Statement by Ambassador Thoms at the 48th Session of the Commission on Population and
Development on Actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the
International Conference on Population and Development (Item 3), 13 April 2015

(check against delivery)

Madam Chair,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Germany welcomes the theme of this year’s debate [“Realizing the future we want:
Integrating population issues into sustainable development, including the Post-2015 Agenda
for Sustainable Development”].

Let me first of all thank the Secretary-General as well as UNFPA for the very comprehensive
and insightful reports to the Commission.

This year marks an important milestone: In September, we will adopt the Post-2015
Development Agenda that will determine our continued efforts for achieving sustainable
development for all, realizing gender equality and ensuring a good and healthy life for
everyone.

Madam Chair,

Population dynamics is an issue of crucial importance for the world’s future. Demographic
megatrends, such as population growth, aging, urbanization and migration will have a huge
impact on successful poverty eradication and all three dimensions of sustainable
development – economic, social, and environmental.

These issues have also been discussed twenty one years ago, in 1994 at the International
Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo where Member States adopted
the forward-looking Programme of Action. The agenda of the ICPD is broad, encompassing
all issues within the range of population and development, yet it places specific importance
on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for all.

Germany reaffirms its strong support and commitment to the Programme of Action, as well
as to the Key Actions for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action. With
these two forward-looking documents, the international community committed itself to
promoting and protecting sexual and reproductive health and rights more strongly.

Cooperation and Development. The outcome of this conference was the “Berlin Call to
Action” that calls for sexual and reproductive health and rights to be adequately reflected in
the Post-2015 Development Agenda.
Madam Chair,
Finally, Germany would also like to stress the importance of the collection and analysis of
population data. Efforts to meet people’s needs and further improve their lives today and at
the same time safeguard the prospects of future generations must take into account how
and where many people will be living, what their age, their gender, their education and their
vulnerabilities and capacities will be, whether they are rich or poor.
Therefore, we support our partner countries in collecting and analyzing the demographic
data they require for the design of their health, education, and