GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

Potential Commitments for the Global Strategy 2.0 by the Government of Sierra Leone

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.

While the momentum for progress and change for women and children has grown steadily in Sierra Leone, 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 Head of the Government of Sierra Leone 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.

The Government of Sierra Leone 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. We commit to:

a) Sierra Leone commit to ensure that all chiefdoms in Sierra Leone has a village committee, with representation of women, men and the youth, which raise awareness about and take concrete actions to improve the health of women, children and adolescents
b) Sierra Leone commit to improve accessibility to emergency obstetrics and new-born care for all including the most marginalized through the expansion of Emergency Maternal Obstetric and Neonatal Centre (EMONC) coverage to at least five Basic EmONCs and one Comprehensive EmONCs 24/7 operational facilities in each district.

c) Sierra Leone commit to increase the number of available midwives in the country from 288 to 1145 ensuring that all designated health facilities have the minimum number of midwives in place by 2020.

d) Sierra Leone reiterates its commitment to increasing the national budget dedicated to health to 15% by 2020 with a particular focus on women, children and adolescents

Dated: 18th September, 2015

Signed..............................................

His Excellency, Dr Ernest Bai Koroma

President of the Republic of Sierra Leone