

PERMANENT MISSION OF TUNISIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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البعثة الدائمة للجمهورية التونسية
لدى منظمة الأمم المتحدة
بنيويورك

Closing Statement of

**Mr. Ramzi Louati,
Counsellor**

**Permanent Mission of
The Republic of Tunisia to the United Nations
50th Session of the Commission on Population
and Development**

(New York, 07 April 2016)

**Madam Chair,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Tunisia takes the floor on its national capacity.

On behalf of my country, I would like to thank you, Madam Chair, the members of the bureau and the two co-facilitators for your commendable and tireless efforts in preparing the final proposal on the draft resolution which Tunisia considers positive and constructive in many aspects.

We deeply regret that the text was not adopted.

Tunisia strongly believes that issues like sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, comprehensive sexual education, gender equality and women's rights are crucial to realize any human development.

Madam Chair,

The road to achieve development is long and hard but it begins by changing minds, recognizing human rights and freedoms and ensuring the well-being of all individuals, mainly women, girls, adolescent and youth.

Tunisia has established family planning and contraception since 1966. Abortion has been legal since 1973 and we are already engaged in sexual education.

It is not now that Tunisia will question these rights or policies here at the United Nations.

We hope that the Commission will succeed in the future to reach consensus on these important issues.

Again, thank you, Madam Chair, for all your efforts.

I thank you.