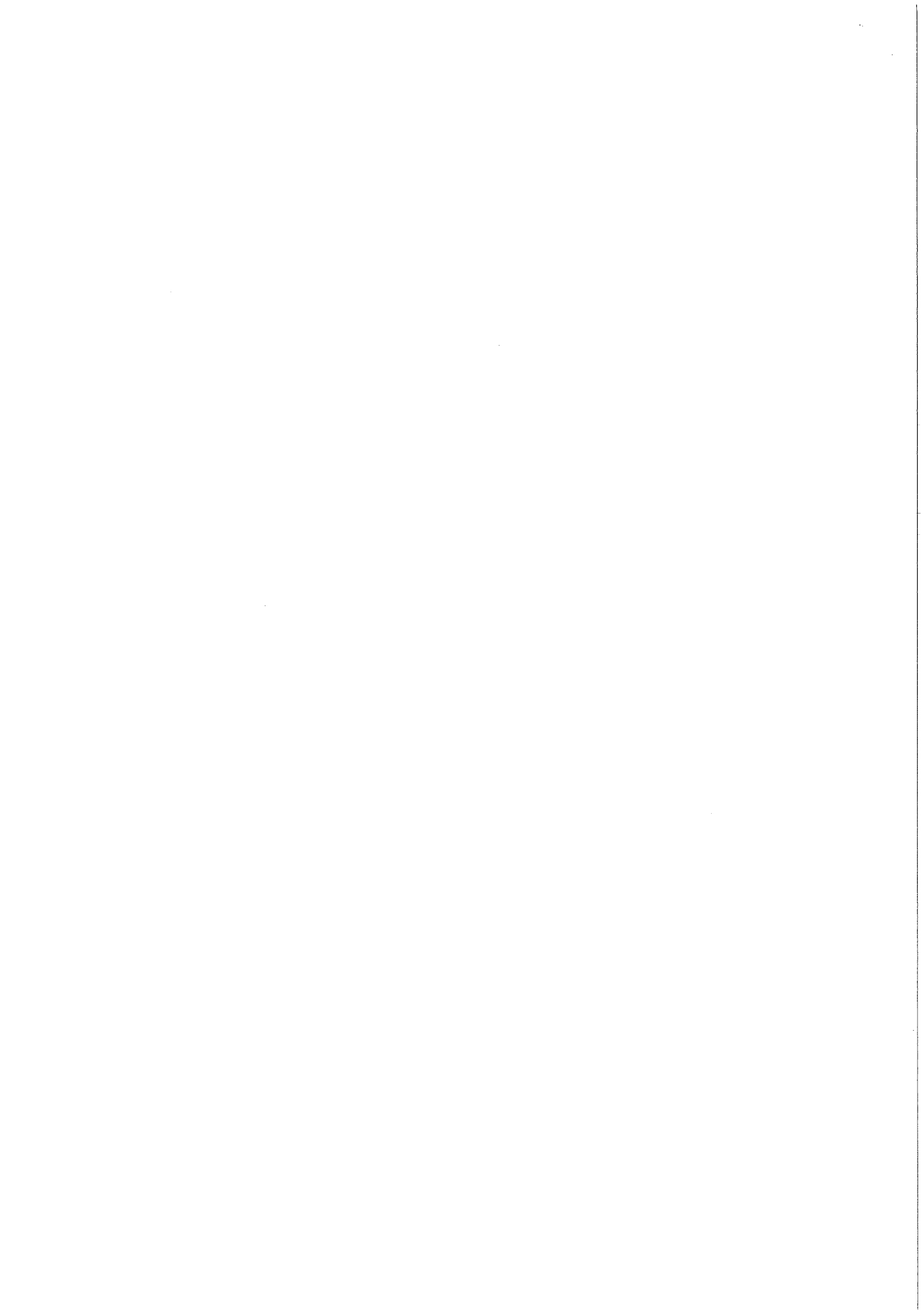


PERMANENT MISSION OF DENMARK

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Madame Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I welcome this opportunity to address the Commission on the Status of Women at its 57th

Several forms of violence against women violate sexual and reproductive health and rights, including policy, practice or action that intervenes in or inhibits girls' and women's informed, autonomous decision-making about their own bodies, sexuality, pregnancy and childbearing.

The relationships between violence against women and women's sexual and reproductive health and rights are significant for obtaining gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. I therefore expect the agreed conclusions from this CSW-session to emphasize the need for strengthened sexual and reproductive rights for all.

Violence against women and girls is a man-made plague. Therefore, it is also a plague that can be eradicated by changing men's attitude and behaviour. I believe that the key word is implementation. The international community already has a large number of important conventions and treaties in place, for instance the Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women. Let's implement it. Countries have the duty to abolish laws

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