

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Forty-fifth session, 23-27 April 2012

**Explanation of the position of Costa Rica
in closing 45th session CPD**

Thank you Mr. Chairman:

Very briefly my Delegation wants to explain its position. Costa Rica is a country with a long and well established tradition of respect to human rights and of promoting tolerance among different groups and therefore is happy to join the consensus for the adoption of this document.

In conformity with the American Convention on Human Rights and our national legislation, Costa Rica understands that sexual and reproductive rights refers to the ability of women and men to attain and keep sexual and reproductive health in the framework of equality and mutual respect. This also means, in accordance to Costa Rica's current national legal framework, that physical autonomy involves the exercise of power and control over one's own body, sexuality and fertility and the right to live free from sexual, physical and psychological violence.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.