

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2209/09  
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to the Council

Subject: EC and the 42nd Session of the UN Commission on Population and Development

The theme of the 42nd Session of the UN Commission on Population and Development is the contribution of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs. In Cairo (1994), the international community agreed to allocate an annual sum of USD 18.5 billion by 2005, USD 20.5 billion by 2010 and USD 21.7 billion by 2015 for population and reproductive health programmes in developing countries.

Today, more than 201 million women still lack access to a full range of family planning. Over half a million women die every year from treatable complications of pregnancy and delivery. Population growth in developing countries is still contributing, along with high resource consumption by affluent populations, to increasing stress on the global environment. It is obvious that much more needs to be done in the next five years in order to meet all of the ICPD goals.

While both donors and developing countries achieved their 2005 targets as set out in the ICPD, there remain serious gaps in population funding which make it difficult for countries to provide the information, services and commodities needed to meet the ICPD goals by 2015. Another important challenge is the creation and nurturing of an enabling environment in the domestic context, which can be realized by adopting and improving relevant laws, policies and programmes on population and development.

What were the main priorities of the Council for this year's CPD? Were efforts made to coordinate a common approach/statement on this year's CPD with EU Member States? Does the Council plan to involve/brief/report back to the European Parliament on the CPD?