

19<sup>th</sup> International Inter Ministerial Conference on South-South Cooperation  
in Population and Development:

**“South-South Cooperation and the ICPD@30: Accelerating the  
Move Forward”**

**Date & Time: Monday, 14 November 2022, 09.00 - 12.00**

**Venue: Pattaya 12 in Pattaya Exhibition And Convention Hall (PEACH), Thailand**

**Chair for the Closing Session of 19<sup>th</sup> IIMC:**

**H.E. Mr. Zahid Maleque, PPD Board Member and Hon. Minister of  
Health and Family Welfare, Bangladesh**

**Chair’s Notes for the closing session**

**Your Excellency, H.E. Dr. C. Chiwenga, Hon. Vice President, Government of  
the Republic of Zimbabwe; My fellow panel members; Honourable Ministers  
and Vice Ministers, senior representatives of PPD member countries,  
Distinguished participants,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

On behalf of the PPD host country of PPD, I would like to sincerely thank the Government of Thailand, UNFPA, ICFP organizers, and the PPD Secretariat for their thoughtful arrangements, and give my best regards to all of those who have long been committed to promoting South-South Cooperation in population and development.

In 2019, we celebrated 25 years of ICPD and 25 years of Partners in Population and Development (PPD). In 2024, we will celebrate 30 years of ICPD. We believe in progress, but every era, and every decade has its problems, small or critical. People are suffering as a result of wars and conflicts and are fleeing their homeland because of violence, scarcity, or poverty, leaving behind everything they have.

## **Excellencies and distinguished delegates**

PPD was incepted during ICPD in 1994, with 10 countries developing countries now running with 27. Over two decades, PPD is serving this world with the vision to promote South-South cooperation to attain the global population and reproductive health agenda for sustainable development. PPD has greatly succeeded in institutionalizing SSC in reproductive health, population, and development. Remarkable progress has been made by member states in implementing the ICPD Program of Action and millennium development goals and are looking forward to achieving sustainable Development Goals through effective and transformational South-South Cooperation. PPD Board Members have played a vital role in the governance and expansion of SSC.

The priorities of PPD's current strategic plan (2020-2024) are centered on key areas like population dynamics, demographic dividend, and development: universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights including family planning; maternal, children's and adolescents' health; healthy and active ageing; social cohesion of migrants and their SRHR; health, including reproductive health, and poverty alleviation; and preventing Gender-based violence. For achieving any ICPD PoA and SDGs, all these priorities are vital and inevitable

## **Excellencies and distinguished delegates**

- Now I would like to request Mr. Jacques van Zuydam, Chief Director Population and Development, Department of Social Development, South Africa; to share the call for action of 19<sup>th</sup> IIMC.

(After end of the presentation)

Thank you very Much for presenting the Call for Action. We believe we reaffirm our commitments to leverage, innovate and scale up the application of SSTC partnerships for more impactful and sustainable actions at global, regional, and country levels.

- Now I would like to call Dr. Suwannachai Wattanayingcharoenchai, PPD Board and Honourable Director-General, Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health, The Royal Thai Government; for Vote of thanks.

Thanks to Dr. Suwannachai.

## Closing Speech

### **Excellencies, distinguished speakers, Ladies, and Gentlemen**

As ICPD@30 approaches, we need to re-emphasize SSC's importance and power for achieving ICPD PoA. More and more countries have succeeded in their national development efforts, including their family planning program. The profound inequality of the current world underscores the urgency of sexual and reproductive justice and accelerated achievement of the Nairobi commitments. The patterns of injustice undercut human resilience and well-being for everyone, and the COVID-19 Pandemic has exacerbated disparities based on gender, race, age, disability, and other parameters.

SSC is ever-growing due to a healthy growth of southern countries' economies that enables an increasing number of countries to engage in cooperation and increase their provision of development assistance. Mutual cooperation, learning and sharing solution for addressing population and development issues enable countries to achieve their national commitment for sustainable development. SSC can play a greater role in providing technical assistance to developing countries for achieving the ICPD and SDGs 2030 agenda.

### **Excellencies and distinguished delegates**

I strongly believe that the ICPD PoA needs to be addressed fully and comprehensively to achieve the Agenda 2030 for SDGs and other global agendas

for sustainable development. Therefore, this upcoming ICPD30 year 2024 is really important for us to revisit our progress and mitigate the gap, and for that, after COVID-19, this is the time we must need to work very cohesively.

With this, I wish to conclude my speech on behalf of my Government, my sincerest thanks and gratitude to the Honorable Chair of PPD, to Honorable Board Members, Partner Country Coordinators, our close Partners UNFPA, and other participants who are here to make this event successful. Let us embrace the promise of transformation that we signed up for when we adopted the ICPD Programme of Action and when we formed the PPD to revolutionize our people's lives for the better.

Thank you...