

# Commission on Population and Development Forty-ninth Session

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## General debate on national experience in population matters: Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda

Statement by H.E. Ms. May-Elin Stener  
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Chair,

The reports before us demonstrate how relevant the Program of Action from the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the outcome documents of its review conferences are for the achievement of the overarching objective of our new agenda: poverty eradication through sustainable development, with human rights and gender equality at its core.

Girls and women are our best agents of change. If they are to play their full role, they must have access to quality education at all levels and to sexual and reproductive health services, modern methods of contraception, safe abortion and comprehensive sexuality education. Their right to decide on matters related to their sexuality free of coercion, discrimination and violence must be guaranteed.

(Check against delivery)



Two: UNAIDS' strategy for the coming 5 years relies on comprehensive sexuality education as an important component in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Three: UNFPA's strategy for 2014-2017 includes support to countries on comprehensive sexuality education. As a result, 63 have implemented comprehensive sexuality education in their curricula.

Another issue is sexual and