



## Statement by Saint Lucia

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DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

On the Adoption  
Of the Resolution

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
FORTY-FOURTH SESSION  
APRIL 15, 2011

Mr. Chairman,

There are many points in this document that Saint Lucia remains unhappy with and accepted in the spirit of flexibility only within the context of the paragraphs reaffirming the sovereignty of the state, the respect for traditions, norms, cultural backgrounds, religious and ethical values etc. We recognize this as an overarching fundamental principle in the implementation of this resolution.

We affirm our understanding that “reproductive rights” or “reproductive health services” do not refer to abortion and we do not accept the term “unsafe abortion”.

We affirm the a priori rights of parents in the education of their children as provided for in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and we also regard this right as non-negotiable

Saint Lucia interprets all elements of this document which relate to minors, adolescents, and youth in reference to the rights and duties of parents. To succeed in developing our countries, we must ensure that parents are supported and enabled to raise their children according to their values, traditions, and norms.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Facilitator, thank you for your work during these negotiations.

I thank you.