ISRRC Oral Statement ʹ CPD 48
My name is Saida Ali and I work with the International Women’s Health Coalition, an organization with
special consultative status with ECOSOC. I am speaking on behalf of the International Sexual and
Reproductive Rights Caucus.
Sustainable development will only occur when all individuals fully realize their human rights, including
sexual rights. Governments agreed more than 20 years ago that human rights include the right to have
control over and decide freely on all matters related to one’s sexuality, free from coercion,
discrimination, and violence.
Attempts by others to control the sexuality of girls and women violate their human rights on a daily
basis. These violations include sexual and gender-based violence, stigma and discrimination, limitations
on mobility, and denial of meaningful participation in public life, among others. Furthermore, lesbians,
gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people, sex workers, and people living with HIV and AIDS face
these and other profound violations of their human rights, simply because they are seen to transgress
prevailing sexual, gender, and other norms. For
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