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Mr. President,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau on your leadership. We are confident that under your wise chairmanship we will have a very fruitful and successful session this year.

I also wish to express our gratitude to the Population Division as well as to UNFPA and its daily efforts to support Member States in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the United Nations International Conference on Population and Development.

Mr. President,

The ICPD is first and foremost a development agenda. It encompasses a broad number of different, interrelated issues that are essential to population and development. The Programme of Action also incorporates a strong human rights perspective.

The Commission's special theme for this year, focusing on adolescents and youth, could not be more fitting. While the world still struggles with the negative impacts of the world economic and financial crisis, there is a clear need to invest in social and economic

includes measures aimed at ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health services for all.

Important policies have enabled increased attention to adolescents and youth in the SUS, in areas such as: family health strategy, access to contraception methods, including



We strongly believe that our future depends on our young generation. With that goal in mind the Brazilian Government has created the National Program for Youth Integration, known as Projovem, a multisectoral programme that focuses on education, provision of