

**QUESTIONNAIRE RELATIF À L'ELABORATION  
DU RAPPORT SUR LA MISE EN ŒUVRE DE LA CEDEF**

**ARTICLE 1 : DEFINITION DE LA DISCRIMINATION A L'EGARD DES FEMMES**

Toute distinction, exclusion ou restriction fondée sur le sexe qui a pour effet ou but de dans les domaines politique, économique, social et civil ou dans tout autre domaine compromettre ou de détruire la reconnaissance, la jouissance ou l'exercice par les femmes, quel que soit leur état matrimonial, sur la base de l'égalité de l'homme et de la femme, des droits de l'homme et des libertés fondamentales

**ARTICLE 2 : OBLIGATION D'ELIMINER LA DISCRIMINATION**

1. Existence de garantie, dans les constitutions et lois, sur l'égalité des femmes et des hommes dans la protection et la jouissance des droits civils, politiques, économiques, sociaux et culturels.
2. Existence d'études sur les implications des lois discriminatoires
3. Nombre de tribunaux qui mettent effectivement en application les lois et règlements prohibant la discrimination à l'égard des femmes.
4. Nombre de cas de discrimination relevés pendant les quatre dernières années.
5. Existence de mesures spéciales permettant aux femmes de revendiquer leurs droits.
6. Existence de commissions spéciales chargées de la promotion et de la protection des droits des femmes
7. Existence de programmes de la lutte contre les violences à l'égard des femmes.

**ARTICLE 3 : DEVELOPPEMENT ET PROMOTION DES FEMMES**

8. Existence de lois, pratiques et politiques qui assurent le plein développement et la promotion des femmes.
9. Existence d'obstacles entravant la jouissance des droits des femmes sur une base égalitaire avec les hommes.
  - o Les obstacles législatifs :
  - o Les obstacles réglementaires :
10. Existence de mesures affectant la participation des femmes sur le plan politique, économique, social et culturel.

**ARTICLE 4 : AMELIORATION DE L'EGALITE ENTRE LES HOMMES ET LES FEMMES**

11. Existence de mesures temporaires spéciales visant à accélérer l'instauration d'une égalité de fait entre les hommes et les femmes :
  - Suppression de normes inégales ou distinctes :
  - Mesures abrogées dès que les objectifs en matière d'égalité de chances et de traitement ont été atteints :
12. Existence de mesures spéciales, y compris de mesures prévues dans la présente Convention, qui visent à protéger la maternité

**ARTICLE 5 : ROLES DE SEXES ET STEREOTYPES**

13. Existence de pratiques culturelles et traditionnelles affectant la promotion de la femme dans la société.

14. Existence de mesures visant à changer l'attitude traditionnelle et culturelle qui renforce l'idée du statut inférieur de la femme.
15. Existence de pratiques imposées par la religion, la coutume ou croyances qui interfèrent avec l'amélioration du statut des femmes.
16. Pourcentage de femmes et d'hommes dans les travaux considérés spécifiques à chaque sexe.
17. Existence de lois autorisant les hommes à châtier les femmes.
18. Existence de lieux recueillant les femmes qui subissent des violences familiales.
19. Existence d'unités d'application de lois spécifiques traitant de cas de femmes qui subissent des violences domestiques.
20. Existence d'une procédure de lutte contre les films violents et pornographiques.
21. Existence de procédures spéciales de traitement des enfants victimes d'abus sexuels.

#### **ARTICLE 6 : SUPPRESSION DE L'EXPLOITATION DES FEMMES**

L'article 6 de la Convention engage les Etats parties à prendre toutes les mesures appropriées pour supprimer le trafic des femmes et l'exploitation des femmes par la prostitution.

22. Existence de législation pour la lutte contre le trafic des femmes et des filles.
23. Existence de loi autorisant ou interdisant la prostitution.

#### **ARTICLE 7 : VIE POLITIQUE ET PUBLIQUE**

24. Existence de lois autorisant le vote égal des femmes et des hommes
25. Pourcentage de femmes votantes.
26. Pourcentage d'hommes votants.
27. Pourcentage de femmes membres des partis politiques.
28. Types de mesures adoptées par les partis politiques pour accroître le nombre des femmes.
29. Existences de conditions d'éligibilité identiques pour les hommes et les femmes.
30. Pourcentage de bureaux publics de votes dirigés par les femmes
33. Pourcentage de femmes participant aux élections et aux référendums publics
34. Existence de mesures prises pour assurer la participation des femmes à la conception et à l'exécution des projets de développement à tous les niveaux.
35. Niveau d'implication des organisations de femmes dans la prise de décision.
  - Au niveau National
  - Au niveau local
  - Au niveau des partis

#### **ARTICLE 8 : REPRESENTATION INTERNATIONALE ET PARTICIPATION**

36. Pourcentage de femmes ambassadeurs.
37. Pourcentages de femmes dans les organisations internationales.
38. Existence de programmes encourageant les femmes à accéder aux postes internationaux.

#### **ARTICLE 9 : NATIONALITE**

39. Existence de textes accordant les mêmes droits aux femmes mariées / non mariées et aux hommes en matière d'acquisition, de changement et de maintien de leur nationalité.
40. Existence de facteurs sociaux, culturels ou économiques empêchant la femme d'exercer ces droits.
41. Existence de textes autorisant les enfants mineurs à avoir leur propre passeport.

#### **ARTICLE 10 : EDUCATION**

42. Existence de mesures législatives pour assurer l'accès égal des hommes et des femmes à l'éducation.

43. Existence de mesures permettant aux filles et aux garçons de faire les mêmes études à l'école préscolaire, primaire, secondaire et dans les institutions supérieures.
44. Pourcentage de filles diplômées dans le primaire, le secondaire et l'université.
45. Pourcentage de filles diplômées dans le primaire, le secondaire et l'université par groupe d'âge par rapport aux garçons.
46. Taux d'alphabétisation des femmes et des hommes.
47. Taux d'alphabétisation des femmes, des hommes selon les groupes d'âges 15-24;25-44;45 et +.
48. Existence de mesures favorisant la même qualité de l'enseignement aux filles et garçons.
49. Pourcentage de filles, de garçons dans les différentes filières.
50. Pourcentages des femmes diplômées en médecine, ingénierie, droit, sciences, agriculture.
51. Pourcentage de femmes diplômées par rapport à la population (des femmes et des hommes du pays).
52. Pourcentage de femmes, d'hommes bénéficiant des bourses d'étude.
53. Existence de bourses spécifiquement destinées aux femmes, aux hommes.
54. Pourcentage de femmes dans le programme d'alphabétisation.
55. Existence de lois ou de mesures favorisant le maintien des filles à l'école jusqu'à l'âge de fin d'école.
56. Existence de programmes pour les filles sorties du système éducatif avant terme.
57. Taux d'échec des filles.
58. Pourcentage femmes enseignantes dans le primaire.
59. Pourcentage de femmes directrices d'écoles, professeurs d'université.

#### ARTICLE 11 : EMPLOIS

60. Existence de pratique discriminatoire dans le recrutement et dans l'emploi à l'égard des femmes.
61. Existence de dispositions pour l'élimination de la discrimination à l'égard des femmes dans l'emploi.
62. Pourcentage de la force féminine de travail.
63. Pourcentage de la force féminine de travail selon les groupes d'âges 15-24 ; 25-44 ; 45 et plus.
64. Pourcentage de femmes travaillant à mi-temps, à temps plein.
65. Existence de professions, soutenues par la loi ou la coutume, destinées principalement aux femmes.
66. Existence de mesures égales dans les avantages liés aux congés, congés payés, formation, etc.
67. Existence de dispositions pour les congés de maternité.
68. Existence de textes assurant la protection des femmes enceintes ou en congés de maternité contre les licenciements.
69. Existence d'emploi particulier interdit aux femmes.
70. Existence d'un réseau de structures de soins infantiles pour les femmes travailleuses.

#### ARTICLE 12 : EGALITE DANS L'ACCES AUX SOINS DE SANTE

72. Existence de mesures pour éliminer la discrimination à l'égard des femmes dans le domaine de la santé.
73. Existence de mesures donnant la gratuité des soins aux femmes enceintes et en période post-natale.
74. Nombre d'établissements sanitaires disponibles pour les femmes.
75. Nombre de personnels de santé disponibles pour les femmes.
76. Pourcentage de décès maternels par cause.
77. Taux de mortalité maternelle.
78. Taux de mortalité infantile
79. Taux de mortalité juvénile
80. Espérance de vie à la naissance (homme, femme).
81. Taux Brut de natalité.

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- 82. Taux brut de mortalité (homme, femme).
- 83. Pourcentage de femmes qui reçoivent des soins prénatals.
- 84. Nombre d'enfants vivants par femme
- 85. Taux de demandes non satisfaites en contraception
- 86. Taux de prévalence contraceptive, par méthode.
- 87. Nombre de femmes travaillant dans le secteur de la santé.
- 88. Existence d'une autorisation de mari pour permettre à la femme mariée de recevoir des soins de santé.
- 89. Existence de lois légalisant l'avortement.
- 90. Existence de programmes de sensibilisation sur les IST/VIH/ SIDA.
- 91. Existence de mesures assurant la participation des femmes à la lutte contre les IST/VIH /SIDA.

*Dispositifs sociaux*

**ARTICLE 13 : BÉNÉFICES SOCIAUX ET ECONOMIQUES**

- 92. Existence de systèmes familiaux de profits. *cadre transfert*
  - 1) Protection sociale des femmes
  - 2) Accès aux ressources
- 93. Existence de mesures affectant équitablement les femmes et les hommes dans l'accès au crédit.
- 94. Pourcentage de femmes, d'hommes ayant ces bénéfices.
- 95. Pourcentages de barrières légales, sociales, économiques ou culturelles privant les femmes de participer aux activités récréatives.

**ARTICLE 14 : FEMMES DU MILIEU RURAL**

- 96. Existence de mesures permettant aux femmes du milieu rural de connaître leurs droits.
- 97. Existence de traitements différents des femmes mariées, veuves, divorcées et célibataires
- 98. Pourcentage de femmes s'adonnant à des travaux agricoles en milieu rural
- 99. Pourcentage de femmes en milieu rural représentées dans les instances de planification du développement.
- 100. Existence de programmes spécifiques répondant aux besoins des femmes du milieu rural.
- 101. Existence d'obstacles empêchant les femmes du milieu rural d'avoir accès à des services de planification familiale et de conseils.
- 102. Taux de mortalité maternelle en milieu rural.
- 103. Taux de mortalité infantile en milieu rural.
- 104. Espérance de vie à la naissance des femmes en milieu rural.
- 105. Pourcentage de femmes en milieu rural recevant des soins prénatals.
- 106. Pourcentage de femmes en milieu rural recevant des services de planification familiale.
- 107. Existence de programmes de sécurité sociale pour les femmes du milieu rural.
- 108. Pourcentage de femmes du milieu rural analphabètes selon le groupe d'âge : 15-24 ; 25- 44.
- 109. Existence de groupements de promotion pour les femmes du milieu rural.
- 110. Existence de marchés en milieu rural que les femmes peuvent utiliser pour la vente de leurs biens.
- 111. Existence de réformes agraires affectant les femmes.
- 112. Existence de réformes dans le domaine de la santé, de l'électricité, de l'eau, du transport et de la communication tenant compte des besoins spécifiques des femmes du milieu rural.

**ARTICLE 15 : EGALITE DEVANT LA LOI ET SUR LE PLAN CIVIL**

- 113. Existence de lois traitant de manière égale les femmes et les hommes au regard de leur capacité à conclure des contrats et leur application.
- 114. Pourcentage de femmes, d'hommes ayant accès aux services légaux.
- 115. Existence d'étude relative montrant que la pratique judiciaire a un impact différent sur les hommes et les femmes.

### **3° Directions :**

- Direction des Investissements et de la Promotion touristique ;
- Direction des Etudes et de la Planification ;
- Direction de la Réglementation Touristique et des Loisirs ;
- Direction des Loisirs ;
- Direction de l'Administration générale et de l'Equipement.

### **4° Autre administration :**

Ecole nationale de Formation hôtelière et touristique (ENFHT) ;  
Fonds de promotion touristique.

## **MINISTÈRE DE LA FEMME, DE L'ENFANCE ET DE L'ENTREPRENARIAT FEMININ**

### **1° Cabinet et services rattachés :**

- Inspection interne ;
- Service des Actions sociales ;

### **2° Secrétariat général et services rattachés:**

- Cellule de passation des marchés publics ;
- Cellule de la planification ;
- Bureau de la Communication et de la Documentation ;
- Bureau du courrier commun ;
- Service des statistiques sociales ;

### **2° Directions :**

- Direction de la Famille ;
- Direction des Droits de Protection de l'Enfance et des Groupes vulnérables ;
- Direction de la Petite enfance ;
- Direction des Organisations féminines et de l'Entreprenariat féminin ;
- Direction de la Micro-finance ;
- Direction des Etudes et de l'Evaluation des projets ;
- Direction de l'Equité et de l'Egalité du Genre ;
- Direction du Développement social et communautaire ;
- Direction de l'Administration générale et de l'Equipement.

### **3° Autres administrations :**

- Office national des Pupilles de la Nation ;
- Centre national d'Assistance et de Formation pour les Femmes (CENAF) ;
- Centre d'Accueil, d'Information et d'Orientation pour les enfants en situation difficile (Ginddi) ;
- Agence nationale de la Petite enfance et de la Case des Tout-petits ;
- Fonds national de Crédit pour les Femmes ;
- Fonds d'Impulsion de la Micro-Finance ;
- Fonds national de Promotion de l'Entreprenariat Féminin ;

youth and other civil society organizations and marginalized groups, which have a critical role in making these processes meaningful and effective, including through participation in policy-making and monitoring. The independent media also has a role to play in sustaining political will and public commitment and in disseminating information about progress.

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In recent decades, the international community has signed on to a variety of inspired agreements and noble pledges, such as the Millennium Development Goals, intended to further human rights, improve quality of life, reduce poverty and foster development. Despite considerable progress in various aspects and countries, the political will and resource investments necessary to guarantee universal fulfillment of sexual and reproductive health and rights, the empowerment of women and gender equality, and the rights and empowerment of adolescents and youth, have been insufficient. Yet, progress in these areas is inextricably linked to achieving all other global objectives, including poverty eradication, health, education, economic growth, and environmental sustainability. Without the strengthening of these three key pillars, which are universal aspects of people's lives and rights, prospects for achieving meaningful, inclusive and sustained progress for all humanity should be put into question.

The international community now has the opportunity to forge broad-based partnerships to build on achievements and lessons from the past decades to remedy these critical gaps, by drawing on common sense and evidence that demonstrate how investment in these areas is especially strategic. Ensuring that population dynamics and demographic projections are systematically built into planning, accompanied by advancements in sexual and reproductive health and rights, can enable improved responses to meet many of the world's challenges in diverse settings: poverty, migration, ageing, urbanization, and meeting increased demands on educational, health and social services from growing younger populations. The world's population, currently over 7 billion, is projected to increase by over 2 billion by 2050, with most of this growth occurring in some of world's poorest countries,<sup>69</sup> and millions of children and young people entering the world with a rightful claim to a life in which their freedoms, opportunities and choices can be realized. Governments, donors, civil society and the private sector have the chance, and obligation, to work together to create the conditions for empowering all individuals, families and communities with the knowledge, skills and resources necessary for building a more healthy, prosperous, equal and sustainable world.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations (2012). *Millennium Development Goals Report*. (United Nations: New York).

<sup>2</sup> See Recommendation 3.c: "Ensuring universal access to quality and affordable family-planning and other sexual and reproductive rights and health services" in United Nations (2012). *Resilient People, Resilient Planet, A Future Worth Choosing, the Report of the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability*. (United Nations: New York).

<sup>3</sup> For example, a 20-year study of 140 villages in Bangladesh showed that offering women contraception and reproductive health information led to a 30% increase in wages, alongside a 10-15% reduction in fertility. Child survival, schooling and overall maternal and child health also improved, and household assets increased. Schultz, Paul (2009). *How Does Family Planning Promote Development? Evidence from a Social Experiment in Matlab, Bangladesh, 1977-1996*.

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<sup>5</sup> UNFPA and HelpAge International (2012). *Ageing in the Twenty-First Century: A Celebration and A Challenge*. (United Nations: New York; HelpAge International: London).

<sup>6</sup> WHO (2012). *Maternal Mortality Fact sheet N°348*.

<sup>7</sup> Nanda, G, and Kimberly Switlick and Elizabeth Lule (2005). *Accelerating Progress Toward the MDG to Improve Maternal Health*; Health, Nutrition and Population Discussion Paper, World Bank.

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<sup>9</sup> Guttmacher Institute and UNFPA (2012). *Fact Sheet: Costs and Benefits of Investing in Contraceptive Services in the Developing World*.

<sup>10</sup> Cohen, Susan A (2009). Facts and Consequences: Legality, Incidence and Safety of Abortion Worldwide, *Guttmacher Policy Review*, Fall 2009, Volume 12, Number 4.

<sup>11</sup> UNAIDS, *Factsheet: the Global AIDS Epidemic*. (Data from 2011).

<sup>12</sup> UNFPA and HelpAge International (2012). *Ageing in the Twenty-First Century: A Celebration and A Challenge*. (United Nations Population Fund: New York; HelpAge International: London).

116. Existence de concepts légaux, tels que défenses spéciales, appliquées aux femmes et non aux hommes

**ARTICLE 16 : EGALITE DANS LA LOI SUR LE MARIAGE ET LA FAMILLE**

- 117. Existence de lois civiles, religieuses, coutumières régissant les relations familiales
- 118. Types ou formes de familles sous ces différentes lois.
- 119. Existence de mesures exigeant le mariage avec consentement personnel des femmes.
- 120. Existence des droits égaux des femmes et des hommes pendant le mariage.
- 121. Existence de loi autorisant la polygamie.
- 122. Pourcentage de mariages polygamiques.
- 123. Existences des droits égaux pour les hommes et les femmes pour acquérir, gérer et disposer de biens.
- 124. La loi fondamentale ainsi que le Code de la famille posent le principe du droit des femmes à accéder à la possession et à la propriété de la terre, d'avoir leur patrimoine propre comme leur mari, et de gérer personnellement leurs biens. (Art 380 et suivants du Code de la famille).
- 125. Droits des femmes après le mariage.
- 126. Existence de lois pratiques relatives aux femmes mariées abusées.
- 127. Existence de droit de décider librement du nombre et de l'espacement des naissances par les femmes.
- 128. Existence d'une politique nationale de planification familiale.
- 129. Existence des droits égaux pour les femmes et les hommes dans la garde des enfants.
- 130. Age minimum des hommes et des femmes au mariage.
- 131. Existence de la pratique du lévirat.
- 132. Pourcentage de ménages dirigés par une femme

pregnant girls and young mothers to complete their education is essential and will require tailored supports.

- **Access to comprehensive sexuality education**,<sup>67</sup> in and out of school, as part of young people's basic 'life literacy', to enable them to understand and make informed decisions about their sexuality and plan their lives, including to protect themselves from HIV and sexually transmitted diseases, and for girls to be able to complete their education, avoid unwanted pregnancy, unsafe abortion and related mortality; and to promote values of respect for human rights, tolerance, gender equality and non-violence.
- Ensuring legal measures, policies and public education to protect the **human rights of girls**, especially from all forms of child abuse, violence, exploitation and trafficking, and for the elimination of harmful practices, including child marriage and female genital mutilation; prohibit expulsion from school due to pregnancy; and remove barriers to adolescents' access to sexual and reproductive health information and services.
- **Universal access to sexual and reproductive health information and services**, that are high-quality, youth-friendly and respect the right to confidentiality, privacy and informed consent, with a focus on prevention of pregnancy, HIV and sexually transmitted infections, and timely support in cases of sexual assault and other forms of violence. Particular attention should be paid to outreach and quality service access for adolescent girls, including to reduce unintended pregnancies and maternal deaths among this age group.
- **The creation of decent employment and livelihood opportunities** for youth, with attention to young women's equal opportunities. Youth-friendly job creation policies at the macro- and micro-levels should be implemented, based on partnerships across schools, community organizations, the private sector and businesses, to create training programs and related economic opportunities, as well as access to productive assets and financial services, to foster youth entrepreneurship and enable their successful transition from school to the workforce.

To ensure meaningful progress and inclusive development, a **robust accountability framework is needed at national, regional and global levels, rooted in human rights, equality and equity principles, that:**

- Establishes measures and mechanisms, engaging diverse stakeholders, to track **political, programmatic and financial accountability** for commitments made and human rights obligations. This includes tracking *health sector system strengthening and budgets* to ensure that universal access to sexual and reproductive health information and services receive priority attention; and that national health plans and budgets guarantee a minimum package of integrated sexual and reproductive health services.<sup>68</sup> This should include sub-national and community-level mechanisms, with a focus on assessing equitable access and quality of care.
- Places the fulfillment of **human rights and human security as the ultimate aim** of accountability processes, including by monitoring that key enabling and inter-related investments in the empowerment of women and young people are tracked across sectors, in order to tackle the underlying determinants of inequality, ill health and poverty. In the case of sexual and reproductive health, for example, this means tracking not only expanded access to quality services, but also *transformative* investments in young people, women and gender equality—well beyond the health sector.
- Paying particular attention to *data generation, disaggregation and analysis* to address **inequalities and diversity** among population groups, especially to ensure that the poorest and excluded sectors are accessing the policies, laws and services put in place, in both urban and rural contexts, including migrant, displaced, conflict-affected, indigenous and minority populations, the elderly, and with particular attention to women, adolescents and youth living in poverty.
- State accountability, by Governments to their people, should be the central focus, while tracking fulfillment of **commitments by multiple actors**, in particular the UN System, development cooperation partners, the private sector and other relevant parties. Accountability systems should be inter-sectoral and grounded in **participatory approaches** that ensure the active engagement of diverse women's,



youth and other civil society organizations and marginalized groups, which have a critical role in making these processes meaningful and effective, including through participation in policy-making and monitoring. The independent media also has a role to play in sustaining political will and public commitment and in disseminating information about progress.

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In recent decades, the international community has signed on to a variety of inspired agreements and noble pledges, such as the Millennium Development Goals, intended to further human rights, improve quality of life, reduce poverty and foster development. Despite considerable progress in various aspects and countries, the political will and resource investments necessary to guarantee universal fulfillment of sexual and reproductive health and rights, the empowerment of women and gender equality, and the rights and empowerment of adolescents and youth, have been insufficient. Yet, progress in these areas is inextricably linked to achieving all other global objectives, including poverty eradication, health, education, economic growth, and environmental sustainability. Without the strengthening of these three key pillars, which are universal aspects of people's lives and rights, prospects for achieving meaningful, inclusive and sustained progress for all humanity should be put into question.

The international community now has the opportunity to forge broad-based partnerships to build on achievements and lessons from the past decades to remedy these critical gaps, by drawing on common sense and evidence that demonstrate how investment in these areas is especially strategic. Ensuring that population dynamics and demographic projections are systematically built into planning, accompanied by advancements in sexual and reproductive health and rights, can enable improved responses to meet many of the world's challenges in diverse settings: poverty, migration, ageing, urbanization, and meeting increased demands on educational, health and social services from growing younger populations. The world's population, currently over 7 billion, is projected to increase by over 2 billion by 2050, with most of this growth occurring in some of world's poorest countries,<sup>69</sup> and millions of children and young people entering the world with a rightful claim to a life in which their freedoms, opportunities and choices can be realized. Governments, donors, civil society and the private sector have the chance, and obligation, to work together to create the conditions for empowering all individuals, families and communities with the knowledge, skills and resources necessary for building a more healthy, prosperous, equal and sustainable world.

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<sup>13</sup> UNAIDS, *Fact Sheet: The Global AIDS epidemic*. (Data from 2011).

<sup>14</sup> UNAIDS (2010). *Report on the Global Aids Epidemic*. (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS): New York).

<sup>15</sup> WHO (2012). *Sexually Transmitted Infections*. (World Health Organization: Geneva).

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> WHO (2012). *Global Health Observatory: Antenatal Care*. (Data from 2005-2010).

<sup>18</sup> WHO/UNICEF (2004). *Joint Statement: Focusing on Anaemia, towards an integrated approach for effective anaemia control*.

<sup>19</sup> Chao D and Allen K, (1984). A cost benefit analysis of Thailand's family planning program, *Studies in Family Planning*, 10(3):75-81.

<sup>20</sup> Nortman D, Halvas J and Rabago A (1986). A Cost-benefit Analysis of the Mexican Social Security Administration's Family Planning Program, *Studies in Family Planning*, 17(1):1-6.

<sup>21</sup> UNFPA (2012). *State of the World Population 2012: By Choice, Not by Chance: Family Planning, Human Rights and Development*. (United Nations Populations Fund: New York).

<sup>22</sup> See WHO (2011). *Ten Facts on Cancer: Breast and cervical cancers are among the top 5 cancers that kill women, yet can be cured if detected early and treated adequately. One-fifth of all cancers are caused by a chronic infection—hepatitis B virus (HBV) causes liver cancer and human papillomavirus (HPV) causes cervical cancer; the latter is the most common cancer in developing countries. Up to 20% of cancer deaths could be prevented in developing countries by immunization against these two infections.*

<sup>23</sup> United Nations (2012). Resolution Adopted by the General Assembly 66/288 *The Future We Want* (Sept 2012), para. 139, recognizes the "importance of universal health coverage". See also *The Lancet*, Volume 380, No.9845, 8 September 2012, special issue on Universal Health Coverage.

<sup>24</sup> De Schutter, Oliver (2012). *Our Secret Weapon Against Hunger: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment*. Asian Development Bank.

<sup>25</sup> United Nations (2012). *Resilient People, Resilient Planet, A Future Worth Choosing, the Report of the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability*. (United Nations: New York) states that "the next increment of global growth could well come from the full economic empowerment of women."

<sup>26</sup> Berg, Andrew G. and Jonathan D Ostry (2011). *Inequality and Unsustainable Growth: Two Sides of the Same Coin?* IMF Staff Discussion Note.

<sup>27</sup> United Nations (2012). *Resilient People, Resilient Planet, A Future Worth Choosing, the Report of the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability*. (United Nations: New York).

<sup>28</sup> FAO (2011). *The State Of Food And Agriculture 2010-2011: Women In Agriculture—Closing The Gender Gap For Development*. (Food and Agriculture Organization: Rome).

<sup>29</sup> World Bank (2001). *Engendering Development Through Gender Equality in Rights, Resources, and Voice*. (Oxford University Press: New York).

<sup>30</sup> UN Women, *Fact Sheet: Violence against Women and the Millennium Development Goals*.

<sup>31</sup> Prevalence data based on analysis of the leading surveys globally on violence against women covering 48 countries, showing that 15 to 76 per cent of women experience domestic and/or sexual violence in their lifetime. UN Women, *Fact Sheet: Violence Against Women and the Millennium Development Goals*.

<sup>32</sup> Singh S, Sedgh G and Hussain R (2010). Unintended pregnancy: Worldwide Levels, Trends, and Outcomes, *Studies in Family Planning*, 41(4):241-250.

<sup>33</sup> Cohen, Susan A (2009). Facts and Consequences: Legality, Incidence and Safety of Abortion Worldwide, *Guttmacher Policy Review*, Fall 2009, Volume 12, Number 4.

<sup>34</sup> UNAIDS *The Global AIDS Epidemic, Key Facts* (based on 2011 data).

<sup>35</sup> UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2011). *Fact Sheet: Adult and Youth Literacy*, No. 16, September 2011.

<sup>36</sup> United Nations (2012). *United Nations Millennium Development Goals Report*. (United Nations: New York).

<sup>37</sup> ILO and UN Women (2012). *Policy Brief: Decent Work and Women's Economic Empowerment: Good Policy and Practice*. (UN Women: New York).

<sup>38</sup> ILO (2011). *Report of the Director General, A New Era of Social Justice, International Labour Conference, 100th Session*. (International Labour Office: Geneva).

<sup>39</sup> United Nations (2012). *United Nations Millennium Development Goals Report*. (United Nations: New York).

<sup>40</sup> UNFPA (2011). *State of World Population 2011: People and Possibilities in a World of 7 Billion*. (United Nations Population Fund: New York).

<sup>41</sup> UNICEF (2012). *Progress for Children: A Report Card on Adolescents*. (United Nations Children's Fund: New York).

<sup>42</sup> Youth refers to 15-24 years of age. UNDESA (2010). *World Youth Report: Youth and Climate Change*. (United Nations: New York).

<sup>43</sup> UNFPA (2012). *Marrying Too Young: End Child Marriage*. (United Nations Population Fund: New York).

<sup>44</sup> UNFPA and HelpAge International (2012). *Ageing in the Twenty-First Century: A Celebration and A Challenge*. (United Nations Population Fund: New York; HelpAge International: London).

- <sup>45</sup> Singh S et al. (2009). *Adding It Up: The Costs and Benefits of Investing in Family Planning and Maternal and Newborn Health*. (Guttmacher Institute and United Nations Population Fund: New York).
- <sup>46</sup> Asian countries referred to are: South Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan (the "Asian Tigers"). See UNFPA (2012). *State of World Population 2012: By Choice, Not by Chance: Family Planning, Human Rights and Development*. (United Nations Population Fund: New York) and UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO (2012). *Health in the post-2015 UN development agenda, Thematic Think Piece, UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 Development Agenda*. (United Nations: New York).
- <sup>47</sup> UNFPA (2012). *State of the World's Population 2012: By Choice, Not by Chance: Family Planning, Human Rights and Development*. (United Nations Population Fund: New York).
- <sup>48</sup> United Nations (2012). *Millennium Development Goals Report*. (United Nations: New York).
- <sup>49</sup> UNESCO (2012). *Fact Sheet: Reaching out of school children is important for development*.
- <sup>50</sup> United Nations (2012). *Resilient People, Resilient Planet, A Future Worth Choosing, the Report of the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability*. (United Nations: New York).
- <sup>51</sup> United Nations (2010). *Millennium Development Goals Report*. (United Nations: New York); see also UNESCO (2012). *Education for All Global Monitoring Report*. (UNESCO: Paris).
- <sup>52</sup> United Nations, Inter-agency Task Force on Rural Women, *Fact Sheet: Rural Women and the Millennium Development Goals*.
- <sup>53</sup> UNICEF (2011). *UNICEF says education for women and girls a lifeline to development*. See also Ruth Levine, et al. (2008). *Girls Count: A Global Investment & Action Agenda*. (Center for Global Development: Washington, D.C.)
- <sup>54</sup> UNICEF (2012). *Progress for Children: A report card for adolescents*. (United Nations: New York).
- <sup>55</sup> WHO (2012). *Fact sheet N°364 Adolescent pregnancy*.
- <sup>56</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>57</sup> UNAIDS *The Global AIDS Epidemic, Key Facts*. (Based on 2011 data).
- <sup>58</sup> UNAIDS (2011). *UN World AIDS Day Report*. (Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS: Geneva).
- <sup>59</sup> UNICEF (2010). *Progress for Children: Achieving the MDGs with Equity*. (UNICEF: New York).
- <sup>60</sup> UNAIDS (2012). *Fact Sheet: Adolescents, Young People and HIV*.
- <sup>61</sup> UN Women, *Fact Sheet: Violence against Women and the Millennium Development Goals*.
- <sup>62</sup> Ortiz, Isabel and Matthew Cummings (2012). *When the Global Crisis and the Youth Bulge Collide; Social and Economic Policy Working Paper*. (UNICEF: New York).
- <sup>63</sup> ILO (2011). *Global Employment Trends for Youth: 2011 Update*. (International Labour Office: Geneva).
- <sup>64</sup> Ibid. (with data from 52 countries)
- <sup>65</sup> UNFPA (2011). *State of World Population 2011: People and Possibilities in a World of 7 billion*. (United Nations: New York).
- <sup>66</sup> UNFPA (2005). *State of World Population 2005: The Promise of Equality Gender Equity, Reproductive Health and the Millennium Development Goals*. (United Nations Population Fund: New York).
- <sup>67</sup> UNESCO's definition of comprehensive sexuality education: 'Sexuality education is defined as an age-appropriate, culturally relevant approach to teaching about sex and relationships by providing scientifically accurate, realistic, non-judgmental information. Comprehensive sexuality education programmes address the human rights, ethical, biological, emotional, social, cultural and gender aspects of sexuality, and respect diversity of sexual orientations and identities.' (UNESCO (2011). *School-Based Sexuality Education Programmes: A Cost and Cost-Effectiveness Analysis in Six Countries*. (UNESCO: Paris).
- <sup>68</sup> As recommended by the United Nations Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health (2011). *Keeping Promises, Measuring Results*. (United Nations: New York).
- <sup>69</sup> UNDESA Population Division (2011). *World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision*. (United Nations: New York).

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# High-Level Task Force for ICPD

RIGHTS, DIGNITY & HEALTH FOR ALL

November 26, 2012

H.E. Mariama Sarr  
Minister of Women, Children, & Female Entrepreneurship  
Dakar, Senegal

**Subject: Post-2015 Development Agenda**

Your Excellency,

We are pleased to greet you in our capacity as Co-Chairs of the High-Level Task Force for the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), an independent body of eminent and distinguished leaders from government, civil society, and the private sector. Our mission is to help bridge the vision and impact potential of implementing the ICPD commitments with the Post-2015 development agenda for a successful outcome.

The purpose of our letter is to share the policy briefs and recommendations for the post-2015 agenda of the High-Level Task Force for the ICPD for your consideration. They are centred on three essential and mutually-reinforcing pillars of equitable and sustainable development: sexual and reproductive health and rights, the empowerment of women and gender equality, and the rights and empowerment of adolescents and youth. These are fundamental human rights issues, as well as prerequisites for the achievement of all other development objectives--poverty eradication, equality and equity, education, health, economic growth, and sustainable development. Specifically, the Task Force considers that the following merit their positioning as goals, targets and indicators in the new development framework:

- Advancing *sexual and reproductive health and rights* for all women and men, including young people, by establishing policy and legal protections; and by accelerating implementation of *universal access to sexual and reproductive information, education and services*, including family planning, maternal health and HIV-related components. Such essential services should be affordable to all, by ensuring their inclusion in universal health coverage, and through subsidies and the removal of user fees.
- Advancing *women's empowerment and gender equality and eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls*, including by closing gender gaps at all levels of education and enabling girls' completion of secondary school; ensuring women's economic empowerment; and expanding their leadership in decision-making and political participation, including through affirmative action measures. Public policies should also be strengthened to foster men's involvement, shared roles and responsibilities across these areas.


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- Advancing the *rights and empowerment of adolescents and youth*, by ensuring legal reforms and public policies, including to protect the human rights of girls and young women from all forms of violence, exploitation, trafficking and harmful practices such as child marriage and female genital mutilation; providing *comprehensive sexuality education* and sexual and reproductive health services to prevent HIV, early pregnancies and their socio-economic consequences; and ensuring *decent employment* and productive assets for young people's successful transition from school to the workforce.
- Strong *accountability frameworks* to track the fulfillment of political, programmatic and financial commitments at national, regional and global levels, with a focus on addressing inequities to ensure that the most excluded and impoverished populations are accessing the policies, laws and services put in place. Participatory mechanisms should be established, involving local to national levels of governments, diverse constituencies of civil society, including women's and youth groups, parliamentarians, development cooperation partners and the private sector.

These Task Force recommendations are rooted in evidence that meaningful progress for human development can only be made if these fundamental areas are significantly advanced. We are confident that they represent not only human rights imperatives, but smart, cost-effective investments to foster more just, healthy, productive and prosperous societies, and a more sustainable world.

We express our sincere appreciation for your consideration and are at your disposal for further exchanges and collaboration.



H.E. Tarja Halonen  
Former President of the Republic of Finland



H.E. Joaquim Alberto Chissano  
Former President of the Republic of Mozambique

Attachments:

Policy Briefs on Priorities for the Post-2015 Agenda

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**Advancing women's empowerment and gender equality by:**

- ✓ Closing gender gaps at all levels of education, with particular attention to **quality education for all girls and boys, girls' completion of secondary education**, and eliminating female illiteracy.
- ✓ Ensuring women's equal access to **livelihood and employment opportunities**, including equal pay with men, access to productive assets, banking and financial services, agricultural supports, equal access to land, property and inheritance, and to technology, training and ICTs (Information and Communications Technologies). Creation of livelihood and employment opportunities for older women is especially crucial in countries without strong pension or social security systems.
- ✓ Expanding **women's leadership in decision-making**, including through affirmative action measures to increase their **political participation** at local and national levels, and further participatory and inclusive governance and democracy.
- ✓ **Eliminating all forms of gender-based violence against women and girls**, through legislative reforms and enforcement, prevention efforts engaging young people and men, and ensuring access to health, social and legal services for all victims.

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**Advancing the human rights and empowerment of adolescents and youth by:**

- ✓ Providing access to **comprehensive sexuality education**, in and out of school, and to **sexual and reproductive health services**, in order to enable them to plan their lives, understand and make informed decisions about their sexuality, protect themselves from HIV and sexually transmitted diseases, and keep girls in school by avoiding early and unwanted pregnancy.
- ✓ Ensuring legal measures, policies and public education to protect the **human rights of girls**, especially from all forms of violence, exploitation and trafficking, and for the elimination of harmful practices, including child marriage and female genital mutilation; prohibit expulsion from school due to pregnancy; and remove barriers to adolescents' access to sexual and reproductive health information and services.
- ✓ Ensuring young women and men acquire relevant skills to enter the workplace, and have access to **decent employment and livelihood opportunities**. Youth-friendly job creation policies should build partnerships across schools, community organizations and the private sector, and provide training programs, related economic opportunities, and productive assets for a successful transition from school to the workforce.

**Ensuring a robust accountability framework rooted in human rights, equality and equity principles, by:**

- ✓ Establishing measures and mechanisms to track **political, programmatic and financial accountability** for commitments made and for human rights obligations, at national, regional and global levels. This includes tracking *health sector system strengthening and budgets* to ensure sexual and reproductive health information, education and services receive priority attention. Accountability also means ensuring that those most marginalized can access and afford services, by ensuring inclusion of sexual and reproductive health services in *universal health coverage schemes* and by *removing user fees*.
- ✓ Paying particular attention to *data generation, disaggregation and analysis* that addresses **inequalities and diversity** among population groups, especially to ensure that the poorest and excluded sectors are accessing the policies, laws and services put in place, in both urban and rural contexts, including migrant, displaced, conflict-affected, indigenous and minority populations, and with particular attention to women, adolescents and youth, and older persons living in poverty.
- ✓ Maintaining a focus on State accountability, by Governments to their people, while tracking fulfillment of **commitments by multiple actors**, including the UN System, development cooperation partners, the private sector and other relevant sectors. Accountability systems should be inter-sectoral and grounded in **participatory approaches** that ensure the meaningful engagement of diverse women's, youth and other civil society organizations in policy-making and monitoring processes.

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# High-Level Task Force for ICPD

RIGHTS, DIGNITY & HEALTH FOR ALL

## Policy Brief: Priorities for the Post-2015 Development Agenda

The High-Level Task Force for the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)\* envisions a world where all women and men, adult and young, have equal opportunities, freedoms and choices to forge their own life aspirations and destinies. This would be the outcome of a globally just, sustainably developed world, where human progress is gauged by the fulfillment of equal rights for all, based on principles of non-discrimination, participation and inclusiveness.

To realize this vision, **sexual and reproductive health and rights, the empowerment of women and gender equality, and the rights and empowerment of adolescents and youth must be placed at the heart of sustainable development.** They are essential priorities for a sound and effective post-2015 global agenda, rooted in human rights and dignity; and prerequisites for building the resilience of individuals and communities, as foundational pillars of vibrant, healthy, productive and prosperous societies. They are important ends in themselves, State's obligations to fulfill, and key to eradicating poverty and achieving social and economic development. In recent decades, important achievements have been made—for example, in closing gender gaps in education, reducing maternal and child mortality, and increasing access to treatment of HIV and AIDS<sup>1</sup>— but progress has been uneven and has not reached everyone. The international community now has the opportunity to build on these gains and advance strategic commitments, by ensuring that these three inter-related pillars receive the highest order of prioritization in the post-2015 development agenda, as goals, targets and indicators. Investment in these areas is not only an ethical imperative, but also a mechanism to catapult nations' sustainable economic growth and social stability.

**Sexual and reproductive health and rights are essential elements of human dignity and human development, and a core basis for social and economic progress.** These are the most intimate and fundamental of human rights, as they relate to making informed decisions about basic aspects of life – one's body, sexuality, health, relationships, marriage and having children. Achieving poverty eradication, educational, health, economic and sustainable development objectives<sup>2</sup> hinge on the fulfillment of these rights for all women, men and young people. Overall, women and adolescent girls who have control over decisions regarding their sexuality and the number, timing and spacing of their children are healthier, better able to complete their education, enter the workforce more prepared, and balance their productive and reproductive lives, with improved livelihood and income-earning prospects for themselves and their families.<sup>3</sup> Healthier, smaller families are also more resilient and better able to thrive when facing crises or environmental challenges, and, combined with changes in unsustainable production and consumption patterns, this can help relieve pressures on limited resources and fragile ecosystems.<sup>4</sup>

The overwhelming majority of people in the world—in all countries and cultures—is or will be sexually active in their lifetime, and for much of their life-cycle. They therefore need legal protection of these rights, and information and services to make informed choices based on their own life circumstances and aspirations. Sexual and reproductive health problems take an especially huge, but avoidable, toll on the health and lives of women and adolescent girls at the prime of their lives and productivity, with consequences that persist into old age<sup>5</sup>, and with costs to themselves, their families and the wider society and economy. Despite progress, these problems afflict millions across the world due to discrimination and limited access to education and

\* The High-Level Task Force for ICPD is a group of 26 eminent and distinguished leaders acting in their individual capacities, with a record of service as heads of state, ministers and parliamentarians, civil society, private sector and philanthropic leaders, co-chaired by former Presidents Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique and Tarja Halonen of Finland.

related to HIV with other sexual and reproductive health services, as well as with *responses to violence against women and girls* and sexual abuse of boys and men; *technological innovations* where feasible (such as mobile phones) as a low-cost means of increasing access to information and services; and ensuring *financial access*, within the overall context of global trends towards *universal health coverage*,<sup>23</sup> through free or subsidized care and the *removal of user fees*.

- Providing recognition and protections in national legislation that affirm **fundamental human rights**, specifically **sexual and reproductive rights**, including by removing legal, policy and regulatory barriers and punitive provisions, and guaranteeing people's ability to exercise these rights, including through human rights education and awareness-raising about legal rights, and access to relevant information and services, without discrimination, coercion or violence on any grounds, regardless of age, sex, race, ethnicity, culture, religious, marital, disability, HIV, national origin, migrant, language, sexual orientation, gender identity or other factors and status.

**The empowerment of women and girls and the achievement of gender equality are a matter of fundamental human rights and a basic precondition for equitable and sustainable social and economic development.** As breadwinners and caretakers, food producers and almost half of the developing world's agricultural workforce<sup>24</sup>, peace-builders in crisis-affected communities, and, increasingly, political and business leaders, women are the backbone of strong families and communities on which nations are built. As half the world's population, they represent half the global human capital base for boosting economic growth and poverty eradication.<sup>25</sup> But women face systematic obstacles due to gender-based discrimination, violence and inequality, severely compromising their human rights and freedoms, health and educational attainment, productivity and earning potential. When large sectors of society face inequality, countries' economic growth and social progress is slowed.<sup>26</sup>

Conversely, when women are empowered, all benefit and prosper. For example, if women's employment rates were raised to the same level as men's, the GDP of the United States would rise by 9%, the euro-zone's by 13%, and Japan's by 16%.<sup>27</sup> In the sphere of agriculture, providing women with equal access to productive resources could increase farm yields by 20-30%, reduce the number of hungry people by up to 17% and the number of undernourished by as many as 100 to 150 million.<sup>28</sup> Women also invest considerably more of their income in their families and communities than men, including schooling and health for their children, thereby increasing poverty reduction prospects.<sup>29</sup> With supportive policies in place, and control over reproductive decision-making, women are better able to manage both forming a family and engaging in productive enterprise and workforce participation. Key measures include affordable childcare and fostering men's shared roles and responsibilities in childrearing and caretaking. Empowering women also requires eliminating gender-based violence, through implementation of policies and enforcement of legislation, which can also yield overall savings. For example, the United States saved \$14.8 billion on direct and indirect expenses related to health care and survivor services, police response, lost productivity, reduced quality of life, and death from implementing its national law. In Australia, it was estimated that \$23,673 would be saved for each woman spared from experiencing violence.<sup>30</sup>

Despite ample recognition by the international community of the centrality of women's empowerment and gender equality to sustainable development, as demonstrated by its placement as one of the Millennium Development Goals, grave challenges persist:

- **Violence against Women:** Across the world, country data shows that as many as 6 in 10 women experience domestic and/or sexual violence in their lifetime, making it one of the most pervasive human rights violations, with devastating consequences for their well-being, health, productivity, their children and their educational achievement, and billions in costs to public expenditures and employers.<sup>31</sup>
- **Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights:** Approximately 40% of pregnancies worldwide are unintended because women lack access to quality services and contraceptive information and services.<sup>32</sup> An estimated 20 million unsafe abortions occur worldwide every year, most of them in developing countries, with life-threatening consequences for women and adolescent girls<sup>33</sup>. Maternal mortality remains unacceptably high despite progress achieved. The leading cause of death for women of reproductive age is HIV/AIDS.<sup>34</sup>



employment opportunities, they can contribute to a higher-skilled, more productive workforce. Fewer dependents also increases household savings and investment in families and communities, further strengthening the human capital base for poverty eradication and sustained economic growth.<sup>45</sup> This 'demographic dividend' was an important factor behind of the East Asian 'miracle' of rapid economic growth, and has been observed in other regions.<sup>46</sup> With 1 in 5 people in the world projected to be over 60 by 2050, investing in young people today—in their health, education, livelihoods, and increasing their ability to provide for their future, including by contributing to pension or social security systems - is also the best way to secure quality of life for older persons tomorrow.<sup>47</sup>

Yet young people are virtually invisible and woefully neglected in the Millennium Development Goals, and receive very limited attention in public programmes and national budgets, which has serious implications for social stability, economic development and poverty eradication:

- **Schooling:** 71 million young adolescents (ages 12-15) are out of school,<sup>48</sup> especially girls living in poverty and children in conflict-affected settings.<sup>49</sup> Less than a quarter of children complete secondary school.<sup>50</sup> Girls of primary-school age from the poorest 60% of households are three times more likely to be out of school as those from the wealthiest households, and twice as many girls of secondary-school age are out of school compared to their wealthier peers.<sup>51</sup> These children are robbed of a fundamental right, and in addition, future families and countries forgo major gains: An extra year of primary school increases girls' eventual wages by 10-20%<sup>52</sup> and an extra year of secondary school increases them by 15-25%.<sup>53</sup>
- **Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights:** Pregnancy and child-birth complications are the leading cause of death for adolescent girls in low and middle-income countries—with 50,000 dying every year.<sup>54</sup> Globally, 1 in 5 girls give birth before they turn 18.<sup>55</sup> Sixteen million adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 years give birth annually and an estimated 3 million undergo unsafe abortions.<sup>56</sup> Youth (15 to 24 years old) are the group most affected by HIV/AIDS, accounting for 40% of all new HIV infections.<sup>57</sup> Young women are especially at risk, with infection rates twice as high as young men,<sup>58</sup> representing some 60% of the 5 million young people in the world living with HIV and AIDS.<sup>59</sup> Meanwhile, only 36% of young men and 24% of young women in low- and middle-income countries know how to prevent HIV.<sup>60</sup>
- **Violence against Adolescent Girls and Young Women:** Worldwide, young women are subjected to various forms of violence and harmful practices, including domestic abuse, sexual harassment, sexual violence, exploitation and trafficking, child marriage and female genital mutilation. Up to 50 percent of sexual assaults are committed against girls under 16, and up to 30% of girls report their first sexual experience is forced.<sup>61</sup>
- **Employment:** Overall, young people are three times as likely as adults to be unemployed.<sup>62</sup> An estimated 75 million youth are unemployed, and many others are not counted because they lost hope in seeking work.<sup>63</sup> It is estimated that youth constitute almost a quarter of workers living in poverty.<sup>64</sup> Not only does unemployment contribute to poverty and social exclusion, it also represents a loss of public investment in education, a missed opportunity for innovation and economic growth, and forgone tax contributions and savings.<sup>65</sup>

**The empowerment and rights of adolescents and youth (10-24 years of age) must be a priority and explicit focus of the new global development agenda, with special attention to adolescent girls and young women. Decisions made about young people's opportunities and prospects will also reverberate for generations to come.**

Particular areas of strategic importance are:

- **Access to quality education for both boys and girls, with particular attention to girls' completion of secondary education, which can have high payoffs for poverty reduction and economic growth, the education and health of any future children, better sexual and reproductive health, reduced child and maternal mortality and HIV, and delayed fertility. For example, every year of mothers' education corresponds to 5 to 10 percent lower mortality rates in children under the age of five.<sup>66</sup> Enabling**

pregnant girls and young mothers to complete their education is essential and will require tailored supports.

- **Access to comprehensive sexuality education**,<sup>67</sup> in and out of school, as part of young people's basic 'life literacy', to enable them to understand and make informed decisions about their sexuality and plan their lives, including to protect themselves from HIV and sexually transmitted diseases, and for girls to be able to complete their education, avoid unwanted pregnancy, unsafe abortion and related mortality; and to promote values of respect for human rights, tolerance, gender equality and non-violence.
- Ensuring legal measures, policies and public education to protect the **human rights of girls**, especially from all forms of child abuse, violence, exploitation and trafficking, and for the elimination of harmful practices, including child marriage and female genital mutilation; prohibit expulsion from school due to pregnancy; and remove barriers to adolescents' access to sexual and reproductive health information and services.
- **Universal access to sexual and reproductive health information and services**, that are high-quality, youth-friendly and respect the right to confidentiality, privacy and informed consent, with a focus on prevention of pregnancy, HIV and sexually transmitted infections, and timely support in cases of sexual assault and other forms of violence. Particular attention should be paid to outreach and quality service access for adolescent girls, including to reduce unintended pregnancies and maternal deaths among this age group.
- **The creation of decent employment and livelihood opportunities** for youth, with attention to young women's equal opportunities. Youth-friendly job creation policies at the macro- and micro-levels should be implemented, based on partnerships across schools, community organizations, the private sector and businesses, to create training programs and related economic opportunities, as well as access to productive assets and financial services, to foster youth entrepreneurship and enable their successful transition from school to the workforce.

To ensure meaningful progress and inclusive development, a **robust accountability framework is needed at national, regional and global levels, rooted in human rights, equality and equity principles**, that:

- Establishes measures and mechanisms, engaging diverse stakeholders, to track **political, programmatic and financial accountability** for commitments made and human rights obligations. This includes tracking *health sector system strengthening and budgets* to ensure that universal access to sexual and reproductive health information and services receive priority attention; and that national health plans and budgets guarantee a minimum package of integrated sexual and reproductive health services.<sup>68</sup> This should include sub-national and community-level mechanisms, with a focus on assessing equitable access and quality of care.
- Places the fulfillment of **human rights and human security as the ultimate aim** of accountability processes, including by monitoring that key enabling and inter-related investments in the empowerment of women and young people are tracked across sectors, in order to tackle the underlying determinants of inequality, ill health and poverty. In the case of sexual and reproductive health, for example, this means tracking not only expanded access to quality services, but also *transformative* investments in young people, women and gender equality—well beyond the health sector.
- Paying particular attention to *data generation, disaggregation and analysis* to address **inequalities and diversity** among population groups, especially to ensure that the poorest and excluded sectors are accessing the policies, laws and services put in place, in both urban and rural contexts, including migrant, displaced, conflict-affected, indigenous and minority populations, the elderly, and with particular attention to women, adolescents and youth living in poverty.
- State accountability, by Governments to their people, should be the central focus, while tracking fulfillment of **commitments by multiple actors**, in particular the UN System, development cooperation partners, the private sector and other relevant parties. Accountability systems should be inter-sectoral and grounded in **participatory approaches** that ensure the active engagement of diverse women's,