

THE 52ND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

“Review and appraisal of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”

1-5 April 2019, United Nations Headquarter in New York

Oral Statement delivered by Ryan Febrianto from Indonesia, on behalf of the Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights (YCSRR)

Distinguished delegates,

It is an honor to make the statement on behalf of the Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights, a coalition of youth activists representing 19 countries worldwide, primarily from lower and middle income countries.

The empowerment of youth is not only essential for our own health, development, and wellbeing, but also for our families, communities, and ultimately, for sustainable development. Twenty-five years ago, the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action was adopted to recognize adolescents and youth as rights holders in regards to their sexual and reproductive health. Significant progress had been made since then, however, the achievements have been inequitable among and within countries, and many countries are still failing to tackle neglected issues surrounding our sexuality.

We call for the Commission’s strengthened commitments to ensure the full realization of our rights. To do that, we urge the Commission to address key issues that require further attention and action:

First, The governments must address significant barriers that impede the provision of sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents and youth at the national level, such as restrictions based on marital status or third-party consent, lack of adolescent and youth-friendly facilities, inadequate health worker skills, taboos surrounding adolescent sexuality, and the exclusion of adolescents and youth based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, expression, sex characteristics, and HIV or other status.





youth coalition

working internationally for sexual
and reproductive rights

Second, The governments must uphold their commitments to ensure the provision of comprehensive sexuality education for all adolescents and youth both in-school and out-of-school settings.

Third, The governments must ensure the right to access legal, safe, affordable, and comprehensive abortion services including post abortion services. This right extends to all adolescents and youth, as they face more barriers in accessing these services.

Fourth, The Governments must develop comprehensive and gender-sensitive policies, programs, and services to prevent and respond to sexual and gender based violence faced by adolescents and youth especially in humanitarian settings.

Fifth, The Governments must ensure the meaningful participation of diverse and younger youth, particularly adolescents in all stages of policy making processes targeting them.

In conclusion, as we celebrate the progress since the adoption of ICPD Programme of Action, we are asking the world leaders to strengthen your political will, leadership, and to devote sufficient resources and accountability mechanism, in order to address these ongoing gaps, especially in the often-adverse political climate that impede the acceleration of the ICPD Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda.

Thank you.

About the Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights (YCSRR):

Youth Coalition is an international organization of young people (ages 18-29 years) committed to promoting adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive rights at the national, regional and international levels. We are students, researchers, lawyers, health care professionals, educators, development workers, and most importantly, we are all dedicated activists. We have YCSRR members located in North America, Latin America, Western and Eastern Europe, Western and Eastern Africa, Central and Eastern Asia, the Pacific, and South and Southeast Asia

