against on the basis of their age, gender, race, ethnicity, HIV status, marital status and sexual orientation or gender identity, including through the persistence of discriminatory laws, or the unfair and discriminatory application of laws. To eradicate poverty more effectively, development policy must take a holistic approach that addresses the human, economic, environmental, social and political dimensions of development.

We remain committed to the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and to the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the outcomes of

Mister chair,

Population dynamics reflect the world's dramatic disparities and varied trends: the emergence of age groups with critical development needs need to be recognized, in particular youth and elderly people. Population dynamics must be addressed and harnessed by rights-based and

gender-responsive policies, and investment in human capital throughout the life course, as well as by strengthening population statistics.

Migration, including internal migration, is both an opportunity and a challenge for development, with significant economic, social and environmental impacts for countries of origin and destination, as well as for migrants themselves. The EU and its Member States are pursuing efforts to maximize the positive impact of development in tackling migration issues, for instance by integrating migration into development cooperation. All states