



Permanent Mission  
of the Federal Republic of Germany



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 keynote speakers, especially our youth delegates, for their exceptional

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 education, information and care. All Member States were encouraged to

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 are among the leading causes of death among adolescent girls aged 15

This increases the vulnerability of a large group of adolescent girls and young women. The consequences are well known: without access to

support, promote and respect women's sexual and reproductive health  
and reproductive rights

In 1994, the International Conference on Population and Development  
(ICPD) recognized the importance of respecting young people's self

At the G8 summit in June 2010, Germany committed an additional 400 million euros in ODA up to 2015 for the G8 Muskoka initiative to promote

maternal and child health.

To contribute to the implementation of the G8 Muskoka Initiative Germany has launched an initiative on 'Rights-based Family Planning and Maternal Health', which – among other objectives – seeks to improve knowledge and acceptance of modern family planning methods, and to increase their availability. The Initiative will double Germany's annual funding for reproductive health and family planning within its

