Question for oral answer O-000014/2020
to the Council
Rule 136
Evelyn Regner
on behalf of the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality
Tomas Tobé
on behalf of the Committee on Development

Subject: The 25th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD25) – Nairobi Summit

From 12 to 14 November 2019, a joint ad-hoc delegation of Parliament’s Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality and Committee on Development attended the Nairobi Summit, which marked the 25th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) held in Cairo. While there have been many gains since the Cairo Summit in many parts of the world, including the European Union, there is still a long way to go in ensuring that women and girls enjoy the full respect of their fundamental rights, including their right to bodily autonomy, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and in eliminating sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices, two objectives that must be fulfilled if the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are to be met by 2030.

More than 170 countries took part in the Nairobi Summit with the aim of completing the ICPD Programme of Action. The Parties recommitted to achieving the relevant SDGs by preventing all maternal deaths, meeting unmet family planning needs and ending gender-based violence and harmful practices against women and girls by 2030, with more than 1 200 commitments having subsequently been made around the world. Governments of countries including Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom, together with the Commission, committed around USD 1 billion in support.

How will the Council ensure that the funding under the next multiannual financial framework is sufficient to address the gaps in the provision of and access to SRHR with a view to achieving the SDGs by 2030? How will the Council ensure that sufficient attention is paid to ensuring SRHR and removing barriers to them as well as combating violence against women and girls in the ongoing negotiations on the future Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument?

How will the Council ensure that all of the Member States are delivering on the Cairo and Nairobi commitments in and outside of the EU?

How will the Council advocate unity and ensure that the EU speaks with one voice on issues surrounding SRHR, particularly in the light of the joint statement on the Nairobi Summit of 14 November 2019 made by a number of countries, including two EU Member States, which sought to undermine the aims of the summit?

What action will the Council take if any of the Member States fail to comply with international standards on SRHR?

Submitted: 07/02/2020
Lapses: 08/05/2020