PLEDGE OF SUPPORT TO THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR WOMEN'S, CHILDREN'S AND ADOLESCENTS' HEALTH

In 2010, the launch of the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health by the United Nations Secretary-General 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 Kenya, with improvements in skilled deliveries and contraceptive prevalence rate which increased from 44% to 62% and 46% to 58% respectively (KDHS 2008 & 2014). During the same period, child mortality decreased from 74 per 1,000 live births to 52 per 1,000 live births and neonatal mortality decreased from 31 per 1,000 live births to 22 per 1,000 live births. Additional gains were achieved in stunting which declined from 35% to 26%. However, 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, children and adolescents through the Sustainable Development Goals.

Therefore, I, the President of the Republic of Kenya, affirm my 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.

I 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. Kenya commits to: (i) progressively increase government allocation to health with particular focus on women, children, adolescents and HIV to meet WHO global recommendations and ensure
sustainable financing of the Reproductive Maternal Neonatal Child Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) Investment Framework in support of the Global Strategy 2.0; (ii) continue to provide free maternal and child health care services and remove user fees at government primary care facilities and to introduce a policy ensuring universal health coverage in line with Vision 2030; (iii) implement policies and strategies and laws that support gender equality and women’s empowerment; and (iv) support and strengthen efforts in implementation of strategies that ensure access to information on sexual reproductive health and services to adolescents.

UHURU KENYATTA
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA