

Year in Review 2020



Partners in Population and Development (PPD)
An Inter-Governmental Organization
Promoting South-South Cooperation

During the year 2020, PPD scored several remarkable achievements although the organization and the member countries were undergoing debilitating difficulties posed by the unprecedented COVID-19 Pandemic. PPD Secretariat had to rearrange its annual program activities designed in alignment with the new Strategic Plan, adopted alternative working mechanism, which later became “New Normal”, made a great stride with innovation, adaptability and ingenuity in realizing the expected targets in 2020. Although COVID-19 initially created some impediments, it subsequently instilled greater steadfastness and agility into the Secretariat team to work with fullest aptitude using the New Normal. While the Annual Report will reflect achievements in greater details, following are few landmarks accomplished throughout the year.



Election of New Executive Committee Members

Chair



H.E. Ms. Lindiwe Zulu, MP
Honourable Minister for Social Development, Government of the Republic of South Africa

Vice-Chair



H.E. Dr. Yu Xuejun
Vice Minister
National Health Commission, Government of the People's Republic of China

Secretary



Dr. Habib Ghedira
President, Director-General
National Board for Family and Population, Ministry of Health, Tunisia

Treasurer



H.E. Dr. Hasto Wardoyo
Hon. Chairperson, National Population and Family Planning Board (NPPFB-BKKBN), Government of the Republic of Indonesia

Permanent Member



H.E. Mr. Zahid Maleque
Honorable Minister, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Member



H.E. Professor Benjamin I. B. Hounkpatin
Honorable Minister of Health
Government of the Republic of Benin

Member



H.E. Dr. Harsh Vardhan
Honorable Minister, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Government of India

Member



Dr. Mohamed A. Sheikh
Director General, National Council for Population and Development (NCPD), Kenya

Member



Ms. Gabriela Rodríguez Ramírez
Secretary-General, Consejo Nacional de Población (CONAPO)
Secretaría de Gobernación, Mexico

The election of the Executive Committee of PPD takes place every three years as usual. Unlike in the past, the election of Executive Committee Members in 2020 was held virtually during the annual Board Meeting held in October 2020. The announcement along with the relevant election document was made a couple of times inviting candidature and the election process was discussed during a PCC Meeting in July 2020. Eventually, the Executive Committee and Board Meeting created a splendid ambience for exhaustive deliberations that generated a number of very pertinent guidance for conducting unrivalled Governing Board elections in the future. The Board unanimously elected in consensus South Africa as the Chair, China as the Vice Chair, Tunisia as the Secretary, Indonesia as the Treasurer and Bangladesh, Benin, India, Kenya and Mexico as Members for the Session from 2021 to 2023. The newly elected leadership steadfastly committed to strengthen the growth, sustainability and international image and standing of the organization.

Organizing the 17th International Inter Ministerial Conference on South-South Cooperation in Population and Development (IIMC) and Adoption of the Call for Action

The IIMC on “**Attaining the Nairobi Commitments and the 2030 Agenda in Post COVID-19 Pandemic**” was jointly organized by PPD, UNFPA and National Health Commission (NHC) of China in three sessions on 19th & 27th November and 8th December 2020. Two Technical Sessions and one Ministerial Session of the Conference was addressed by internationally acclaimed subject specialists, in addition to PPD Board Members and Ministers.

The first Technical Session on “**Implementation of the Nairobi Commitments Through South-South Cooperation in the post-COVID-19 era**” provided an excellent platform for PPD Board Members and UNFPA Officials to share their experiences on the progress achieved at national and global level.





The Second Technical Session on **"Youth Engagement through South-South Cooperation in Advocacy and Innovative Programming"** was addressed among others by PPD Secretary and South African Minister of Social Development H.E. Ms. Lindiwe Zulu, MP and UN Secretary General's Youth Envoy Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake who shared their forward-looking thoughts and recommendations to engage the youth leaders in advocacy and social mobilization for strengthening South-South Cooperation to help achieve Nairobi Summit Commitments in Post COVID19 Era.



The Ministerial session concluded the 17th IIMC and was addressed among others by the Vice-President of The Gambia, Minister of Health and Family Welfare of India, Vice Minister of National Health Commission of China including other Ministers and High-ranking Government Officials from PPD Member Countries. The Speakers expressed their fullest and continued commitment to realise the unfinished ICPD Goals, SDGs and implement national commitments presented in Nairobi. The Executive Director of UNFPA in her Keynote Speech renewed UNFPA support to South-South Cooperation being the most effective strategy for policy advocacy, program implementation and maintaining solidarity among nations in this difficult situation caused by COVID-19 Pandemic. The distinguished participants of the 17th International Inter-Ministerial Conference adopted a CALL FOR ACTION emanated from the deliberations.



Documenting 9 Best Practices and Organizing NTF Meetings in 10 PPD Member States

In its partnership with UNFPA, PPD documented Best Practices from 9 (nine) member countries namely, Bangladesh, China, Ghana, India, Morocco, Thailand, Egypt, The Gambia and Vietnam. The Secretariat will disseminate these Best Practices among the member countries for replication towards improvement of their programs. PPD Secretariat constituted National Task Force (NTF) in the Member States with multisectoral representations for strengthening National Support Structure for institutionalization of South-South Cooperation (PPD) and overseeing the effective implementation of the Reproductive Health, Population and Development programs contributing to the national socio-economic development. During the reporting period, PPD Secretariat convened National Task Force (NTF) Meeting in 10 (ten) countries namely Bangladesh, Benin, Indonesia, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Thailand, Uganda and Zimbabwe. The main objective of the National Task Force Meeting was to review the progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Commitments with particular emphasis on the realization of the "three zeros", such as zero unmet family planning, zero preventable maternal deaths and zero Gender Based Violence and harmful practices. The NTF reports will be compiled in a Compendium and widely disseminated after printing.





Signing of MOU With the League of Arab States

Partners in Population and Development (PPD) and League of Arab States (LAS) virtually signed an MoU on 21st December 2020 on the auspicious occasion of the Opening Ceremony of the 2nd Session of the Arab Council on Population and Development, also held virtually. The landmark MOU opened a new horizon for collaboration and partnership among the League of Arab States (LAS) and Partners in Population and Development (PPD) under the aegis of the newly created Arab Council on Population and Development at national and regional level.



Under the MOU, both the organizations will undertake exchange visits, sharing and transfer of knowledge and expertise, attending and contributing to the events organized by both the organizations, arrange consultation of common issues faced by the Arab States and PPD Member States, implementing joint projects and programs. The official collaboration will be kick-off through the joint activities to be launched regionally and internationally in 2021. Tunisia, PPD Board Secretary, has been elected as the new Chair of the Second Session of the Arab Council on Population and Development.

SSCAF Project Implementation: Key Activities

Government of the People's Republic of China funded a project namely "**Providing Comprehensive, Safe and Appropriate Intervention to Prevent Postpartum Haemorrhage for Reducing Maternal Mortality in Bangladesh**" initially to Bangladesh with possibility of further extension to other countries through the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund (SSCAF) under CHINA AID. As usual, the project also initially encountered some difficulties due to outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Defying COVID-19 induced restrictions, implementation of the Project has been progressing in full-swing. Inaugurated by Bangladesh Minister of Health and Family Welfare & PPD Board Member H.E. Mr. Zahid Maleque MP with attendance of the high-ranking officials from his Ministry and other relevant Ministries, Directorates of Family Planning and Health Services, local level administrative and implementing officials, country's premiere maternal health experts, UN Agencies, International Organizations and PPD Member Country Embassies based in Bangladesh, the project is poised to become tangible Best Practice and Lessons Learned for replication to other PPD Member Countries. Attended by over 70 officials,



the Inaugural Ceremony provided wonderful opportunity to conduct conceptual and functional orientation on the successful implementation of the project. The international development project requiring wide range of administrative and regulatory approvals for implementation of activities have already been completed. Collection and assessment of Baseline Data have already been completed and importation of the therapeutic and allied products are at the final stage. Capacity development of implementing officials in Bangladesh will now be conducted virtually, while training modules have been developed and training materials have been translated into local language. The project is ready for successful completion to the benefit and satisfaction of the implementing and funding countries.



COVID 19 and Adapting to “The New Normal”

Since the Pandemic first broke out in China, the country chairing PPD, the Secretariat collected and uploaded into the specially created COVID Website the successful treatment experiences and protocols from China followed by widespread dissemination through multiple channels of communications. The Secretariat also collected information on the infections and fatalities occurred in the member countries and regularly updated them in the COVID Website.



PPD in collaboration with National Health Commission of China and UNFPA convened two International Webinars focusing on SRH Programming Response during the COVID-19 Crisis: Sharing of Experiences from China with special emphasis on the treatment and care of the pregnant mothers and new-born babies.

PPD facilitated the organization, attended and made interventions in two international webinars hosted by BKKBN-Indonesia on “COVID-19: Public Health and Economic Perspectives” held on 25th June 2020 and on “Family Planning and Family Development Program in Asian Countries” held on 17th November 2020. PPD also participated in and addressed series of International Webinars organized by South Africa in collaboration with UNFPA, AFIDEP and British High Commission based in Pretoria focusing on Population and Demographic Dividend.

PPD Secretariat organized the Partner Country Coordinators (PCC) Meeting on 9th July 2020. The PCC Meeting elaborately discussed the implementation of the reprogrammed PPD Activities and conduct of the forthcoming Executive Committee election planned for October 2020 Board Meeting. Queries regarding the election was precisely responded and the electoral process was lucidly explained by South African PCC.



PPD Secretariat

Block-F, Plot 17/B&C, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Administrative Zone
Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh

Telephone:

+88-02-48117941
+88-02-48117938
+88-02-48117937

Email:

partners@ppdsec.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ppdsecretariat

YouTube:

www.youtube.com/ppdsectube