

My name is _____ and I am speaking on behalf of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, a leading advocate and service provider of sexual and reproductive health and rights. IPPF welcomes the 55th session of the CPD's special theme of "Population and sustainable development, in particular sustained and inclusive economic growth" and the opportunity to address the Commission.

This year's theme presents an opportunity to integrate population in development strategies and to address the interlinkages between population, sustained and inclusive economic growth and poverty. Gender equality, human rights and in particular SRHR has profound implications for social development, as well as sustained and inclusive economic growth. At individual, household, societal and macro levels, access to and fulfillment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular SRHR, enables all people, particularly women and girls, to participate in social life, to access education and to participate in a sustainable and equal access to the economy.

Education is widely recognised as a powerful tool to empower women and girls within the family and society and is considered a key pathway to employment. Educated women are more likely to marry later, use family planning and access healthcare and understand their rights. In this regard, comprehensive sexuality education is a promising strategy by which to shift norms and attitudes and empower young people to negotiate safe consensual relationships. We regret that this has not been included in the outcome resolution this year, we hope to see it adequately reflected in next year's theme which will focus on population, education and sustainable development.

On the other hand, women and young women face added vulnerabilities and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination depending on where they work in the economy which can lead to a gendered gap in productivity and earnings. Although the percentage of women working in formal employment worldwide has increased over the past half century, women around the globe

In addition to these, humanitarian crises as well as the impacts of the pandemic continue to affect many of the world's poorest countries, leaving the most marginalized communities behind. Humanitarian, health and climate crises have devastating impacts on the most vulnerable and marginalized groups, while exacerbating inequalities, both within and between countries. In this regard, universal social protection services including SRH services must be an integral part of short and long-term government planning and recovery processes. SRH is critical for advancing strengthening individuals' and communities' resilience and capacity to adapt to environmental ills including the climate crisis.

In line with the above points, IPPF recommends governments to:

- x Ensure implementation of Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) programmes, as well as enforce legislation that addresses and eliminates sex discrimination (doc) - 13 (2) T (1) 3 (6) 5 A