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Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

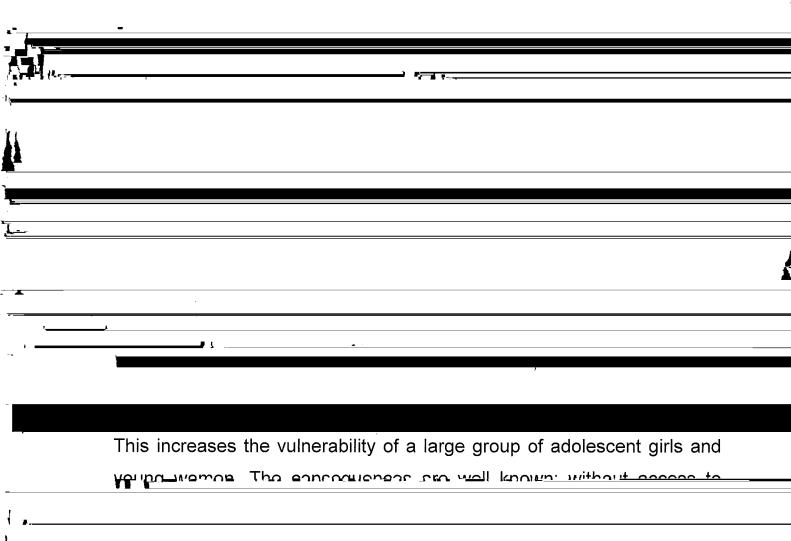
Germany welcomes the theme of "Adolescents and Youth" chosen for this year's session - the discussion on the challenges the largest population group faces is more than timely. Let me in this context thank the UN Secretary-General for his very comprehensive and insightful reports to the Commission. Let me also commend the distinguished

and thought-provoking presentations.

Germany reaffirms its strong support for and commitment to the full implementation of the Cairo Programme of Action, as well as to the Key Actions for the Further Implementation of the Cairo Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. With these two forward-looking documents, the international community committed itself to promoting and protecting reproductive rights more strongly - in particular the rights of adolescents to reproductive health

been victims of sexual violence still very often are denied access to information, services and support which could enable them to protect their own sexual and reproductive health in an environment free from coercion, discrimination and violence.

We are deeply concerned that early childbearing and limited access to the highest attainable standard of health, including sexual and reproductive health, especially in the area of emergency obstetric care, cause high levels of obstetric fistula and maternal mortality and morbidity. We are also concerned that such complications from pregnancy and childbirth and complications arising from unsafe abortions



support, promote and respect women's sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights In 1994, the International Conference on Population and Development UCDD) recognized the importance of respecting volume possible solf

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