

The 2019 Network of African Parliamentary Committees of Health (NEAPACOH) meeting held on October 30 – 31, 2019 at Speke Resort Hotel Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda.

KAMPALA COMMITMENT

We the delegates representing Parliaments from 22 African countries¹, as well as representatives of development partners, Civil Society and other stakeholders representing various countries from Africa and beyond²; who gathered at Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda, from 30-31 October 2019, at the Meeting of the Network of African Parliamentary Committees of Health (NEAPACOH) under the theme of **“Building the capacity of African policy makers for enhanced implementation of ICPD PoA and improved reproductive health outcomes: Challenges and Opportunities”**

Appreciated the Parliament of Uganda and Partners in Population and Development (PPD), through its Africa Regional Office, (PPD ARO) and all the partners,³ for hosting the 2019 NEAPACOH meeting which enabled Parliamentarians to interface with experts, researchers, civil society, young people and development partners;

¹ Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, South Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, The Gambia, Togo, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Uganda.

² United Kingdom, Tunisia

³ Support was received from organizations including National Population Council (NPC) of Uganda; United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP); International Planned Parenthood Africa Regional Office (IPPFARO); Population Action International, Population and Health Research Center (APHRC).

Acknowledged the strategic value of NEAPACOH to promote knowledge sharing, through the exchange of best practices, facilitation of policy dialogue and identification of innovative practices to the attainment of national, regional and global goals on reproductive health, population and sustainable development in the context of ICPD PoA and the SDGs;

Cognisant that the African Union (AU) has adopted several health and health-related policies aimed at improving the health status of the African people. The policy instruments include Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Continental Policy Framework and the Maputo Plan of Action for its implementation, Abuja Call, Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa, African Regional Nutrition Strategy, and African Health Strategy among others(hereafter AU Policy instruments on health)

Recalled the commitments made at the ICPD and the Plan of Action adopted in Cairo, Egypt in 1994, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted at the UN in September 2015, and at several NEAPACOH meetings in the area of reproductive health, family planning, population and development;

Recognized that the ICPD PoA is an unfinished agenda and African Union instruments on health are unfinished agendas there is still a wide gap in achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health, especially that for adolescents, high unmet need for family planning and low modern contraception. Maternal and child mortality remain high, gender equality, the empowerment of women, and the elimination of all forms of violence against women, GBV, including harmful social practices are still a big challenge.

Recognized, however, the remarkable progress made by countries since ICPD and subsequent AU policy instruments on health in promoting sound coordination between population dynamics and socio-economic development, ensuring the universal access to sexual and reproductive health and family planning services, reducing maternal and child mortality, promoting women empowerment and youth development, and accelerating poverty alleviation using different instruments and modalities including south-south cooperation

Recognized the importance of continuous capacity building of policy makers, policy dialogue, technical cooperation, sharing of and exchange of knowledge, experiences, expertise, lessons learned and best practices, and the adoption of such practices in expediting the implementation of the ICPD PoA and achievement of the SDGs.

Emphasized the importance of harnessing the Demographic Dividend as a critical window of opportunity for accelerated growth and transformation if focus is put on investing in adolescents and youth as engines of growth; as well as alignment of national legislation, policies and resource allocation for SRHR and Education;

Recalled the critical role of parliamentarians in facilitative, representation, legislation, budget appropriation and oversight for all national processes towards the achievement of national, regional and global development goals and targets, including the SDGs;

Appreciated the contributions of development partners, Civil Society Organizations, youths and faith based organizations, the private sector and other

key stakeholders to support reproductive health, family planning, population and development programmes;

We, the delegates of the 2019 NEAPACOH meeting therefore,

Commit to accelerate the implementation of the ICPD PoA and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development – the SDGs.

Commit to adopt and strengthen South-South and Triangular Cooperation to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, lessons and good practices; and technical cooperation in the field of population and development

Commit to accord highest priority to integration of reproductive health and family planning into national development plans and strategies across sectors.

Commit to develop appropriate laws, policies, investments and innovative approaches that ensure universal access to reproductive health and family planning and the wider sexual and reproductive health agenda to support the initiatives for achieving zero unmet need for family planning, zero preventable maternal deaths, and zero gender-based violence and harmful practices, such as child marriages and female genital mutilations.

Seek the adoption and strengthening of legislation to establish effective and robust mechanisms for the investigation of crimes and infractions related to sexual violence especially among our adolescent, sexual violence and medical malpractices related to sexual and reproductive health.

Commit to ensure increased financial resources, including domestic, bilateral and multilateral funding, to increase transformational and effective programs

contributing to accelerated implementation of the ICPD PoA and achievement of the SDGs in our countries in line with the Abuja declaration.

Commit to continue providing leadership and stewardship on policy, legislation and perform budgetary oversight for reproductive health and family planning. We further commit to promote and support general awareness on reproductive health and family planning in addition to the emerging killer and non-communicable diseases.

Commit to fast track the establishment and finalization of all pending and overstayed policies and strategies.

Commit to support the implementation of a comprehensive mechanism and multi sectoral and shared approach for monitoring the implementation of commitments made at NEAPACOH and at other regional and international fora.

Commit to initiate, support and enact laws that lead to the realization of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Primary Health Care (PHC) for all.

Commit to support and monitor implementation of ICPD PoA, the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and development, SDGs, Maputo Protocol, Maputo Plan of Action as well as other regional and international commitments that address issues of gender equality, population, and harmful practices such as FGM and child marriages.

Commit to advocate for investments in young people with a focus on education especially for the girl-child, health, participation in decision making, diversity,

mainstreaming, skilling, job creation in view of harnessing the Demographic Dividend.

Call upon Governments, UN agencies and international organizations, donors, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to commit more investments to meet the needs of young people by scaling up programs for reaping the opportunity inherent in demographic dividend.

Welcome the upcoming Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 to be held in Kenya from 12-14 November 2019 and encourage the integration of the Kampala Commitment with the Nairobi Summit outcome document.

We convey our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Parliament of Uganda for the successful organization and hosting of the NEAPACOH meeting and the warm welcome and hospitality extended to all delegates in the beautiful country of Uganda.

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