Statement of the Dr. Juan Antonio Perez III, Executive Director of the Commission on Population of the Philippines during the Midterm Review of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development In Bangkok, Thailand, 26-28 November 2018

(For Agenda Item No. 4)

Mister Chairperson,

The Philippines strongly supports the development of a consensus indicator framework for monitoring the progress towards the implementation of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development (APMDPD). We commend ESCAP with UNFPA in spearheading the tedious process of developing such very useful framework.

The government of the Philippines continues to spouse evidence-based actions towards the improvement of sexual and reproductive health among Filipinos as well as the integration of population dynamics in development initiatives in the country. As such, we are pleased to share that the country has already established and adopted its indicator system for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This indicator systems include critical ICPD results indicators.

We also continue to monitor the implementation of our Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law through a monitoring and evaluation system established by national and regional implementation teams. The data gathered from these monitoring and review processes are used in assessing the status of the country’s commitment to the ICPD and to the APMDPD.

We continue to improve our capacity to generate information and data in assessing the planning and implementation of the ICPD in the country. Works are being done towards enhancing the various sources of information in tracking the country’s commitment to the ICPD and the SDGs through our national surveys, censuses, and administrative databases. We’ve just recently conducted our national demographic and health surveys which is now effectively informing population and reproductive health planning and policy development exercises. Likewise, we are in the processing of analyzing the data from our first ever comprehensive National Migration Survey. Inter-agency mechanisms in reviewing are very much active in monitoring and reviewing the country’s performance in keeping with our commitments in the ICPD and APMDPD.
Mister Chairperson,

The Philippines will continue to support regional initiatives towards the promotion of evidence-based implementation of the ICPD and the APMDPD. We further call upon our partner countries in the Asia and the Pacific to collectively promote the consensus indicator system to guide our common resolve to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights in the region. A more regular and frequent collective review of the status of the ICPD and APMDPD is likewise recommended.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson.