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Speaker: The Honourable Peter Milliken

Excerpt from Hansard

[Statements by Members]

Status of Women

Ms. Raymonde Folco (Laval—Les Îles, Lib.)

Mr. Speaker, as chair of the Canadian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, I have been proud to defend and represent Canada's policies abroad on women's equality rights, such as our commitment to the Cairo 94 program of action and the 2000 millennium development goals.

Canada has had a strong reputation of upholding our United Nations pledges, especially on women's health and their right to choose. But now a Conservative member “commends Saskatoon doctors for promoting a climate for less abortion”.

The Conservatives are also working hard to cut aid to organizations that promote women's health, like the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

I call on the government to clarify its policy. Canada cannot achieve its millennium development goals in women's health and in reducing violence against women if the government continues to target these organizations and the dedicated professionals who work in the field of women's health in Canada and abroad.