



# EVERY WOMAN EVERY CHILD

## ADVANCING THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH

### **Background**

“Every Woman Every Child” is a global effort bringing together governments, philanthropic institutions and other funders, the United Nations and multilateral organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, the business community, health-care workers and professionals, and academic and research institutions around the world. As part of this global effort, the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health was developed under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General and was launched during the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Summit in September 2010. New commitments made in support of the strategy at the time of the MDG Summit total an estimated USD \$40 billion. Further financial, policy and service delivery commitments and a sustained implementation effort are required in order to meet the target results, including saving the lives of 16 million women and children by 2015.

### **Critical work areas**

3 broad work streams (comprising a number of intersecting tasks) for the 2011-2015 period have emerged related to implementation and ongoing campaign building:

***Implementation work at the country and global level - translating financing, policy and service delivery commitments into reality and adding value through innovation.***

One of the most promising elements for the realization of the Global Strategy is the substantial and explicit commitments made by Heads of State and Governments in low income countries with regard to policy, service delivery targets and finance. These national platforms must be supported by other stakeholders, and new funding must be matched to the needs identified, with the coordinated support by the UN agencies and partners, organized through the H4+ team (WHO, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNFPA, and the World Bank).

Other major tasks which are essential for successful implementation include 1) the development of public-private partnerships to capture new opportunities. An innovation working group has been established under the Global Strategy to capture and maximize the potential of the private sector for the benefit of women and children. These opportunities will feed directly as a support to national platforms. 2) Ensuring effective platforms to channel funds for women's and children's health outcomes. This includes the successful roll-out of the health systems funding platform, and integrating service delivery programmes.

### ***Development of a global Accountability Framework for resources and results***

Fostering greater accountability among all partners to ensure resources are delivered and results achieved as promised is a core principle of the Every Women, Every Child effort. The Global Strategy requested that the World Health Organization (WHO) establish a process to determine the most effective international institutional arrangements for global reporting, oversight and accountability for women's and children's health. The Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health, chaired by Prime Minister Harper of Canada and President Kikwete of Tanzania, and co-chaired by Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General of WHO and Dr. Hamadoun Touré, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union, held its first meeting on 26 January, and will present its final report by May 2011.

### ***Mobilizing and keeping the momentum among world leaders and global stakeholders***

Further commitment building, scaled up outreach and presentation of the Global Strategy, and public recognition of those leaders making new commitments are all vital components of a continued global mobilisation strategy aimed at reinforcing women's and children's health as a key, leaders level, global issue.

Continued action by all groups of actors identified in the global strategy is required, and civil society mobilization is critical to achieving this. Outreach and resource mobilization by leaders forming an open-ended "Every Woman, Every Child Leaders Network" will be organized on a continuing basis as part of a coordinated global advocacy calendar, with regular information sharing and planning calls for all partners convened by the United Nations Foundation on behalf of the Office of the Secretary-General. Advocacy-focussed working groups will be convened for specific tasks and major events by the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health and other networks. World leaders will also engage in specific fundraising tasks, for example resource mobilisation activities for the Global Fund and GAVI. All major activities, media and new commitments will be reported on the <http://everywomaneverychild.org/> website.