September 18, 2015

HON. BANKI-moon
Secretary General
United Nations

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 the Philippines, with the reduced neonatal mortality rates at 13 newborns per 1000 live births, increased facility-based deliveries (80%), and births attended by a skilled health professional (86%). However, progress is still required, particularly 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 Heads of the Philippines, affirm our support to the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health (2016-2030) 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. We hold ourselves accountable for our collective progress towards this goal. We commit to:

Political commitment
1. Ensure the highest level of implementation of existing laws and regulations already enacted and issued by the government up to the local government units that will improve the overall quality of care for women, children and adolescents.
2. Engage political leaders and support good governance in the planning and execution of national goals on health, nutrition and social protection for the marginalized, poor and vulnerable populations

Financial commitment
3. Further innovate health financing and resource mobilization schemes focusing on socio-economically deprived segments of the society benefitting women, children and adolescents
4. Spearhead a sustainable investment planning beyond political regimes that will reduce preventable deaths, improve nutritional status and improve the quality of life for women, children and adolescents

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration

JANETTE LORETO GARIN, MD, MBA-H
Secretary of Health
September 18, 2015

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Secretary General
United Nations

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2. Engage political leaders and support good governance in the planning and execution of national goals on health, nutrition and social protection for the marginalized, poor and vulnerable populations

Financial commitment
3. Further innovate health financing and resource mobilization schemes and focus on socio-economically deprived segments of the society that will benefit women, children and adolescents
4. Spearhead a sustainable investment planning beyond political regimes that will address reduction of preventable deaths, improve nutritional status and overall improve quality of life for women, children and adolescents

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JANETTE LORETO GARIN, MD, MBA-H
Secretary of Health