



Ms. Gro Harlem Brundtland and Ms. Erna Solberg, started their carriers in civil society, before joining politics. Ms. Brundtland was an activist in the organisation where I work.

This year's special theme: 'Changing population age structures and sustainable development' concerns all UN member states in different ways and to a varying degree. Norway is also affected by what we could perhaps call the ageing syndrome, which characterises most developed countries.

However, because of a relatively high fertility and immigration, the situation so far is less dramatic in our country than in some other high-income countries. Various policy measures

marked an exception because of the refugee crisis in the Middle East. Recently, work-related migration has decreased markedly and emigration has increased.

Madam Chair, there has never been more young people in the world than now. This is a great opportunity, which at the same time demands specific attention and targeted policies.

Women's and youth's rights and non-discrimination in economic, social and political life is a fundamental part of ensuring a healthy population and sustainable development.

The education needs to be norm critical, to raise awareness of the privileges, power imbalances and exclusion that exist. Comprehensive sexuality education not only teaches about the biological aspects of sexuality but also about emotions, respect and integrity and other issues as part of relationships that contributes to creating a safe and inclusive learning

environment, and is used as an approach to anti-bullying work.

This education addresses the differences in sexual orientations and gender identities that exists, including among the pupils and students. However we still see challenges among

youth and children. Therefore, in Norway's new sexual health strategy, the role of comprehensive sexuality education is further strengthened and it is anticipated developing programmes for inclusions of programmes in kindergartens in the near future.

This is also an example of how expertise and knowledge constitutes a resource within

The best way to prevent unwanted pregnancies is by ensuring easy access to modern and effective contraceptives, and access to information for young people. Youth friendly-services, an extension of contraceptive services to include midwives, nurses and easy access to

contraceptives for youth between 16-20 years mostly free of charge, have further increased access and uptake in Norway.

Currently there is a debate on whether young people aged 16-20 should have access to