

## MFPF statement UNECE ICPD+30 - 2023

Excellencies, distinguished delegates and partners,

The French Family Planning, working to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights for over 60 years, believes that the ICPD+30 review process is a key moment to celebrate and reaffirm SRHR as human rights.

We recognize the progress made by France with changes to the law extending the legal time limit to access abortion or the access of free contraceptives for people under 25 years old, for instance.

However, even if laws are great, implementation is better, especially to tackle the continuum of violence, and the attacks by anti-choice movements we encounter in France and across the region. Important challenges still exist to real, qualitative and effective access to sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Governments need to act, to counter this huge backlash we are facing. Therefore, we call on member states to:

- Fully decriminalize abortion and make abortion a constitutional right for all, and ensure access to safe abortion in line with the WHO Abortion Care guidelines
- Remove all barriers in terms of access to abortion with specific attention for marginalized groups, and by including measures to address and eliminate stigma, parental/guardian consent laws, mandatory waiting periods, and mandatory counseling,
- Implement measures to ensure that refusal of care by healthcare professionals does not limit the effective access to abortion.
- Provide all young people with evidence-based comprehensive sexuality education to decide freely and responsibly about their sexuality, to challenge harmful social norms and to end gender based violence, following the technical guidance by UNESCO.
- Ensure universal availability of a wide-range of quality, affordable and safe modern contraceptives by no later than 2030 (two thousand and thirty), and,
- Guarantee direct funding and additional support to civil society organisations, in particular local feminist and youth-led movements, as well as SRHR defenders in Europe and globally

We stand ready to partner with Governments and the UN system in this regard. Thank you.