Arab Republic Of Egypt

Ministry Of Health

Minister

Date: 15th September, 2015

To: UN Secretary General

Excellency,

In 2010, the launch of the Global Strategy for Women’s and Children’s Health was a pivotal moment to accelerate the improvement of the health and well-being of women and children around the world.

The momentum for progress and change for women and children has grown steadily in Egypt, where maternal mortality ratio has decreased from 174 in 1992 per 100000 live birth to 51.8 in 2014, and under 5 child mortality dropped from 104 per 1000 live birth in 1990 to 27 in 2014, progress is still required, building on the successes and lessons learned to complete the unfinished Millennium Development Goals’ agenda and further pursue our efforts for women, newborn, children and adolescents through the Sustainable Development Goals.

Therefore, we, the Minister of Health of Egypt affirm our support to the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health (2016-30) as a global effort to bring all stakeholders together in support of countries’ work to improve women’s, children’s and adolescents’ health and well-being.

We pledge to take the needed sustainable actions to end all preventable deaths of women, children, and adolescents within a generation and ensure their well-being and we hold ourselves accountable for our collective progress towards this goal. According to article 18 of the Egyptian constitution, Egypt commits to increase the allocation to the health sector by 3% of Gross National Product to be steadily increased in accordance with international standards.

We hereby commit to endorse the principles of equity, human-rights, gender equality that guide the provision and access of high-quality maternal and newborn healthcare for all, and enhance high-level advocacy and sensitize local authorities on the urgency to improved and equitable access to maternal, newborn and reproductive healthcare, including the elimination of harmful practices against women.

We reiterate our obligation towards repositioning family planning with the global objective of fostering sustainable development, addressing population growth and ensuring equal access of all women to the contraceptives of their choice and to quality services, and as a cost-effective intervention for the reduction of maternal deaths.

Finally, we confirm the sustainability of the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness Programme as a strategic universal intervention to decrease child mortality, as well as support the delivery of emergency obstetric and newborn care services, and strengthen related data collection, analysis, documentation and information use.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

H.E. Prof. Adel Adawy
Minister of Health
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