

## HIGH-LEVEL LUNCH PANEL

### TAKING ICPD BEYOND 2014: PARTNERSHIPS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The panel on Partnerships and International Cooperation — organized during the lunch break on the second day of the conference — provided a unique opportunity to discuss the importance of partnerships and international cooperation to deliver human-rights-based development as established by the landmark Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in 1994.

The panel discussion was chaired by Ms. Catarina Furtado, UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador, and included H.E. Ambassador Roderick van Schreven, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the UN in Geneva; H.E. Ambassador Karen Pierce, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland to the UN in Geneva; Mr. Ivan Jukl, Director General, Economic Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic; Ms. Vicky Claeys, Regional Director, IPPF European Network; and Ms. Sarah Kennell, Youth Delegate, Action Canada for Population and Development. Mr. Bruce Campbell, Director of UNFPA's Technical Division provided closing remarks.

After opening remarks by the UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador, the government representatives stressed the importance of sexual and reproductive health and rights as a human right and as key to sustainable development. The panellists underlined the central role of partnerships at all levels for promoting the ICPD agenda beyond 2014, and particularly the strong role played by civil society and young people in advancing the ICPD Programme of Action. They stressed the need to replicate these successful global partnerships at country level. Government representatives shared good practices with respect to national and international investment in the ICPD agenda and highlighted the importance of allocating adequate resources at all levels. They also recognized the need to reaffirm the goal of 0.7 percent of GDP for Official Development Assistance.

Representing civil society, IPPF stressed the strong role of civil society in partnering with governments and UN agencies to advance the ICPD agenda. Strengthening partnerships among local, national

and international CSOs was highlighted as key to ensuring accountability and achieving the ICPD Programme of Action and the Millennium Development Goals.

The youth delegate called on governments to better address the needs of young people and to ensure access to youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services. She underlined that a strong partnership with and a better participation of youth will be important for the advancement of the ICPD agenda. She called on governments to fight against any form of discrimination and to recognize all young people as human beings and rights holders.

All panellists highlighted the synergies between the 'ICPD Beyond 2014' and the post-2015 development process and the need to ensure that issues of population dynamics and sexual and reproductive health and rights are strongly reflected in the post-2015 development framework.

The panellists stimulated a dynamic discussion among the audience, including representatives from UNECE Member States, civil society and youth organizations, on expanding partnerships and increasing investment for the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action beyond 2014 and the commitment to sexual and reproductive health and rights in the post-2015 agenda.

The Director of UNFPA's Technical Division summarized the panel discussion, highlighting the key role of strong partnerships and international cooperation to move the ICPD agenda forward beyond 2014.