

There is no need to include this. Things in the statement like “Madame Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates” do not need to go into the summary.

### Faulty summary 1

**This summary is too long. The précis-writer should have reduced the length by expressing the main points more succinctly and omitting minor details. In the exam, a word limit for the summary will be provided. Be sure to keep your summary within the specified range.**

The speaker, **addressing the Chair and the participants**, said that twenty years on from the World Summit for Social Development and the adoption of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action, poverty eradication and social exclusion remained major challenges.

Noting that a number of landmark agreements had been reached over the past year, the speaker expressed the hope that **this** would create momentum towards achieving the objectives of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action. Eradicating poverty by empowering people had long been a priority of the speaker’s Government. To that end, its development model emphasized education, skills development, elimination of discrimination and extremism, inclusion, participation and employment generation.

As a result of the country’s strong growth rate of 7 per cent, the percentage of the population living below the poverty line had declined to **12.9 per cent, from 56.7 per cent in 1991**. Life expectancy had increased to 70.4 years, while the fertility rate had fallen to 2.3, despite the fact that the country had one of the highest population densities in the world. **Significant progress had also been made in increasing access to education: the net enrolment ratio in primary school was 97.7 per cent and gender parity in primary and secondary enrolment had been achieved**. Meanwhile, the proportion of the population with access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation was 98 per cent and 56 per cent respectively. **In spite of resource constraints and social, economic and environmental challenges, the country was committed to ensuring that children with disabilities could receive an education. In addition to formal learning, skills development programmes and vocational training were provided, to help persons with disabilities to secure employment.**

**The speaker underscored** the crucial role of international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in achieving the internationally agreed development goals and promoting the Programme of Action of the Copenhagen Summit. A stronger, more coherent and more integrated approach to development was also needed, including with regard to commitments on official development assistance and under the global partnership for development.

The speaker was pleased to note that since the proclamation of the International Year of the Family in 1994, the international community **continued** to undertake a range of activities and commitments in support of its objectives. The twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014 had been a useful opportunity to strengthen national family-centred policies and programmes. The speaker also stressed the importance of effective enforcement of labour laws with regard to migrant workers, inter alia, those related to their remuneration, their working conditions, conditions of health, safety at work and right to freedom of association.

Concluding, the speaker urged all stakeholders to renew their commitments to further advance social development by intensifying their efforts to implement the Copenhagen Declaration and **Program** of Action within the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In addition, the role of the Commission for Social Development should be strengthened as a potential platform for following up the social dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals.

(505 words)

Although candidates are not expected to be familiar with United Nations editorial practice, which is to write “programme” instead of “program”, it is important to be consistent. In the first paragraph, this was spelled “Programme of Action”, so that spelling should be used throughout.

You can move things around if you think it would improve the summary. This sentence about education could have been moved down so that it is with the information about education for children with disabilities.

Be careful to use reported speech throughout your summary. This should be “the international community had continued”.

In reported speech, “this” becomes “that”.

Detailed statistics should be summarized briefly. The aim is to convey to the reader the key trends.

There is no need to keep repeating “the speaker said that”, “the speaker underscored that”, etc.