

Mister Chairman,

The Brazilian Government would like to express its gratitude to the delegation of Burkina Faso, as President of the 54th session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD), for its commitment to the work in this session. We would also like to thank the cofacilitators of the process, Mr. Nizar Kaddouh, from Lebanon, and Ms. Cristina Popescu, from Romania.

Considering the importance that Brazil attaches to the themes discussed in the current CPD session, our delegation has actively engaged in the negotiations, having participated in all meetings aimed at discussing the text, as well as informal discussions on some of the contentious paragraphs. We have agreed on much, but some aspects in the text still present difficulties and require additional clarification and further reflection.

Whilst Brazil has decided to join the consensus in the current CPD session, we believe that the final document still includes controversial terminology, lacking international consensus. Once more, we have seen questions which are only tangentially related to the main theme of the resolution included in the draft to meet special interest groups. In this regard, Brazil reiterates its position that references to “sexual and reproductive health and rights”

should not be interpreted as promoting or supporting abortion as a method of family planning.

Brazil believes that each country has the prerogative to address issues related to sexual and reproductive health, according to their national priorities, while respecting the highest international human rights standards. Our country implements comprehensive sexual health and reproductive health policies based on national legislation, which clearly sets out the conditions and requirements for the provision of women's health services.

In addressing the abovementioned concern, Brazil stresses the importance of the inclusion of OP 2, which highlights the countries' sovereign right to implement the resolution's recommendations according to their own laws and values, always observing the universally recognized international human rights.

With these comments, and due to the importance our country gives to the subject, Brazil joins the consensus of the current draft of the resolution on "Population, food security, nutrition and sustainable development".