

**15<sup>th</sup> International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development**  
**LEAVE NO-ONE BEHIND ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS**  
23<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> November 2017 Berlin, Germany

## **HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (HLPF)**

**Convener:** United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and every four years the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

**Established in:** 2013

**Taking place:** Annually in July, New York

**Participants:** All UN member states, major groups and other stakeholders

**Short description:** The HLPF is the central platform for the review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level. It aims to promote the exchange of best practices, experiences and obstacles to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as to provide transparency and enhance the accountability of UN member states. The main mechanisms to achieve this are the National Voluntary Reviews (NVR), in which member states provide insights into the progress made and the persisting challenges in the implementation process at the national level.

**Relevance for SRHR of young people, people living with disabilities and / or in fragile settings:** The HLPF is in charge of the follow-up and review of the **SDGs**, the **New York Declaration on International Migration and Development** and the **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction**.

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## **COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW)**

**Convener:** United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

**Established in:** June 1946

**Taking place:** Annually in March, New York

**Participants:** 45 member states elected by the Economic and Social Council for a period of four years on the basis of geographic distribution. ECOSOC-accredited NGOs can attend as well as UN entities, especially UN Women.

**Short description:** The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the global intergovernmental body dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. It discusses progress and gaps in the implementation of the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the key global policy document on gender equality, and Beijing+5, as well as emerging issues that affect gender equality and the empowerment of women. The outcomes and recommendations of each session are forwarded to ECOSOC for follow-up.

**Relevance for SRHR of young people, people living with disabilities and / or in fragile settings:** In 2018 and 2019, the themes of CSW are “Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls” and “Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls”. Both sessions are likely to address SRHR issues and the situation of women and girls belonging to the three focus groups. In 2018, CSW will also review the agreed conclusions from 2016 on women’s empowerment and the link to sustainable development, which includes SRH&RR, women and girls with disabilities and those living in emergency settings.

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## **CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD)**

**Convener:** The Convention is monitored by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities under the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

**Established in:** Adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2006

**Taking place:** 12 – 14 June 2018: **The Conference of State Parties (COSP)** to the CRPD is the largest and most diverse international disability meeting in the world.

**Participants:** As of April 2017, the CRPD has 160 signatories and 173 parties. The annual conference sees participation from government delegations, UN agencies, civil society and non-governmental organisations, national human rights institutes, and disabled peoples organisations, and has grown in recent years.

**Short description:** The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is an international human rights treaty. It adopts a broad categorization of persons with disabilities and reaffirms that all persons with all types of disabilities must enjoy all human rights and fundamental freedoms. It clarifies how all categories of rights apply to persons with disabilities and identifies areas where adaptations have to be made for persons with disabilities to effectively exercise their rights, areas where their rights have been violated, and where protection of rights must be reinforced.

The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is a body of 18 independent experts which monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. All states party to the Convention have to submit regular reports to the Committee on how the rights enshrined in the Convention are being implemented. States must report initially within two years of ratifying the Convention and, thereafter, every four years.

**Relevance for SRHR of people living with disabilities:** Articles 23 and 25 of the CRPD explicitly reference universal access to SRHR for persons with disabilities.

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## COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

**Convener:** United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

**Established in:** The Population Commission was established by the UN Economic and Social Council 1946. It was renamed Commission on Population and Development in 1994.

**Taking place:** Annually in April, New York

**Participants:** 47 member states elected by the Economic and Social Council for a period of four years on the basis of geographic distribution. ECOSOC-accredited NGOs can attend as well as UN entities, especially UNFPA and UNDESA.

**Short description:** The Commission on Population and Development (CPD) is the global intergovernmental body to discuss and give advice on issues such as population trends, integrating population and development strategies as well as population and related development policies and programmes. It is tasked with monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action (PoA) at the national, regional and international levels, and to advise the Economic and Social Council thereon. The outcomes and recommendations of each session are forwarded to ECOSOC for follow-up.

**Relevance for SRHR of young people, people living with disabilities and / or in fragile settings:** The priority theme of the CPD in 2018 will be “Sustainable cities, human mobility and international migration”. The session will most likely address SRHR needs of adolescents, women and other vulnerable migrants, particularly those affected by or forced to flee crisis. In 2019, the main focus will be on “Review and appraisal of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. Thus, the session shall make direct reference to vulnerable groups by assessing the progress made in attaining the right of everyone to sexual and reproductive health, as reaffirmed in the ICPD PoA and the recommendations from the ICPD beyond 2014 process, among others.

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## **UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (HRC)**

**Convener:** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

**Established in:** The Council was created by the United Nations General Assembly on 15 March 2006.

**Taking place:** The UNHRC holds regular sessions three times a year, in March, June, and September. The UNHRC can decide at any time to hold a special session to address human rights violations and emergencies, at the request of one-third of the member states.

**Participants:** The members of the General Assembly elect the members who occupy the UNHRC's 47 seats. The seats are distributed among the UN's regional groups as follows: 13 for Africa, 13 for Asia, six for Eastern Europe, eight for Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC), and seven for the Western European and Others Group (WEOG).

**Short description:** The HRC is an intergovernmental body within the United Nations system responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe, and for addressing situations of human rights violations and making recommendations on them.

HRC mechanisms include the Universal Periodic Review, which serves to assess the human rights situations in all United Nations member states; the Advisory Committee which serves as the Council's "think tank" providing it with expertise and advice on thematic human rights issues; and the Complaint Procedure, which allows individuals and organisations to bring human rights violations to the attention of the Council.

The Human Rights Council also works with the UN Special Procedures established by the former Commission on Human Rights and now assumed by the Council. These are made up of special rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and working groups that monitor, examine, advise and publicly report on thematic issues of human rights situations in specific countries.

**Relevance for SRHR of young people, people living with disabilities and / or in fragile settings:** The UNHRC addresses human rights-related situations in all UN member states. The UNHRC also addresses important thematic human rights issues including (but not exclusively) women's rights, LGBT rights, and the rights of racial and ethnic minorities.