



KENYA STATEMENT

PRESENTED BY

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ON

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT;  
PROGRAMME OF ACTION (ICPD PoA);

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UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

IN

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**Chairperson**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Kenya has made great strides in achieving the 1994 ICPD goals, however as we draw to the end of those twenty years, we realize that there is still much more to be done.

**Chairperson**

Like most developing countries, Kenya has a youthful population. According to the last population census in 2009, 63 percent of Kenya's population is under the age of 25. Kenya does not see this youth bulge as a liability, but rather as an opportunity. As Kenya continues to invest in education, health, and infrastructure for economic growth, a young population that is highly skilled, educated and healthy will enable us to reap "the demographic dividends".

Another characteristic of our population dynamics is rapid urbanization. Our projections indicate that, more than half of Kenya's population will reside in urban areas by 2030. These imminent realities are one reason why Kenya supports the adoption of the ICPD Beyond 2014.



**Chairperson, \**

Since the 1994 Cairo meeting, Kenya has taken major steps to implement the ICPD Program of Action. The most notable of these is the development of the National Population Policy 2012. This policy won the Aspen Resolve Award from the Global Leaders Council for Reproductive Health and is hailed as a model for other developing countries. The policy aims at raising the national contraceptive prevalence to 70 percent by 2030, reducing the Total Fertility Rate from 4.6 in 2009 to 3 in 2030, raising life expectancy and lowering child and maternal mortalities.

Other achievements between 1979 and 2009 include; reduction of Kenya's population growth rate from a peak of 3.9 percent per annum to 2.9 percent; Total Fertility Rate from 8.1 births per woman to 4.6 and Infant Mortality Rate from 88 deaths per 1,000 live births to 52. Another notable achievement is the reduction by half of the national HIV prevalence rate from 13.5 percent in 1998 to 5.6 in 2013. In 2013, the government took further measures to improve these indicators by introducing free maternity services in all public health facilities.

**Chairperson,**

To deal with the challenges of rapid urbanization resulting from increased rural-urban migration, Kenya in 2011 developed the urban development policy and put in place a programme for upgrading informal settlements which are estimated to house about 60 percent of the urban population.

**Chairperson**

At this stage, I wish to highlight what Kenya has done to implement the ICPD program under the Constitution 2010. These include legal provisions under the Counter Trafficking in Persons Act (2010), the Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act (2011) and the Labor Migration Policy (2011). In the area of reproductive health, the Constitution guarantees the provision of reproductive health services for all Kenyans. It also guarantees gender equality; equity and empowerment of women that are part of the ICPD and MDGs. Concrete initiatives are being implemented to facilitate empowerment of youth, women and persons with disabilities to enable them lead full and productive lives.

**Chairperson,**

In conclusion, I reiterate that Kenya supports an extension of the 1994 ICPD program of action and as always, the UN and the international community can count on Kenya, as a partner in implementing ICPD beyond 2014. Together we will succeed.

Thank you for listening to me.