



INTEGRATING

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Madam Chairperson,

At the outset, let me congratulate you and other members of the 48th Bureau on election and assure you of our full cooperation.

We would like to thank the Secretary General for his reports to the Commission and the distinguished keynote speakers for their insightful presentations. We also associate ourselves

Madam Chair,

India is committed to the achievement of goals set out in ICPD's Programme of Action. For India, inclusion is a special challenge and responsibility, given our vast social, regional and economic diversity. India's 12th Five year plan (2012-17) is aimed at "faster, inclusive and sustainable growth".

Reducing poverty is a key element in our inclusive growth and development strategy. The "Sarava Shikha Abhiyaan" programme has ensured primary education for all. The Innovative "Beti Bachao Beti Padoo" – "Save Daughters Educate Daughters" campaign has renewed the focus on education of girls.

With almost 400% increase in federal funding and stepped up investment in health systems.

Policy on Senior Citizens 2011 prioritizes longevity and care for older persons providing the requisite balance in the society.

India is committed to the achievement of gender equality and women empowerment and combating discrimination and gender-based violence. The Gender Equality Act of 2012 and the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act of 2013 have been enacted to ensure safety, security and well-being of women and girls.

Madam Chair,

With over a billion people in the world continuing to live in poverty, the international