

Mr. Chairman,

Let me join others in congratulating you and members of your bureau for the great effort in reviewing the summary report on the follow-up to the ICPD Beyond 2014. Pursuant to UN

General Assembly Resolution 65/224, Sierra Leone participated fully in the review processes at

all levels, taking cognizance of the progress to date and plans for the future with regards to the five key pillars, namely dignity, human rights, health, governance and accountability.

Mr. Chairman,

Sierra Leone remains fully committed in its national implementation of the recommendations contained in the five comprehensive pillars which are also aligned with our national development framework, the **Agenda for Prosperity**. Accordingly, we pledge our commitment

especially for the girl child and improved data collection and analysis for evidence-based

more needs to be done to increase women's representation and participation in all spheres of life.

Mr. Chairman, we do recognize the need to scale up our efforts in areas such as reducing maternal and childhood mortality which currently stand at 1,165 per 100,000 live births and 102 per 1,000 live births respectively. This is why we introduced in 2007 free healthcare