Brussels, 25 September 2019

\textbf{Subject: US led initiative against Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in the UN}

Dear High Representative, dear Commissioner,

Disturbing news reports have surfaced about a US led initiative against Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in the UN, specifically in the WHO.\textsuperscript{[1]} Reportedly, the US administration sent a letter to other governments, asking them to join a “growing coalition” of countries that advocate against the right to a safe and legal abortion.

This is a clear attempt by the US to undermine the international cooperation on SRHR and this attempt should be clearly rebuked by the EU and its Member States.

The EU should stand shoulder to shoulder with women and girls all around the globe, and defend their rights, rather than to undermine them. The signatories of the joint statement include EU Member States, such as Hungary and Poland. This is regrettable, as the EU should stand united for the rights of women and girls.

In light of this, we request you to answer the following questions urgently:

- What will the Commission do to make sure that the EU commitment to SRHR will be reconfirmed and even reinforced, particularly to counter the US initiative?

- What specifically will you do to make sure that this will be the joint EU position shared by all Member States?

- Will you recommit to and report on the implementation of the Commission policy, as announced in your letter of 11 September 2015\textsuperscript{[2]} to ensure access to safe and legal abortion for female victims of war rape?

We look forward to your replies.

Yours sincerely,

Sophie in ’t Veld MEP
Petra De Sutter MEP

MEPs4SRR co-chairs

\textsuperscript{[2]} https://sophieintveld.eu/eu-recognises-the-right-to-abortion-for-war-rape-victims/