General Assembly Sixty-ninth Session

9 October 2014

Item 13 b. ICPD: Reports of the Secretary-General

Statement by Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden Delivered by H.E. Ambassador May-Elin Stener Deputy Permanent Representative, Norway

President,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and my own country, Norway.

We are encouraged by the overwhelming support and commitment to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development expressed by the world leaders at the Special Session on the findings and recommendations of the report on the ICPD beyond 2014 review.

We believe the outcomes of the ICPD beyond 2014 review and the Special Session provide the UN system and the Member States with a solid foundation for continued efforts to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. Among the many important recommendations for future work in this area, we would especially like to underline the need for access to comprehensive sexuality education.

The solid support from world leaders at the Special Session is also a strong message about the need to include universal access to and prioritize sexual and reproductive health and rights in the post 2015 development agenda.

President,

To conclude, while we recommit to the promises made in Cairo and welcome that enhanced commitments and efforts are being made to fully implement the ICPD, we believe it is time to go beyond the Cairo Programme of Action. Every person has the right to be free from discrimination and fully enjoy all human rights, without distinction of any kind, including sexual orientation or gender identity.

Thank you.