

**XIII International Inter-Ministerial Conference on Population and  
Development  
28-29 November 2016  
Dakar, Senegal**

## 13<sup>th</sup> International Inter-Ministerial Conference on Population & Development

### Dakar Call for Action

#### *South-South Cooperation to drive the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals*

1. **Recalling** our commitments made at the ICPD, MDG and SDG high level platforms, including ICPD Plan of Action (PoA) adopted in 1994, reviewed in 1999;
2. **Reaffirming** the commitments of the Head of the States and Governments at the Millennium Summit 2000 on the MDGs and those agreed upon at the General Assembly in 2005, 2010 and 2015, PPD's 12<sup>th</sup> International Inter-Ministerial Conference in Dhaka, 2015 called for consolidating our commitments to action plans, and the "Beijing Call for Action" adopted by the Ministerial Dialogue on South-South Cooperation for Population and Development held in Beijing, March 2016.
3. Today, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016, We, the delegates assembled here in Dakar, Senegal reaffirm our willingness and commitments; to accord highest urgency to post 2014 ICPD engagement and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) achievement through redoubled efforts to collectively address the priority population and development challenges in the context of SDGs.
4. The Dakar Call for Action aims at translating these commitments into concrete actions for strengthening inclusive national resiliencies and enhanced quality of human life in the global south. Despite daunting challenges, Partners in Population and Development (PPD) has been able to demonstrate that South-South Cooperation has the best potential to accomplish the unfinished development agenda.
5. PPD as an intergovernmental organization of countries from the global south accounting for nearly 60% of the world's population has emerged as the main platform fostering consensus for South-South Cooperation towards SDGs.

#### **Preamble**

6. South-South Cooperation is at the core of PPD's work. PPD's action is guided by the current six priority areas as encapsulated in the PPD's strategic plan 2015-19 across five cross cutting linkages, based on extensive consultation with the member countries. The new paradigm focuses on sustainability and inclusiveness to accomplish the SDG priorities. These linkages are a) evidence based advocacy; b) enhanced global dialogue for inclusive development responses; c) facilitating need based and demand driven capacity building; d) robust information and experience sharing through improved South-South protocols; e) Strengthening capacity building within South-South Cooperation to achieve SDGs.
7. **We, the delegates of** the 2016, 13<sup>th</sup> International Inter-Ministerial Conference;
8. **Recognizing** the importance of sharing experience and knowledge as a critical pillar of South-South Cooperation for enhancing country capacities towards comprehensive and collective achievement of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda;

9. **Expressing deep appreciation** to the Government of the Republic of Senegal for hosting the XIII International Inter-Ministerial Conference on Population and Development;
10. **Recommit** ourselves to support and strengthen the national, regional and global efforts to fast-track population and development priority actions in the context of achieving sustainable development goals and targets by:
11. **Calling upon** our national governments to accord greater importance to advancing population dynamics and mainstreaming them into national development plans;
12. **Recognizing** that population dynamics are central to all development action, we **urge** our governments to capture the subtle and complex interdependence of population dynamics vis-à-vis health, education and access to social amenities, in their planning endeavors;  
**Modernize**, strengthen and streamline census data collection, vital registration system, collation, storage and utilization through better data flow and consumption from designated real-time digital population data hubs  
**Review the population component of** national development plans to align with emerging data trends related to fertility, mortality and morbidity.
13. **Identify** the old age cohorts in the population pyramids and integrate these emerging trends in the population and development plans;
14. **Scale up** analysis and utilization of disaggregated data related to Urbanization and Migration, in the national planning process as they directly influence the infrastructure sector, agriculture sector as well as basic services in health sector including paid and unpaid caregivers. These outcomes are bound to guide the course of national development.

**We agree on,**

15. **Integrating population dynamics into national development plans**  
*Partnership with UNFPA and other stakeholders to establish an 'International Forum on South-South Cooperation and 'Centres of Excellence' in population and development for increasing evidence based advocacy to influence the review of national development plans in accordance with population dynamics; exchange of expertise and sharing of knowledge in conducting census including customization of Data application packages and adaptation of new technology among the Member Countries; and*  
*Review of the software programs being used for collection and analysis of population data including population projections. Partnership with PPD Members Countries to strengthen 'National Taskforce for South-South Cooperation' focused on responding to country needs.*
16. **Emphasizing** the provision of SRH information and services with additional innovative strategies to facilitate attitudinal shift and create educational, social economic and legal structures in a specific cultural context.

17. **Recognizing** the UN Resolution on Child, Early and Forced Marriage as a practice that severely impairs girls and women's human rights and is a threat to their health, education, economic and social status; barrier to development perpetuating the cycle of poverty.
18. **Improving adolescent population's access to Sexual and Reproductive Health**  
*Strengthening South-South partnerships on exchanges of successful experiences and good practices; RH commodity supplies and RH services for accelerating reproductive health commodity security in developing countries. Review legal barriers of sexual and reproductive health. Address the family planning needs of adolescents.*
19. **Further addressing** the unfinished agenda related to maternal and child health requires greater investments and partnerships;
20. **Review** national and sub national maternal and child health programmes to align with EWEC components and SDGs. Advocate budget support for strengthening the maternal and child health programmes;
21. **Unfinished agenda of Improving Maternal and Child health**  
Leverage the resources from donors and member countries to plan, implement and support maternal and child health projects in developing countries; Acknowledging China's initiative of 100 maternal and child health projects in the developing countries and exploring the possibility of expanding and replicating the community clinics program funded and supported by India for Bangladesh.
22. **Noting** the need for **Social cohesion of the migrant population** pursuant to the UN resolutions on human rights.
23. **Undertake** an assessment of the migration patterns- internal, external, seasonal and permanent--and draw up plans for the inclusion of migrant populations especially women; **Initiate** policy dialogue both at the international level as well as the cross-border level to foster inclusion of the women at check posts, migration exit and entry points and resettlement camps. PPD member countries are encouraged to address discriminatory attitudes and norms, particularly within the health sector; **Ensure** greater access to reproductive health and family planning services, through better inclusion and social cohesion, particularly of the women as the migrant population groups are vulnerable and marginalized. Strengthen partnership with organizations such as WHO, IOM, ILO, UNFPA and other bilateral organizations to address SRHR need of migrant women in developing countries.
24. **Recognize** the need to mainstream healthy ageing into our national development plans. We urge our national governments to **create** a national coordination mechanism that provides for the healthcare, psychological and recreational needs of the ageing population; **Ensure** greater quality of life through inclusion of geriatric care into family, home-based and community healthcare systems; **Tap into** the 'Second Demographic Dividend' strengthening intergenerational bonds for economic growth.

25. **Promote healthy ageing in developing countries**

*Partnership within PPD member countries and other stakeholders to strengthen PPD Global Commission on Ageing to promote healthy, active and productive ageing; The commissioner for Ageing and National Taskforce for South-South Cooperation to be supported for policy consultation towards country-specific evidence informed healthy ageing policies and programmes.*

26. **Acknowledging** the importance of greater understanding of the linkages between Reproductive Health outcomes and Poverty, we **call** on our national governments to study and analyze the determinants among marginalized and vulnerable populations; and **Scale up** best practices related to improved access, coverage and utilization using a tailored approach for widening the health safety nets among the poor and marginalized population groups.

27. **Understanding the relationship between Reproductive health and poverty**

*Strengthen South-South partnership to mainstream the linkage between poverty and health in the context of SDGs 1 (No Poverty) and 3 (Good health and Well-being); Enhancing partnerships to support partner country efforts to address the relationship between reproductive health and poverty.*

28. **Appreciating** with satisfaction that PPD and its Member Countries and Partners organizations will play a catalytic role in optimizing the utilization of South-South Cooperation opportunities to implement the “Dakar Call for Action” in creating a positive impact towards achievement of Sustainable Development Goals in member countries.

We hereby call upon the Partners Country Coordinators (PCCs) and the PPD secretariat to monitor the action plan and the progress of the Dakar call for Action and report back to the next board meeting.

*Adopted on this day the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016,  
at the Closing Session of the XIII International Inter-Ministerial Conference, Dakar 2016*