



Statement by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on the occasion of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund Annual Session 2010

Mr. President,

On behalf of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, I have the honour to address this Annual Session of the Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA about our cooperation with the UNV programme.

The cooperation between OHCHR and the UNV programme takes place on three levels. First, like many other United Nations entities, OHCHR benefits from the contributions of UNV volunteers who serve in our field presences. UNV volunteers provide invaluable assistance to the OHCHR mandate in the field, whether it be capacity-building, technical assistance or human rights monitoring.

Secondly, OHCHR and the UNV programme work in partnership to promote and protect human rights. We are increasing our programmatic collaboration through the integration of human rights and volunteerism in our respective work plans. Our organizations also continue efforts to better frame and reinforce our cooperation at headquarters level and in the field.

Finally, OHCHR has participated in the preparations for the International Year of Volunteers+10 from the start and has supported the resulting vision statement and global call for action. As the promotion and protection of human rights often depends on the work of volunteers, OHCHR will continue to strengthen its cooperation with the UNV programme to carry out the message of volunteering for peace, development and human rights.

Mr. President, in conclusion, OHCHR would like to express its appreciation for the work done by the UNV programme and would like to thank you for having given OHCHR the opportunity to contribute to today's session.