

# Resolution

## on Accelerating the Achievements of MDG-5 through the Role of Women Parliamentarians

**Reaffirming** our strong commitment to the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Cairo Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994 and the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action of 1995 and their review conferences and commitments regarding the reduction of maternal, newborn and child mortality and universal access to reproductive health, including those contained in the 2000 Millennium Declaration (General Assembly resolution 55/2), the 2005 World Summit Outcome, and recalling other relevant UN resolutions;

**Reaffirming** our commitment to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular MDG 5 on improving maternal health, including the targets to reduce the maternal mortality ratio by 3/4 between 1990 and 2015 and to achieve universal access to reproductive health as well as its interrelationship with and contributions to other MDGs; and taking note with concern that MDG 5 is the least likely of all the MDGs to be achieved by 2015 based on current data;

**Affirming** the United Nations Resolution A/Res/55/2 on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) originated from the Millennium Declaration produced by the United Nations in 2000. The Declaration asserts that every individual has the right to dignity, freedom, equality, a basic standard of living that includes freedom from hunger and violence, and encourages tolerance and solidarity and bolstering human capital.

**Taking note of** the various regional and international initiatives being launched relating to the reduction of maternal mortality involving representatives of governments, civil society and the private sector, including, inter alia, the international conference “Addis Ababa Call to Urgent Action for Maternal Health” of 26 October 2009, where participants agreed to the Addis Ababa Statement of Commitment of 27 and 28 October 2009, as well as the 2009 Madang commitment agreed by the Pacific Island

countries and the 2008 Pacific Policy Framework for Achieving Universal Access to Reproductive Health Services and Commodities;

**Realizing** the time constraint of only four (4) years left before the target to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in particular the achievement of MDG 5 by year 2015;

**Recognizing** the need to continue to raise awareness and commitment at the national, regional and international levels about maternal mortality and morbidity;

**Expressing deep concern** that women continue to lose their lives while giving new life and suffer from pregnancy-related and childbirth-related injury, disability, infection and disease due to preventable complications related to pregnancy or childbirth in the region;

**Being aware of** the facts that these issues are of common concern shared by countries in the region where full commitment to the success of the goal is absolutely needed;

**Recognizing** the challenges and constraints endured in fulfilling the goal of Improving Maternal Health (MDG-5) in the Region;

**Recognizing** the need for greater coordination, global cooperation, collaboration and commitment to achieving universal access to health services, including family planning service, sexual and reproductive health for women and children, through a primary health care approach and evidence-based interventions, and further to reduce maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity, including through the provision of client-friendly and high quality sexual and reproductive health care, **including family planning services**, in line with the Beijing Platform for Action and ICPD Programme of Action,

**Mindful of** the importance to address the issues significant to national leverage in the region and international arena;

**Acknowledging** the strategic role of all people in the society to pro-actively contribute in the efforts to reduce obstacles and socio-cultural and economic barriers that tend to hamper the achievement of MDG- 5, including the low participation of men in family planning programs;

***Hereby collectively agreed to:***

***Encouraging*** special and sustained efforts aimed at reducing *Maternal mortality rate and increasing the proportion of births attended by skilled birth attendants*, through improved, better coordinated and better implemented programs including a comprehensive solution from upstream to downstream; from the education system to the distribution of the health personnel adequately, as well as effective supervision, monitoring and evaluation;

***Urging*** the endorsement and establishment of improved policies and effective strategies aimed at accelerating the achievement of MDG-5;

***Further Urging*** parliamentarians to encourage the government to accelerate the implementation of MDG-5 through broader participation from all sectors of society to optimize utilisation of available resources and efforts in achieving MDG-5.

***Strongly endorsing*** that AIPA member countries enhance the spirit of friendship, understanding and cooperation in the promotion of dialogue, exchanges of best practices and lessons learnt with a view of advancing the role of parliamentarians in accelerating the achievement of MDG-5.

***Adopted on the*** 23rd September 2011 at the 32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 18-24 September 2011.