Note No: 143/15

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and further to the correspondence dated 28 August 2015, has the honour to transmit herewith attached the inputs of the Government of Mauritius pertaining to the updated Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York

New York, 21 October 2015
Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare

Inputs for Updated Global Strategy for Women's Children's and Adolescents' Health

As the world steps up to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and after twenty years of actions and achievements, we are still faced with challenges regarding women's health. In the wake of the Post 2015 Agenda, the Government of the Republic of Mauritius reiterates its full commitment to accelerate its interventions to address the gender implications in the health sector, thereby making way for innovative and transformative measures to engender the sector.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius fully supports the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and commits itself to the attainment of the set targets and indicators contained within the SDGs related to Goal 3 “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages” and Goal 5 “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”.

Conscious of the challenges ahead of us, namely, Cervical and breast Cancer, Maternity Mortality rate, HIV and AIDS and Sexual Reproductive Health, Geriatrics, among others, the Government of the Republic of Mauritius will inspire itself from the outcome of the Updated Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and adolescents’ Health and pursue the gender equality agenda.

As regards the Mauritian child, the Government is committed to:

(a) take appropriate measures to adopt and reinforce, when appropriate, a comprehensive response that ensures the recognition in law and in practice of the legal autonomy of children and adolescents as rights-holders, including the recognition of the legal status of specific groups in situations of marginalisation and exclusion, with the ability to claim rights and hold governments to account, as well as uphold the protection of the best interests of the child in all policy matters;

(b) respect the voice, agency and active participation of children and adolescents, including their capacity to make informed decisions on their own health, and to ensure the right of children to be heard in all instances of decision-making;

(c) ensure equality and non-discrimination in access to quality and acceptable health services and information in ways that respect the right to privacy and informed consent; and
(d) make accessible child/adolescent friendly comprehensive health, transparent, inclusive and effective mechanisms for comprehensive health rights monitoring, and review and redress of rights violation in order to hold governments accountable for their human rights obligations and responsibilities.

The Government of Mauritius is also committed to conduct national awareness campaigns to sensitise women on the effects of violence and its impact on Sexual and Reproductive Health and also on the negative impacts that may affect their pregnancies.