

Honourable chair, esteemed delegates,

about what issues are important. The questions I heard about this have offered me insight in what topics move youth.

“Why is sexuality shredded in silence? Why do people die of HIV? Why is there sexual violence?”

Many young people will never receive accurate information about sexuality. HIV-related deaths among adolescents are on the rise, in a time when HIV -mortality among other groups is declining. And worldwide, no country being exempt, one in three women will experience physical or sexual violence during her life.

These issues are urgent, and it is time to commit to resolving them. I believe that my peers and I can live to see the day that HIV, unwanted pregnancy and violence against women and girls have become history, if we take action now. I believe that we can boost development, if we connect ICPD and Post-2015, if we commit to comprehensive sexuality education and if we fight for the right of every human being to decide freely over their own body. And I believe that if we as young people are heard in decision making, we can realize the future we want.

Thank you.