LESOTHO ACHIEVEMENTS, AND LESSONS LEARNED IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OCTOBER 2018 COMMITMENTS

NEAPACOH MEETING
Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda

PREPARED BY: HON. MOSHOESHOE FAKO (MP)-CHAIRPERSON OF THE SOCIAL CLUSTER PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE
ACHIEVEMENTS

• CONDUCTED OVERSIGHT TOUR TO RURAL HEALTH FACILITIES IN LESOTHO (DISTRICTS HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CENTRES) TO ASSESS HEALTH SERVICES DELIVERY.

• DURING THE VISITS WE ASSESSED THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND IDENTIFIED GAPS SINCE THE ICPD PROGRAMME OF ACTION WAS PUT INTO PLACE FOR THE PAST 25 YEARS
ACHIEVEMENTS CONTINUED...

• The Social Cluster Committee has ensured that the health sector gets a substantive budget to enable universal health access and get to zero new HIV infections by 2030.
• Unfortunately we fall far below the 15% as per Abuja Declaration
• Public Private Partnership has consumed large amounts of money from Health Budget and does not offer quality care
• The Social Cluster Committee has therefore advocated for termination of that partnership
Achievements Cont

• The MPs have through consultations with Civil Society Organisations observed and inspected the quality and provision of integrated sexual and reproductive health (SRH), HIV, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) services including other health services and Correctional Services.

• To date Most schools are implementing Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Primary and Secondary level.

• MPs, UNICEF, UNAIDS and the Ministry of Health have made a resolution on Domestic Financing for Children from National Budget to be at 5% every year.

• A key activity that MPs have been advocating for is improvement in availing SRH services to adolescents.

• To date most health facilities now have adolescent-friendly health corners that offer SRHR services dedicated to young people.
Advocacy on Legal Frameworks

Through debates in the House, Members of the Social Cluster: HIV and AIDS and SDGs Committees have pushed for fast tracking of the following legislation:

- The Domestic Violence Bill which is yet to be presented before Parliament but is in the final stages of drafting
- The Amendment to the Children’s Welfare and Protection Act 2011 to include the issue of Child Marriage
- The Committee has also pushed for inclusion of issues of Key Populations in the Gender and Development Policy and those have been included in the final validated policy.
- LGBTI Community are now fully recognized in the Policy
2 motions

(i) Universal HIV and TB test and treat.

(ii) Members of Parliament to provide Support and Advocacy for TB survey and social Mobilization. (This motion has been passed in the National Assembly of Lesotho)
• The Social Cluster Committee has opened platform to discuss issues of the LGBTI Community and other Key Populations

• The Committee has joined International Cooperating Partners and Civil Society Organisations to advocate for rollout of PREP for key populations.
Lessons Learnt

• Partnerships can go a long way- More of our MPs now exposed to different forums and in media to discuss SRHR, HIV and TB issues
• Parliament is continuing its partnership with International Cooperating Partners,
• Civil Society Organisations and Media through a Parliamentary Working Group on SRHR, HIV and Governance
• Through this partnerships, resource mobilization for the work of Parliament has improved
Lesotho Commitments for 2019/2020

- We will advocate for enactment of legal abortion
- We will advocate for Abuja Declaration