DELHI DECLARATION 2014

11th International, Inter-ministerial Conference on Population and Development

For Investing in Demographic Dividend

We the delegates representing the member countries and stakeholders of the Partners in Population and Development (PPD) gathered here in New Delhi, India from 25 to 26 November 2014, for the “International Inter-ministerial Conference on Investing in Demographic Dividend” are fully committed to achieving sustainable development goals, population and health. We are articulating our commitment through our call to action: the Delhi Declaration.

Acknowledge the strategic value of Partners in Population and Development, which currently includes 26 member countries currently representing nearly 60% of the world’s population, to the attainment of national, regional and global goals on health, population and sustainable development through South-South Cooperation.

Appreciate the progress made by PPD member countries in implementing the ICPD Programme of Action over the past 20 years, and the progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Recognize that there is more to be done to address the unfinished agenda, unmet needs and emerging challenges.

Reaffirm our commitment to the goals and principles of the 1994 ICPD Programme of Action and the recommendations of the ICPD Beyond 2014 global review consultations, to the importance of ensuring universal access to reproductive health and family planning, to translate these commitments into action, and integrate these priorities within the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

Commitments in relation to the conference themes:

Emphasize the importance of demographic dividend as a critical window of opportunity for improving equitable population, health and socioeconomic outcomes, with a focus on investments and appropriate alignment of national legislation, policies and resource allocation for adolescents and youth, as well as older people.
Prioritize investments in adolescents and youth particularly in education including life skills and family education, health, employment, rights and entitlements, taking into account gender disparities, and engaging them in the planning and implementation of policies and programmes, so that they can realize their full potential.

Accord highest priority to institutionalize investments in the demographic dividend by integrating population issues into national development plans across sectors, including: health; nutrition; education and skills development; employment for inclusive economic participation and resilience. There should be a special effort to address the emerging challenges in special populations – including the girl child, migrant communities, aging populations, and people with disabilities – and to strengthen the capacities of families and communities to deal with these challenges and foster condition for a demographic dividend.

Support the United Nations’ Every Woman Every Child initiative through South-South partnerships that contribute to updating and strengthening of the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health and to promote its implementation in PPD member countries, including through sufficient, efficient and sustainable financing

Commit ourselves to develop comprehensive, multi-sectoral plans to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls and ending gender inequality and discrimination in laws (formal and customary) and in policies. Recognize the importance of sexual and reproductive, maternal, child and adolescent health services, as well as the importance of engaging men and boys, as entry points to address violence against women and girls.

Create an enabling environment, through laws, policies and entitlements, for children, adolescents, youth, women and men across the life course to realize their rights.

Strengthen South-South Cooperation to achieve these commitments:

Urge member countries to accelerate progress through South-South Cooperation strategies, including: Knowledge sharing; Capacity building; Transfer of technology; Market shaping and regulation; Policy dialogue and advocacy; Partnership and resource mobilization; Diplomacy for health and population; and Enhanced governance and mutual accountability.
Strengthen South-South Cooperation mechanisms to achieve the above commitments, including: systematically documenting and sharing experiences and best practices across countries; scholarships and exchange visits; resource mobilisation and sharing, including human resources; and promoting the priorities and perspectives of the global south in international and regional policy settings.

Call upon the UN General Assembly and the international community to recognise the importance of PPD as an inter-governmental platform for South-South cooperation with great potential and commitment to implement the ICPD beyond 2014 recommendations and take forward the post 2015 development agenda.