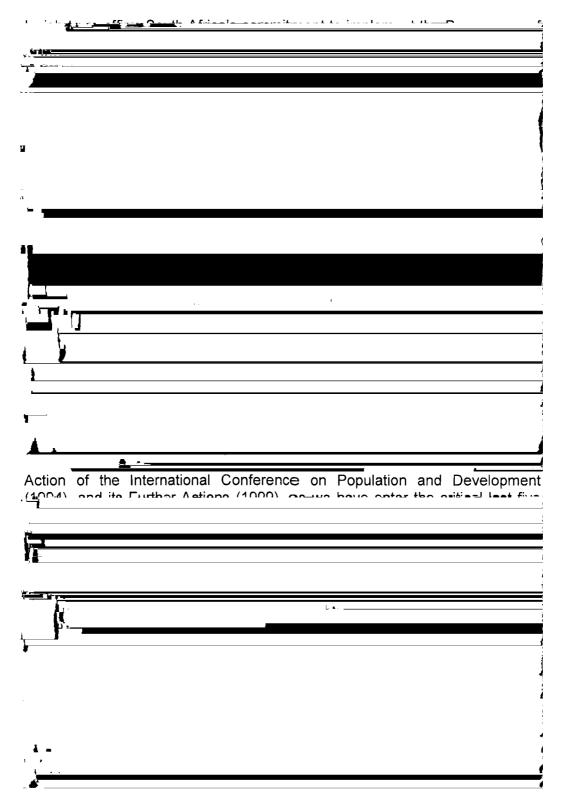


Chairperson, distinguished delegates.

Allow me to thank the Bureau of the Commission on Population and Development and the Secretary General for the very thorough preparations that have been made for this Session of the Commission on Population and Development, with the very relevant theme "Health, Morbidity, Mortality and Development".



The expansion of the country's health care services, and access thereto,	
since 1994 has assisted in greatly mitigating the impact that the epidemic	
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longevity of South Africans who do not contract HIV during their lifetimes.	-
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