

Dhaka Call to Action 2015

Shaping Healthy Future for Every Woman, Every Child, Every Adolescent

Optimizing South to South Cooperation for shaping healthy futures for citizens of the Global South

Outcome statement of the 12th International Inter-Ministerial Conference on Every Woman Every Child Every Adolescent adopted on 21st November, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Introduction: *Partners in Population and Development (PPD) is an inter-governmental organization of 26 countries from the Global South mandated to promote South to South Cooperation (SSC) in the areas of Reproductive Health (RH), Population and Development. The goal of the PPD alliance, representing over 59% of the total world population, is to promote South to South Partnership for improving the lives of women, children and adolescents through advocacy and the inter-ministerial policy dialogues. The 12th International Inter-Ministerial Conference on Population and Development –“Every Woman Every Child Every Adolescent” was jointly hosted by PPD, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh and UN Secretary General’s Every Woman Every Child initiative. The Conference was attended by more than 150 delegates representing 26 developing countries including nine ministers from member countries, a Speaker of the Parliament, Parliamentarians, Diplomats, Ambassadors, several senior officials in charge of population, health and development from member countries, as well as international academic experts and health practitioners. The delegates at the Conference have reaffirmed their political will and national commitments while according highest importance to the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets in the “Dhaka Call for Action”.*

Recalling our Commitments made at the International Conference on Population & Development (ICPD), Plan of Action adopted in 1994, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) adopted during the Millennium Summit 2000 and those agreed upon at the General Assembly in 2005 and 2010 including the launch of the Every Woman Every Child Every Adolescent initiative by UNSG and reviewed by the UNGA 2015, and our own PPD pronouncements in the area of reproductive health, population, child survival and demographic dividend, we the delegates assembled here reaffirm our political will and national commitments and accord highest importance to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 2015) as a transition of post-2014 ICPD engagement and post-2015 MDG focus areas amalgamated into the SDG framework and Global Strategy for Every Woman, Every Child, Every Adolescent.

We the delegates representing 26 Governments of PPD Alliance gathered here in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on the 21st November 2015 for the “International Inter-ministerial Conference on “Every Woman Every Child Every Adolescent: A South to South Perspective on Survive, Thrive and Transform” are committed to achieving the health, population and sustainable development goals within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) approved by the UN General Assembly in September 2015, and pronounce herein our full commitment through our **Dhaka Call to Action**.

WE...

DECLARE that we are committed to the action plan derived out of the Global Strategy for women, children and adolescents and align our national and regional programmes in full adherence to the strategy towards the full attainments of the SDGs and targets.

REQUEST our governments to create a new sustainable enabling environment through transformation of our mind-sets, reformation of our health systems and reaffirmation of our political will and national commitments, to build new horizons for shaping healthy futures for our women, children and adolescents.

APPEAL to our governments and the global community to foster synergistic actions for the creation of a new world by 2030, in which every woman, every child and every adolescent realizes her/his right to health, well-being, equal social and economic opportunities and will have access to full participation in the creation of new sustainable societies and nations where Every Woman, Every Child and Every Adolescent Survives and Thrives.

ARE UNITED in our thought and consent that our transformative programming, in total alignment with and integration into our national population planning will optimize harnessing demographic dividend and human capital.

REITERATE our earlier commitment expressed in the Beijing and Delhi Declarations and the Delhi Call to Action, for accelerating the Every Woman, Every Child and Every Adolescent initiative, as a continuation of PPD's corporate priority of investing in human capital for accelerating healthy futures for its citizens.

RECOGNIZE the need for strengthening RMNCAH (Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health) and SRHR (Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights) programmes through integration and consolidation to improve inclusive access and delivery-efficiency in alignment with the Every Woman Every Child and Every Adolescent initiative, and to optimize utilization of fiscal resources, services and health infrastructure.

APPEAL to our governments to explore innovative financing channels such as GFF (Global Financing Facility) and integrate RMNCAH and SRHR components fully into national health plans, in adherence to the new norms of utilization and accountability and ensure smooth flow of funds for better functioning of the Every Woman, Every Child and Every Adolescent initiative.

ASSURE the full engagement of our political leadership, national Governments and local governments to ensure that our national RMNCAH and SRHR plans are adequately funded by domestic resources, innovative global financing, and continuous engagement of donors. We call upon the state and non-state actors within the South to South Cooperation (SSC) framework to extensively participate in the financing of the Every Woman, Every Child and Every Adolescent initiative in the Global South.

APPEAL to governments, especially through our South to South Cooperation (SSC) framework to ensure security of life-saving commodities and essential drugs by shaping SSC and regional markets through effective mechanisms such as pooled procurement and aggregated demand and thereby increasing the availability of quality, life-saving commodities. The participation of major pharmaceutical companies in PPD countries in shaping local delivery markets for Every Woman, Every Child, Every Adolescent could be linked to innovative financing while providing, to those most in need, improved access to life-saving commodities, including Reproductive Health (RH) and Family Planning commodities.

URGE our member countries to apply the SSC framework to utilize the opportunities and resources as enumerated in the PPD internal survey for improved RH and FP services and contribute to the reduction of

maternal and child mortality and enhance the reproductive and sexual health of communities, especially the adolescents.

REQUEST our governments and global communities to recognize the importance of Every Woman, Every Child and Every Adolescent initiative as an appropriate intervention to End AIDS by 2030 and create an AIDS-free generation.

REDEDICATE ourselves to unreservedly harness all our synergies, resources and actions for addressing the challenges, constraints and obstacles to the attainment of our commitments to the Global Strategy and SDG targets, in an equitable environment with full access to gender and human rights, in our quest for shaping healthy futures for every woman, every child and every adolescent.

URGE our governments to keep the three thrust areas of **Survive, Thrive** and **Transform** in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, for the success of the Every Woman, Every Child, and Every Adolescent movement:

We urge our governments to support Every Woman, Every Child and Every Adolescent to...

Survive: While doing so, we need to end all preventable deaths. Maternal Mortality Rate needs to be brought down to 70 per 100,000 live births, new-born mortality to 12 per 1000 live births and Under 5 Mortality Rate to 25 per 1000 per live births. Accelerated efforts should be taken up for eradicating the epidemic of HIV/AIDS. Similar efforts should also focus on containing Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Thrive: For this to realise, we need to ensure their good health and well-being. All forms of malnutrition need to be eradicated. Nutritional needs of children and adolescents need to be comprehensively addressed. We need to ensure full development of children from very early stages. We need to work towards providing universal access to sexual and reproductive health services and RH/FP commodities; and ensure universal health coverage through inclusive planning and resource allocation.

Transform: We need to create and expand the enabling environment for women, children and adolescents to be benefited by the above efforts. Strong multi-sectorial efforts, within the SDGs framework will help eradicate poverty; accelerate access and quality of universal primary education; contribute to social reformation for ending harmful cultural practices; provide universal access to safe potable drinking water; and firm up the environment for access to equal gender and universal rights; and strengthen partnerships to create and sustain a transformative environment for shaping better, healthy futures for Every Woman, Every Child and Every Adolescent.

References:

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