Thank you Mr. Chairman,

My country has made tremendous progress under the agenda items being discussed this morning, particularly in women’s education, health and sanitation. A more detailed description of such achievements can be looked up in the national report we provided to the Secretariat prior to the commencement of this Conference, and is, of course, available on demand.

Just to name a few:

The rate for female university students has increased by 14 times over last three decades.

In academic year of 2014-2015, for instance, more than 57 percent of the PhD candidates were female. Female university students make up over half of the total population of university students. A President’s decree to all ministers requests that 30 percent of all high level and managerial posts be allocated to women by 2020. There are also about 700 assistant judges, advisors and deputy prosecutor in courts and are authorized to issue judicial verdicts.

The current national development plan emphasizes on gender mainstreaming in all policies and plans of executive bodies by applying the ‘gender justice’ approach. One basic change has been the promotion of the level of women’s national machinery to the Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs, which led to the strengthening of the institutional mechanism for gender mainstreaming.

During the period, 17 parliamentary seats taken by women and six women deputy ministers and 46 director generals were appointed.

We are proud of these achievements, and we will strive to further develop them.

Nevertheless, I am taking the floor to make a general comment which relates to this sub-agenda item as well as other agenda items taken at this Conference. As I pointed out in my statement yesterday, one of the salient features of the ICPD is the recognition it renders to the sovereign right of counties to observe their values and particularities, based on which ICPD members have up to now, arrived at certain points when it comes to use of terms to describe population development concepts. My delegation believes that there are internationally accepted terms upon which there is a consensus and can be referred to in official documents. Yet, there are non-agreed terms used in the Secretariat reports and in the oral discussions here which one has to be careful not to be incorporated into the official text in order to avoid complications in official forum.

May I remind that in the past there have been numerous lengthy discussions on whether or not we should use the term ‘right’ as a qualifier for some aspects or should there be a reference to the age-appropriateness when referring to the sexual education. One can identify few examples of references to some non-agreed terms in the Secretariat documents under the agenda items of this conference. We expect such terms do not appear in the official paper attributed to this Conference. i.e., Chair’s summary.