



Central and Eastern European Women's Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

January 7th, 2014

Dear Ambassador Kamau and Ambassador Kőrösi,

With this joint letter coming on behalf of 36 organizations from 20 countries of Central and Eastern Europe which advocate for sexual and reproductive health and rights as well as for gender equality, we would like to urge you to guarantee the full and proper inclusion of sexual and reproductive health and rights in the new development agenda.

The Programme of Action agreed at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo in 1994 and the Beijing Platform for Action adopted in 1995 recognize sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights to be vocal in the fulfillment of women's rights and also recognized the right of all women to have control over their own sexuality and their rights to be free from coercion or other forms of violence. As we approach the 8th sessions of the Open Working Group on gender equality in February 2014 we believe that statements referring specifically to sexual and reproductive health and rights will be made by various UN Member States. We also affirm that Member States should receive full and accurate information to support them in their work concerning gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

The findings of the operational review of the ICPD Beyond 2014 and the Post-2015 processes indicate that there is still much work to be done to achieve universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights and to ensure the wellbeing of women and girls. We believe that without ensuring individual rights and everyone's entitlement to a healthy and productive life free from violence, stigma and discrimination sustainable development is impossible to achieve.

Therefore, we kindly urge you to position and highlight sexual and reproductive health and rights high on the political agenda for the Post 2015 framework and the future Sustainable Development Goals.

With kind regards,

Krystyna Kacpura
Executive Director
Federation for Women and Family Planning

Marta Szostak
ASTRA Network Coordinator

ASTRA Network members:

Albania - Albanian Family Planning Association
Armenia - Women's Rights Center
Armenia - Society Without Violence
Armenia - Women's Resource Center
Azerbaijan - Center "Women and Modern World"
Belarus - Women's Independent Democratic Movement of Belarus
Bulgaria - Bulgarian Family Planning and Sexual Health Association
Bulgaria - Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation
Bulgaria - Gender Education, Research and Technologies
Bulgaria - Demetra Association
Bulgaria - Gender Alternatives Foundation
Croatia - B.a.b.e. (Be Active, Be Emancipated)
Croatia - CESI - Center for Education and Counseling of Woman
Croatia - Women's Room
Georgia - Women's Center
Georgia – Hera XXI
Hungary – PATENT
Kazakhstan - The Legal Center for Women's Initiatives "Sana Sezim"
Lithuania - Family Planning and Sexual Health Association
Latvia - Latvia's Association for Family Planning And Sexual Health

Macedonia - Association for emancipation, solidarity and equality of women
Macedonia – Shelter Center
Macedonia - Association for emancipation, solidarity and equality of women
Macedonia - Health Education and Research Association
Moldova – Family Planning Association
Moldova - Reproductive Health Service Center
Poland - Federation for Women and Family Planning
Romania - Euroregional Center for Public Initiatives
Romania - A.L.E.G.
Romania - The East European Institute of Reproductive Health
Romania - AnA: Society for Feminist Analysis
Russia - Novogorod Gender Center
Russia – Russian Association for Population and Development
Slovakia – Pro Choice
Tajikistan – Gender and Development
Ukraine - Women Health and Family Planning
Ukraine - Charitable SALUS Foundation
Uzbekistan - Future Generation.

ASTRA Secretariat, Federation for Women and Family Planning
Nowolipie 13/15, 00-150 Warsaw, Poland
ph/fax 48.22.635 9395, federa@astra.org.pl, www.astra.org.pl