

ALGERIA



الجزائر

Permanent Mission of Algeria
to the United Nations
New York

بعثة الجزائر الدائمة
لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

STATEMENT BY:

**H.E. MR. MOURAD BENMEHIDI,
AMBASSADOR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

OF ALGERIA

TO THE UNITED NATIONS

**ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP
BEFORE THE 45th SESSION OF THE COMMISSION**

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group. Allow me first to congratulate you and your bureau for being elected as Chair and Bureau members of the 45th session of the

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through initiatives during the Year of African Youth in 2008, through its implementation of non-formal technical, vocational and educational

training programmes in post-conflict situations to support the economic

organisations through the revitalization process of the Pan African

marriages, unintended pregnancies, maternal mortality, new HIV infections and discrimination.

Mr. Chairman

Young people, as much as all people, have the right to the enjoyment of the highest standard of physical and mental health, including reproductive health, but there are also compelling policy reasons for investing in young people's health and development. A supportive environment needs to be created for young people as they make the

transition to adulthood. We need to invest in young people: promote

their human rights and fundamental freedoms and gender equality; provide access to reproductive health information and health care services; encourage their education and social integration; ensure protective measures and safe spaces for the most vulnerable among them, including those in humanitarian situations; and support enabling

Mr. Chairman

The Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the key actions for its further implementation highlighted greater equality for the girl child as a necessary first step for women to realize their full potential and become equal partners in development.