



Programme

September 2-4, 2009

Including Pre-Programme

September 1, 2009

Global Partners in Action: NGO Forum on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Development

Invest in Health, Rights and the Future

Berlin, Germany

www.globalngoforum.org



Global Partners in Action:
**NGO Forum on Sexual and Reproductive Health
and Development**

Invest in Health, Rights and the Future
Berlin, Germany | September 2-4, 2009

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Dear Participants,

On behalf of all the members of the International Steering Group, the Board of Chairs would like to welcome you to Berlin, and to the NGO Forum. These few days will be an opportunity for an exchange of ideas and experiences, learning and re-energising, so that we leave Berlin, not only with a sense of shared purpose, but with clear strategies to use individually and collectively, so that the critical importance of sexual and reproductive health and rights to individual health and wellbeing, to healthier sustainable families and communities, and to a better world, is fully recognised by governments across the globe. This matters now more than ever!

The International Steering Group has worked to try to ensure this is a conference with a difference. At our first meeting we agreed that the majority of participants would be from the South, with a high percentage of young people. Those born in 1994 are now 15, and young people are the inheritors of the ICPD vision of health, rights and development. We also agreed that involvement of youth would not be tokenistic but that young people would play a full role on the International Steering Group and working groups, and indeed they have done so. Likewise you will see them participate as speakers in every plenary.

We were determined too that the conference would have a meaning beyond 4 September 2009—and so we will all have the opportunity to promote the Berlin Call to Action, and we will also ensure that it is part of other events around the globe over the next year. Likewise, each of us will be able to choose to carry out some of the actions in the Strategic Options paper, adapting them to our country and our organisational context. A synthesis document, "Towards 2015—Invest in Health, Rights and the Future" has been compiled from ideas included in your applications and from other consultation, and will provide a basis for the development of the Berlin Call to Action and Strategic Options. There will be further opportunities to build on this over the next few days.

The beautiful city of Berlin, where we meet is a dramatic reminder that real change is possible, and that dramatic progress can take place even where differences once seemed irreconcilable. This spirit of Berlin is one we can share, as we build cohesion, knowledge and commitment over these few days, and leave knowing that our collective contribution will be much greater than any single organisation or person could achieve alone.

We wish to thank the German government and UNFPA for making this unique event possible, our colleagues on the international steering group for their ongoing contribution from more than 13 countries around the globe, and in particular to thank you for the experience, skills, knowledge and hope that you bring.

The Board of Chairs

Gill Greer

Sivananthi Thanenthiran

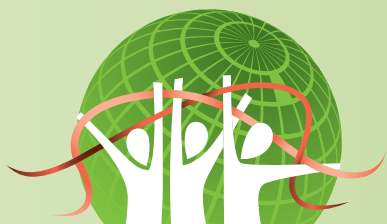
Catherina Hinz

Katie Chau



German Foundation for
World Population (DSW)





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Dear Partners in ICPD,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Global Partners in Action: NGO Forum on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Development. We, at UNFPA, are delighted to co-host this event with the German Government.

The Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development was a breakthrough in its recognition of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, and women's empowerment and gender equality, as central to addressing issues of population and development. The wisdom of

its vision has been confirmed by the incorporation of all of its quantitative goals in the framework of the Millennium Development Goals and in other international and regional consensus development strategies, including the Beijing Platform for Action and the Maputo Plan of Action.

This vision was informed and shaped by the active participation and support of civil society organizations. The Programme of Action explicitly called for greater accountability to the true stakeholders, the agents and beneficiaries of development themselves. Civil society organizations took the challenge and have been active contributors to the implementation of the Programme of Action and the ICPD+5 Key Actions through delivering services, monitoring programme implementation, advocating for supportive policies and investments, and improving governance.

This Forum provides a venue where non-governmental organizations and other partners can convene, exchange experiences and discuss strategies that have worked in making a difference. Special emphasis has been placed on involving young people to ensure that the ICPD vision of participatory development is owned by coming generations and made relevant to our rapidly changing world.

On behalf of UNFPA, I would like to thank the members of the Forum Steering Group for their hard work in bringing us to this point. They have labored wisely in the preparation and implementation of their plans and we expect they will also be involved in follow-up actions emerging from the meeting.

We look forward to receiving your recommendations for how to accelerate implementation of the Programme of Action and ensure continuing improvements in the quality of service delivery and supportive environment needed for progress towards the ICPD goals and recommendations. I would like to assure you that UNFPA highly values our partnership and will serve our shared vision in the months and years ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Thoraya Ahmed Obaid
Executive Director UNFPA



Dear participants in the NGO forum "Global Partners in Action",

I am pleased that you have accepted the invitation to this conference co-hosted by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and wish, on behalf of the German government, to offer you a warm welcome to our capital city Berlin.

15 years after the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo is a good time not just to take stock of what has been achieved so far but also, particularly, to take a joint look ahead and even now to be thinking beyond 2014 and 2015. We must seek answers to new global challenges. Civil society played a central role in the birth of the Cairo Programme of Action and I believe that civil society still has a crucial role to play today as a developer of ideas, an implementing force and an advocate for all stakeholders.

The German government and I personally have always seen the implementation of the Cairo Programme of Action and the achievement of the 5th Millennium Development Goal – universal access to sexual and reproductive health services and lowering maternal mortality – as issues of prime importance. Between 1995 and 2007, more than 1 billion US dollars were provided under bilateral German development cooperation for measures in the field of family planning and reproductive health including HIV/AIDS control. We are pursuing an approach based on universal human rights that rejects any form of discrimination or violence: promoting gender equality and women's empowerment thus become the key to poverty reduction, economic growth and social development. Particularly in these times of economic and financial crisis, it is important that we pay special attention to the rights of women, the health sector and social protection. I call on both the governments in our partner countries and the donor community in equal measure to continue their implementation of our shared commitments.

I wish that we may experience a successful conference with lively and also critical discussions, and I look forward to the new momentum that will be lent to this process.

Heidemarie Wiczorek-Zeul
German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development



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Programme at a Glance



Monday, August 31	Tuesday, September 1	Wednesday, September 2	Thursday, September 3	Friday, September 4
	<p>9:00 - 20:00 Information and Registration Desk open</p> <p>10:30 - 17:00 Youth Symposium Youth Sexual and Reproductive Rights Symposium</p>	<p>8:00 - 19:00 Information and Registration Desk open</p> <p>9:00 - 10:30 Introductory Plenary The Cairo Experience: What Was it Like and Why Does it Matter?</p> <p>10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break</p> <p>11:00 - 12:30 Regional Meetings</p>	<p>8:00 - 19:00 Information Desk open</p> <p>9:00 - 10:30 Panel Session: Setting the Scene ICPD Connections and the Road Ahead: Linking Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights to Critical Issues in International Development</p> <p>10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break</p> <p>11:00 - 19:00 Workshops: 11:00 - 13:00 Workshop Sessions I</p>	<p>8:00 - 13:00 Information Desk open</p> <p>8:30 - 9:00 Open Session Final Thoughts on the Draft Berlin Call to Action</p> <p>9:00 - 11:00 Open Discussions on Strategic Options</p> <p>11:00 - 11:45 Coffee Break</p> <p>11:45 - 13:00 Closing Session Invest in Health, Rights and the Future: A Berlin Call to Action</p>
		<p>12:30 - 14:00 Lunch</p>	<p>13:00 - 14:30 Lunch</p>	<p>13:00 Informal Fare-Well Lunch</p>
<p>17:00 - 21:00 Registration Desk open</p>	<p>14:00 - 15:30 Satellite Sessions I: Advocacy for Resource Mobilisation in Asia and the Pacific</p> <p>16:00 - 17:30 Donor Panel Achieving the ICPD Goals within the New Development Cooperation Frameworks - The Role of Civil Society</p> <p>18:00 - 19:30 Satellite Sessions II: Population Dynamics, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Climate Change: Why do linkages matter?</p> <p>Female Condom Programming: Breaking down the Barriers</p> <p>Of Gods, Sex and Politics: Gender, Religion and Sexuality</p>	<p>14:00 - 15:15 Official Opening</p> <p>15:15 - 15:45 Coffee Break</p> <p>15:45 - 17:45 Opening Interactive Session Tackling the ICPD Messages: Sexy, Boring, or Just Plain Hard?</p> <p>18:15 - 19:30 Guided Bus Tour and Transfer to Reception</p> <p>19:30 - 23:00 Reception with dinner at "Wasserwerk", Berlin-Charlottenburg, hosted by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)</p> <p>22:00 - 23:45 Bus shuttles back to Estrel Hotel</p>	<p>14:30 - 16:30 Workshop Sessions II</p> <p>16:30 - 17:00 Coffee Break</p> <p>17:00 - 19:00 Workshop Sessions III</p> <p>19:30 - 21:30 Informal Dinner</p>	



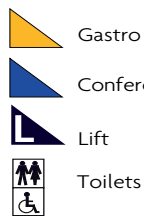
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Estrel Hotel



- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ① Estrel Hall A, B, C | ⑩ Room Cannes |
| ② Room Paris | ⑪ Room Nizza |
| ③ Room Lyon | ⑫ Foyer Estrel Hall |
| ④ Small Gallery | ⑬ Passage Estrel Hall |
| ⑤ Room Straßburg | ⑭ Big Gallery |
| ⑥ ATM / Telephone | ⑮ Registration and Information desk |
| ⑦ Concierge | ⑯ Atrium |
| ⑧ Reception | ⑰ Sun-Thai Restaurant |
| ⑨ Luggage Room | |



Venues at the Conference Center

All Plenary Sessions and Panels
Estrel Hall A, B, C (1)

Conference Secretariat
Room Straßburg (5)

Conference Registration and Information Desk
Passage Estrel Hall (13)

Information Bazaar
Passage Estrel Hall (13)

Coffee and Lunch Breaks
Foyer Estrel Hall (12)

Ramadan Breakfast and Dinners
Sun-Thai Restaurant (17)

Drafting Committee
Room Cannes (10)
Room Nizza (11)

Internet Café
Big Gallery (14)

Youth Symposium
Room Paris (2)

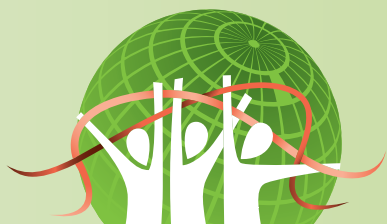
Satellite Sessions I + II
Estrel Hall, A + C (1)

Donor Panel
Estrel Hall A (1)

Regional Meetings
Estrel Hall A, B, C (1)
Room Paris (2)

Workshop Sessions
Will be signposted

Open Discussions on Strategic Options
Estrel Hall C and Foyer Estrel Hall



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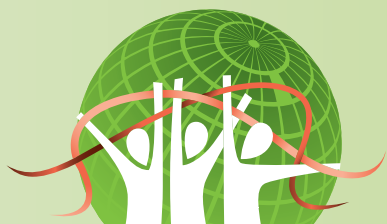
Programme

Tuesday 1 September 2009

- 9:00 – 20:00 Information and Registration Desk open
- 10:30 – 17:00 **Youth Sexual and Reproductive Rights Symposium**
Room Paris
Working language English – no interpretation provided
- 14:00 – 15:30 **Satellite Sessions I:**
Advocacy for Resource Mobilisation in Asia and the Pacific
Hosted by: Asia Pacific Alliance (APA) for ICPD, Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)
Estrel Hall, Section C
No interpretation provided
- 16:00 – 17:30 **Donor Panel:**
Achieving the ICPD Goals within the New Development Cooperation Frameworks – The Role of Civil Society
Hosted by: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Estrel Hall, Section A
Simultaneous interpretation (en-es-fr-de)
- 18:00 – 19:30 **Satellite Sessions II:**
Population Dynamics, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Climate Change: Why do linkages matter?
Hosted by: German Development Cooperation Theme Group on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) – BMZ, GTZ, KfW, DSW, Inwent, DED
Estrel Hall, Section A
No interpretation provided
- Female Condom Programming: Breaking down the Barriers**
Hosted by: Universal Access to Female Condom (UAFC) Joint Programme and World Population Foundation (WPF)
Estrel Hall, Section C 1
No interpretation provided
- Of Gods, Sex and Politics: Gender, Religion and Sexuality**
Hosted by: Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)
Estrel Hall, Section C 2
No interpretation provided

Wednesday 2 September 2009

- 8:00 – 19:00 Information and Registration Desk open
- 9:00 – 10:30 **Introductory Plenary on the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD):**
Estrel Hall
Simultaneous interpretation (en-es-fr-de)
The Cairo Experience: What Was it Like and Why Does it Matter?
An opportunity to learn about what led to the ICPD and the Programme of Action (PoA) and why this agenda remains relevant to health, rights and development through a lively discussion with youth participants and experts who have been involved in the ICPD since the beginning.
Panellists: **Adrienne Germain**, President, International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC), United States of America
Fred Sai, Reproductive Health Consultant and former Government Advisor, Ghana
Jacqueline Sharpe, President, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Trinidad and Tobago
Interviewers: **Katie Chau**, Co-Chair Steering Group, Youth Coalition, Canada
Moises Russo, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) – Western Hemisphere Region, Chile
- 10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**
- 11:00 – 12:30 **Regional Meetings**
Estrel Hall, Room Paris
No interpretation provided
- 12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch**
- 14:00 – 15:15 **Official Opening**
Estrel Hall
Simultaneous interpretation (en-es-fr-de)
Keynote Addresses:
Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, Federal Minister, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany
Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Helen Clark, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- Youth Speaker: **Imane Khachani**, Youth Coalition, Morocco
- Chair: **Gill Greer**, Chair Steering Group, Director-General, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), United Kingdom
- 15:15 – 15:45 **Coffee Break**



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15:45 – 17:45

Opening Interactive Session

Estrel Hall

Simultaneous interpretation (en-es-fr-de)

Tackling the ICPD Messages: Sexy, Boring, or Just Plain Hard?

Panellists will discuss the importance and challenges of incorporating and addressing SRHR issues into national, regional and global policies and initiatives, countering opposition messages and developing effective and cohesive advocacy.

Panellists: **Emmanuel Etim**, Centre for Development Action, Nigeria
Sergia Galván, Executive Director, Colectiva Mujer y Salud; Co-Founder of Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe de Mujeres Afrodescendientes, Dominican Republic
Gita Sen, Professor, Centre for Public Policy, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, India
Nono Simelela, Chief Executive Officer, South African National AIDS Council, South Africa (SANAC) (to be confirmed)

Special Guest: **Nandita Das**, Award-Winning Actress and Independent Film-Maker, India

Moderator: **Michelle Goldberg**, Journalist and Author, United States of America

18:15 – 19:30

Guided Bus Tour and Transfer to Reception

19:30 – 23:00

Reception with Dinner at “Wasserwerk” Berlin-Charlottenburg

hosted by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 – 19:00

Workshops

11:00 – 13:00 Workshop Sessions I

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:30 Workshop Sessions II

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee Break

17:00 – 19:00 Workshop Sessions III

Further information on the sessions and workshop rooms will be circulated separately. The following workshops will be included under the five tracks:

Track 1: Practices, Strategies and Mechanisms in Implementing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)

Workshop 1 Role of Civil Society

Workshop 2 Promotion of Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH), including Family Planning, Access to Information and Services for Young People

Workshop 3 SRHR and HIV/AIDS and Other Communicable Diseases

Workshop 4 Maternal Health/Morbidity/Mortality, including Issues of Child Marriage and Child Pregnancy

Workshop 5 Abortion

Workshop 6 Strengthening Policymaking, Law Reform, Advocacy and Accountability Mechanisms

Track 2: Links between SRHR and other Global Health Issues and Partnerships

Workshop 7 Inclusion of SRH in Comprehensive Health Care: Health Systems and Marginalized Groups

Workshop 8 Building Cooperation with Linkages, Engaging Men

Workshop 9 Young People in Global Health Issues

Track 3: Gender, Human Rights and SRHR

Workshop 10 Human Rights / Women's Rights and Women's Empowerment / Sexual and Reproductive Justice

Workshop 11 Cultural Diversity and Role of Religion, Tradition, Values and Fundamentalisms

Workshop 12 Violations and Gender Discrimination

Workshop 13 Gender-Based Violence, Trafficking, Sexual Rights and Sexual Orientation

Track 4: SRHR and Development Strategies

Workshop 14 Integrating SRHR and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Workshop 15 Accessing Health and SRH as a Development Strategy, including Poverty Reduction

Workshop 16 Pleasure, Sexuality and Development

Thursday 3 September 2009

Simultaneous interpretation provided throughout the whole day in all sessions and workshops (en-es-fr-de)

8:00 – 19:00

Information Desk open

9:00 – 10:30

Panel Session: Setting the Scene

Estrel Hall

ICPD Connections and the Road Ahead: Linking Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights to Critical Issues in International Development

In preparation for workshops in the day ahead, this panel will explore how the ICPD Programme of Action (PoA) is essential to address other urgent global issues and longer-term development challenges.

Panellists: **Amy Coen**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Population Action International (PAI), United States of America
Ana Cristina Gonzalez, Activist and Feminist, Part of the Articulación Feminista Marcosur, Colombia
Norwell Jermin Hinds, GuyberNet, Guyana
Pinar Ilkkaracan, Executive Director, Women for Women's Human Rights, Turkey
Nafis Sadik, Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary General with additional responsibilities as Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Asia and former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Marilyn Waring, Author and Academic, Board Member, Association for Women's Rights in Development, Pacific

Moderator: **Nirvana González Rosa**, Red de Salud de las Mujeres Latinoamericanas y del Caribe (RSMAC), Chile



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11:00 – 19:00 **Track 5: Linkages between SRHR, Population, Climate Change and Other Contextual Issues**

Workshop 17 Climate Change and SRH

Workshop 18 SRH and the Global Economic Climate

Workshop 19 Current Challenges to SRHR – Conflict, Migration, Disaster

Workshop 20 SRHR and Population and Development Interface at National and Global Levels

20:00 – 21:30 **Informal Dinner**

Friday 4 September 2009

8:00 – 13:00 Information Desk open

8:30 – 9:00 **Open Session: Final Thoughts on the Draft BERLIN CALL TO ACTION**

Estrel Hall, Section A

Simultaneous interpretation (en-es-fr-de)

Co-Chairs: **Catherina Hinz**, Steering Group Co-Chair, Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (DSW)
Sivananthi Thanenthiran, Steering Group Co-Chair, Asian-Pacific Research and Resource Centre for Women (ARROW)

9:00 – 11:00 **Open Discussions on STRATEGIC OPTIONS**

Estrel Hall, Section C and Catering Area

Groups will be set up according to language

Small group discussions will focus on practical actions and top priorities for achieving the ICPD PoA in the next five years and beyond. The outcome of these discussions will inform the NGO STRATEGIC OPTIONS agenda to be issued and disseminated widely following the Forum.

11:00 – 11:45 **Coffee Break**

11:45 – 13:00 **Closing Session**

Estrel Hall

Simultaneous interpretation (en-es-fr-de)

Invest in Health, Rights and the Future: A BERLIN CALL TO ACTION

The Global Partners in Action NGO Forum culminates in a BERLIN CALL TO ACTION for securing the investments needed to realise the ICPD PoA and MDGs by 2015. NGOs will communicate priorities for the future to policymakers and other stakeholders, hear how they see the way forward, and share commitments to prioritising SRHR.

Speakers: **Anand Grover**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, India
Musimbi Kanyoro, Population Program Director, David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Kenya
Purnima Mane, Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Liping Mian, World AIDS Campaign, China
Erich Stather, State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany

BERLIN CALL TO ACTION Recipients: **Members of Parliament** from different regions

Chair **Gill Greer**, Chair Steering Group, Director-General, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), United Kingdom

13:00 **Informal Fare-Well Lunch**

Fifteen years since Cairo ... five years remaining

The first part of the 1990s saw a series of landmark United Nations inter-governmental conferences on key issues on the development agenda including environment, human rights, social development and women. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) participated in the conferences and in their preparatory processes in addition to representatives of governments, inter-governmental bodies and the UN system. Of all the conferences, the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), held in Cairo, Egypt, 5–13 September 1994 had the most wide-ranging agenda. In the lead-up to the conference, a series of preparatory meetings took place, together with technical and regional meetings. NGOs played a very important role at the pre-Conference meetings and at the Conference itself and were included in many government delegations. They contributed greatly to the development of the document, which was negotiated at the conference – the ICPD Programme of Action (PoA) and subsequently adopted by 179 countries.

1994 International Conference on Population and Development

The PoA clearly defines the concepts of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and reproductive rights, including universal access to related services and commodities. It also addresses concerns such as universal access to education, with special attention to closing the gender gap in primary and secondary education; universal access to primary health care; reduction in infant, child and maternal morbidity and mortality; and increased life expectancy. It includes recommendations on gender equality and the empowerment of women; the family; sustainable development; the environment, including climate change; and migration. The PoA established a historic global paradigm shift from a population control development approach to one that is both people-centered and rights-based.

1999 ICPD + 5

The first review of progress made in the implementation of the ICPD PoA took place in 1999. In February of that year, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) held an inter-regional 2-day Hague Forum, which was preceded by an NGO Forum. Later in the year the 21st special session of the UN General Assembly was held, at which the **Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (Key Actions)** were agreed.

2004 ICPD@10

In 2004 the second review took place. By this time the international political climate had changed with new opponents to the Cairo agenda, including the US government under its new President George W Bush. No major inter-governmental meeting was held, although there were regional meetings and technical meetings and a commemorative session of the General Assembly. An NGO Global Roundtable organized by the Countdown 2015 Initiative, under the leadership of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, Population Action International and Family Care international, took place in London. In addition a review of in-country progress was carried out with the results being published by UNFPA – **Investing in People: National Progress in Implementing the ICPD Programme of Action.**



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2009 ICPD at 15

This year, the third review of the progress made in implementing the ICPD PoA takes place. Again there is no global inter-governmental meeting, with the exception of a commemorative event at the UN General Assembly. Technical meetings and regional meetings will also take place and **Global Partners in Action: NGO Forum on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Development – Invest in Health, Rights and the Future** is being held in Berlin 2–4 September, co-hosted by the UNFPA and the Government of Germany. Other NGO events are also taking place in 2009, including the 5th Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights (APCRSHR) to be held in Beijing, China from 17–20 October 2009, as well as other regional and sub-regional meetings.

ICPD and the Millennium Declaration and Development Goals

While the focus in the early 1990s had been on major international conferences addressing specific topics and often accompanied by parallel NGO Forums, at the beginning of the 21st century the pattern for promoting sustainable development changed with the adoption of the Millennium Declaration and the subsequent introduction of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Regrettably sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights were omitted from the eight MDGs. However, at the World Summit held in 2005, Heads of Government committed themselves to achieving universal access to reproductive health by 2015. In turn this led to an additional target MDG Target 5B.

A unique document for sexual and reproductive health and rights

The ICPD PoA is unique in defining sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. Reproductive health as included in para 7.2 is “a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, in all matters relating to the reproductive system that implies that people are able to have a satisfying and safe sex life and that they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when and how often to do so.” Men and women should be informed and have access to “safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of family planning of their choice, as well as other methods for the regulation of fertility which are not against the law”. Reproductive health care is also “defined as the constellation of methods, techniques and services that contribute to reproductive health and well-being...” These are further enumerated in para 7.6 Sexual health is also included in para 7.2 “the purpose of which is the enhancement of life and personal relations, and not merely counselling and care related to reproduction and sexually transmitted diseases.” Reproductive rights are included in para 7.3 and are based on “the basic right of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children and to have the information and means to do so.”

The PoA includes carefully crafted language on which the largest number of United Nations member states gathered in Cairo could reach consensus such as that on the rights of adolescents to information and services and unsafe abortion. Some of the language was ‘moved forward’ in the Key Actions, for example that on HIV/AIDS, for which the magnitude of the problem had not been realized in 1994, and on the training of health professionals for abortion services where it is not against the law. Subsequently both NGOs and governments have concentrated on ensuring that there has been no backtracking on the Cairo Agenda. Both the Programme of Action and the Key Actions include specific goals, in some cases with indicators for their implementation. These form the basis for some of the MDG goals and targets, the most notable being the targets for some of the health-related MDGs, particularly MDG5, namely the reductions in maternal mortality and universal access to reproductive health by 2015. The ICPD PoA is unique insofar as it includes a costing of the resources necessary for its implementation; however, while financial targets have been set, substantial shortfalls in funding, particularly from donor countries, have impeded progress in its achievement.

Five years to go for both ICPD and the MDGs

2015 will mark both the end of the period for the ICPD PoA and the MDGs. As such now is an appropriate time to renew efforts to achieve their targets and goals in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights. In this regard the 2009 session of the Commission on Population and Development was particularly important insofar as it demonstrated on behalf of governments an unprecedented emphasis on human rights, including in regard to sexuality; a new commitment to “comprehensive education on sexuality and gender equality,” access to male and female condoms and reproductive health services for adolescents **without** the usual restrictive language on culture, religion, parental rights, etc; the importance of integrating HIV and SRH, particularly for girls and women; the need for a priority for maternal mortality and morbidity, as well as for reproductive health overall in health systems strengthening; and the first intergovernmental statement recognizing MDG target 5b (universal access to reproductive health). Before the end of the year other initiatives will be in place to assist in moving forward, including a new report by the Guttmacher Institute – **Adding It Up: The Costs and Benefits of Investing in Family Planning and Maternal and Newborn Health**.



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Global Partners in Action

Steering Group:

- Gill Greer | International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Chair
- Katie Chau | Youth Coalition, Co-Chair
- Catherina Hinz | Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (DSW), Co-Chair
- Sivananthi Thanenthiran | Asian Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW), Co-Chair

- Stan Bernstein | United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
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The Forum is co-hosted by both the Government of Germany, represented by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

The Steering Group would also like to thank the MacArthur Foundation for the financial support they have provided.

