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**Annual Session
Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS**

Statement by

Ms. Kate Gilmore

Deputy Executive Director

United Nations Population Fund

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ECOSOC Chamber
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Mr. President,

Excellences,

Distinguished Members of the Executive Board,

Distinguished Delegates;

UN Colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour for me to introduce to this distinguished Executive Board, for your consideration, a report on the quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan for 2016-2019, prepared in line with the revised UNFPA evaluation policy (DP/FPA/2013/5), in accordance with relevant Executive Board decisions and with General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.

The development landscape in which UNFPA operates is changing fast and we have recognized the need for well designed and timely evaluation to meet lesson learning and accountability needs in the revised evaluation policy.

We are pleased with the progress made in strengthening the evaluation function as recognized by the Executive Board, UNFPA management and the Evaluation Office at the Executive Board Annual Session in June 2015.

Noting that it represents commitments made across UNFPA, the quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan for the period 2016- 2019 was developed through an open, transparent consultative process led by the Evaluation Office and Regional Offices.

Mr. President,

The plan is ambitious. It sets out an increased level of evaluation and proposes a range of new approaches fitted to the evolving context and capable of meeting the organisation's needs in terms of lesson learning and accountability. The plan is closely aligned with the UNFPA Strategic Plan and business model. It also details the level of human and financial resources needed to implement the plan, yet is mindful of resource constraints. UNFPA looks forward to continued cooperation with the Member States in the implementation of the evaluation plan.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you, Mr. President and distinguished delegates for your continued strong support and attention to the evaluation work.

Thank you for your attention.