

## **Norway's statement CPD 53**

Norway deeply regrets that the Commission was unable to reach a consensus on this year's declaration on population, food security, nutrition, sustainable development and COVID-19

Norway is a staunch supporter of the Programme of Action from the International Conference on Population and Development and the outcomes of its review conferences. We therefore place great importance on the role of the Commission on Population and Development to follow-up, review and assess its implementation.

Norway is worried about the impact of COVID-19 on women and girls. As stated in our joint statement with 58 other countries, to ensure access to sexual and reproductive health during the crisis is vital. It improves and save lives. The joint statement was issued on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and signed by the Norwegian Minister of International Development, Mr. Dag-Inge Ulstein.

Ultimately, this is about the health, opportunities and lives of people. It is about fulfilling the rights of girls and women, youth and adults, to decide over their own bodies and future. Despite the great progress we have seen since 1994, far too many are still being left behind. Norway remains committed to implement the ICPD Programme of Action, achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and respect, protect and fulfil Human Rights for all.