

**Commission on Population and Development**  
**Fifty-sixth session**  
**10-14 April 2023**  
***Population, education and sustainable development***

Oral Statement submitted by the Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW).

Thank you, Chair. I am Sai Jyothirmai Racherla from the Asian Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW). We welcome the Commission on Population and Development,

It has been three years since the COVID-19 pandemic. While the pandemic has affected us all in different ways, it is clear that the most vulnerable have been hit the most with deeper and longer lasting impact including in education.

According to UNESCO estimates, about 12 million children from pre-primary to university level

With this we urge Member States to:

Urgently transform education and its systems to become resilient and prepared for future shocks, address inequalities and the learning crisis, and contribute to peaceful, inclusive, equitable and sustainable futures for humanity and the planet.

Eliminate barriers to accessing education and learning for persons with disabilities, ethnic and linguistic minorities, girls, and children living in extreme poverty and/or in remote locations and those from refugee and migrant families.

Re-design curricula to provide learners with foundational, digital, 21st century and socioemotional competencies, and the delivery of education for sustainable development, global citizenship and comprehensive sexuality education . As agreed in the Mid-Term Review of the 6th Asian and Pacific Population Conference in 2018, expand investments in CSE.

Promote rights-based laws and regulate data privacy to ensure digital security for young people of all ages (APFSD Youth Call to Action 2022).