

YOUTH STATEMENT

ON BEHALF OF THE CPD49 YOUTH CAUCUS

Dear representatives, esteemed delegates,

My name is Venoranda Kuboka and I come from Kenya. I am 29 years young and I would like to present this statement to you on behalf of 65 (youth) organizations from across the globe, and many more young people in the countries where we come from.

We gladly recognize the progress that has been made for many children and young people across the globe. This progress was and continues to be facilitated by the implementation, follow-up and review of the ICPD Programme of Action. We hope it will be continued both by the ICPD Programme of Action, its review conferences and the SDGs. Today we have the opportunity to accelerate the progress of the ICPD, and to make it count for adolescents and youth as well. Young people and adolescents have been left behind, especially those aged 10-14.

Due to major data gaps on adolescents' and young people's realities, and their sexual and reproductive health and rights in particular, we lack the information necessary to create the programs and policies that meet the needs of all adolescents and youth.

In the cases where we are able to provide data, we are often at risk of discrimination and prosecution. We need to be able to tell about our realities without fear, be it fear for our safety, life or losing opportunities like education or jobs. We therefore emphasize the need for data to be confidentially collected and analyzed. It is also important for data collected to take into account the diverse realities and needs we have as young people. We therefore need gender-sensitive, and disaggregated data, of two year intervals up until the age of 19, and after that in 5 year age bands across the life course.

However, data is not all we are discussing this year. The ICPD Programme of Action and its review conferences are about placing people, and their needs and rights, at the center of development, and that is what we must continue to do. Vital to fulfilling young people's needs, rights, and potential, are access to youth-friendly health services and comprehensive sexuality education. There must be no doubt that sexual and reproductive health information, education, and services are crucial and must be comprehensive and universal for every person, especially adolescents and youth.

With our sexual and reproductive health and rights fulfilled, young people all around the world can live happy and pleasurable lives where they are able to meaningfully participate. We are the present and the future of our communities, our nations, and this world and play the most vital role in contributing to all dimensions of development for all of us. We cheer for all of you who are here to work hard this week to make this world and this future we want a reality!

Endorsed by:

Advocates for Youth
Africa Alive!
African Youth Advocacy Network Kenya
Agrupación Ciudadana por la Despenalización del Aborto EL Salvador
Amigos de Santa Cruz ONG
Asociación Fuerza Innovadora Juvenil FIJ
Asociación Gojoven Guatemala
Asociación TAN UX'IL - Guatemala
ASTRA Youth
ATHENA Network
AwazCDS – Pakistan
Blessing Welfare Association (BWA) Pakistan
Campana 28 de Septiembre-Guatemala
Center for Reproductive Rights
Centro de Derechos de Mujeres CDM- Honduras
CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality
Consejo Juvenil dance4life Perú
Coordinadora 28 de Mayo, Guatemala
dance4life
DSW - Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevoelkerung
Elige Red de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos, A. C.
Equilibres & Populations
Espolea
Family Planning Association of Moldova (Societatea de Planificare a Familiei din Moldova/SPFM)
Family Planning NSW
Family Planning Welfare NT
FEDERACIÓN PLANIFICACIÓN FAMILIAR ESTATAL
Fortress of Hope Africa
Grupo Impulsor Cairo + 20 Guatemala
Grupo Multidisciplinario para la defensa de los derechos sexuales y reproductivos
Grupo Impulsor Cairo + 20
Haus of Kameleon
HACEP-Ghana
IFMSA - International Federation of Medical Students' Associations
International Planned Parenthood Federation
International Women's Health Coalition
Ipas
IPPF ESEAOR YSNAP
Juventudes
Movimiento por una Cultura Laica en El Salvador
Network for Adolescent and Youth of Africa
Organización de Mujeres Tierra Viva
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Population Institute
PROMSEX
Rahnuma FPAP
REDefine Mexico
REPEM- Guatemala
Red de jóvenes para la incidenciapolítica INCIDEJOVEN (Guatemala)
Red de jóvenes por los derechos sexuales y reproductivos RedLAC
Republika Libre-Dominican Republic
Rise up
Simavi
The Grassrooted Trust
The HIV Young Leaders Fund
The Initiative for Improved Male Health, Nigeria
The Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU)
Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights
Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR)
Women's Rights Center Suriname
YouAct
Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka
Youth Champions Advocacy Network Nepal (Youth CANN)
Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights
Y-PEER