

**Closing Statement by  
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ASSISTANT-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**

**Commission on Population and Development  
Forty-fifth session**

**New York, 27 April 2012**

Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentleman,

During the past week, you deliberated on how to address the needs of adolescent and youth populations, and to harness their great potential for a

- Young men and women suffer and die from needless injuries and risky behaviour, when preventative measures could have been taken.
- Due to a slow economic recovery, a large number of young people are encountering great difficulty in finding decent employment, and are thus not able to fully participate in society.

Your work this week has made an important contribution in assessing how to address these issues. You have laid out actions necessary for progress, and to accelerate achievement on the goals of the ICPD Programme of Action that affect adolescents and youth.

By pursuing the objectives for adolescents and youth outlined in the ICPD Programme of Action, we will also contribute to attainment of many of the internationally agreed development goals, including those on poverty,

Your hard work and, especially, that of Mr. Wennubst in facilitating the informal consultations, have paid good dividends. You can all be proud of what has been achieved.

I wish you, your colleagues in the Bureau and all the delegates who participated in this session, a restful weekend and I wish a safe trip home to those who have come from afar.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.