



BANGLADESH

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Statement by

H.E. Dr. A K Abdul Momen, Ambassador and Permanent representative of Bangladesh  
to the United Nations at the General Debate on national experience in population  
Matters: adolescent and youth (agenda item 4) at the forty-fifth session of the (CPD)  
New York, 24 April 2012

Mr. Chair,

At the very outset, let me congratulate you on your well-deserved election as the Chair of  
the Session. I am confident that your able leadership will surely guide the Session's

deliberations to a meaningful conclusion. I would also like to thank Mr. Secretary-General

Mr. Chair:

It has been rightly pointed out in the report of the Secretary-General that adolescents and youth in the current world live in a society different from the world their parents lived in. In ~~our part of the world~~ when I grew up child marriage was pervasive. Years back, the

Government of Bangladesh promulgated laws that set the minimum age at 18 years for a girl to get married. There is no denial of the fact that when girls have access to education,

Mr. Chair:

In spite of its resource constraints, the government of Bangladesh is committed to transform its youth force into efficient human resources. However, while we have made

significant strides in our various initiatives for youth development, we have yet miles to

go. Our country-led programme must be supported by the international community specially by our development partners. I would like to urge you all to reinforce our collective commitments towards developing the youth of Bangladesh.