

1st segment

1

**Statement by International Lesbian and Gay Association  
Joined by:  
Canadian HIV/aids Legal Network and CariFLAGS**

**Delivered by Anna Brown**

Thank You Mr President

Even as States have been engaging in the Post-2015 discussions, many continue to fail to meet their human rights obligations towards all human beings; they fail to acknowledge the devastating impact of violence, discrimination and marginalization on all women and girls; they have failed in the promotion of the right to development of Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex women; and they have failed to recognize the importance of comprehensively addressing sexuality and bodily and life autonomy of all people.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights has said that human rights are vitally relevant to every item on the development agenda. By failing in their human rights commitments, States are failing in their development commitments too.

The current third MDG, promoting gender equality and empowering women, has in many cases not been implemented in a way that is inclusive of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions and intersex status. Further, the MDGs overall did not fully appreciate our diversities as human beings nor do they take into account the multiple and intersecting identities we each have.

We continue to see inequalities and violence against many marginalized groups even including women and girls: LGBTI people, indigenous peoples, sex workers and many others. Violence and discrimination have direct impact on critical development issues such as health, education, justice and poverty. Where people are persecuted on the basis of their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, or intersex status experiences of development are compromised.

As they forge a new development agenda, States are discussing issues of equality, social equity, gender equality and women's empowerment that will go a long way to reduce inequalities, both within and between countries. As they do so, they must address the needs of all people, and take into account all aspects of our lives: our sexual orientation, our gender identity and expression, our intersex status, and our sexual and reproductive right and our bodily autonomy. These are human rights issues and they are therefore also development issues.

Could the panel please advise on how States can work better with Civil society to ensure that the rights of LGBTI women are fully integrated into the post 2015 agenda

Thank You