

**Statement of the Mission of Norway to the United Nations
after the adoption of the resolution on
“New trends in migration: demographic aspects”**

**46th session of the Commission on Population and Development
of the United Nations Economic and Social Council**

New York, 26 April 2013

Chair,

Norway, like most of our colleagues in this room, is a great supporter of ICPD programme of action. This was a ground breaking document, and still is.

Human rights and women's rights are at the centre of the ICPD Programme of Action.

As we now are approaching the 20th anniversary of ICPD, it is therefore with concern that we are experiencing that women and girls sexual and reproductive rights are under pressure.

We knew that this year's commission could mean difficult negotiations. We must respect our laws on migration. This can however, never be at the expense of people's human rights.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights are important for migrant women and girls all over the planet. Migrants often experience barriers and discrimination in accessing sexual and reproductive health and rights.

For Norway, promoting and protecting sexual and reproductive health and rights is essential, it is a question of ending unnecessary suffering. Being able to choose if, with whom and when to have children is essential for every human being. Being able to avoid health problems and even death due to pregnancies has enormous implications for women's empowerment. But they are also vital factors for sustainable development, eradication of poverty and economic growth.

We are therefore pleased that we have reached an agreement in this year's CPD.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.