



## **NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

### **BRIEF ON THE ON ICPD + 25 AND NAIROBI SUMMIT**

## **Background**

In 1994 in Cairo, at the International Conference in Population Development (ICPD), representatives from 179 governments and other stakeholders adopted a landmark and far-sighted plan to advance human well-being by placing the rights of individuals at the centre of the global development agenda.

Through a consensus, member states developed the ICPD Programme of Action (ICPD POA) that lays out a far-sighted plan for advancing human well-being that places the human rights of individuals, rather than numerical population targets at the centre of the global development agenda. The plan was to be implemented in 20 years' period from 1994 to 2014.

The Programme of Action highlights the crucial links between sexual and reproductive health and rights with almost every aspect of population and development, from urbanization, migration and ageing to changing family structures and the importance of addressing the rights of young people. It calls attention to the ways in which investing in women and youth, especially in their sexual and reproductive health, can impact environmental sustainability and population dynamics.

In recognition that the Programme of Action was due to formally come to an end in 2014, but that its goals and objectives remain valid beyond 2014; and acknowledging that many Governments may not meet all the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action by 2014, during the Sixty-fifth session of the UN General assembly held in 2011, the Programme of Action and the key actions were extended for further implementation beyond 2014 and ensure its follow-up in order to fully meet its goals and objectives.

## **Progress since the ICPD**

In many ways, the world has changed for the better over the last 25 years as governments' efforts to protect the health and rights of women and girls have gained momentum. Today more women have the means to decide if and when they become pregnant and have access to sexual reproductive health services. Fewer girls are subjected to child marriage, and fewer women die from the pregnancy-related complications. The number of maternal deaths each year, for example, decreased by about 40 per cent over the last 25 years and today, one in five girls is forced into marriage before age 18, compared with one in three in 1994.

But despite impressive gains, additional efforts are needed to reach those who have been left behind. An estimated 214 million women who want to prevent a pregnancy are not using a modern method of contraception. In developing countries, some 830 women die every day from preventable causes during pregnancy or while giving birth. Every day, 39,000 girls are forced into marriages and every year 4 million girls are subjected to female genital mutilation.

## **Review of ICPD Programme of Action**

Every five years since ICPD, member states come together to reaffirm their commitment, analyze the progress that has been made towards realizing their commitments to the ICPD Plan of Action and also the interventions which have been put in place to realize the commitments.

Each member state is required to undertake a review of ICPD Plan of Action and submit a report to the African Union and United Nations Population Fund. The reports from member states are compiled into regional (continental) reports and later into a global report. Kenya has conducted review of the implementation the Programme of Action in the country in 1999, 2004, 2009, 2014 and 2018.

On 4<sup>th</sup> October 2013, Ministers from the African Union member states adopted the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and Development (AADPD) Declaration and agreed that the future reviews of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), be guided by the review of AADPD in the context of reporting on the post-2015 development agenda.

The year 2019 marks the 25th anniversary of the ICPD Programme of Action. The anniversary will be marked by reviewing the centrality of the ICPD Programme of Action to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and determine whether ICPD is still relevant 25 years on. The Commission on Population and Development will conduct a full review of the ICPD Programme of Action and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda, based on the regional reviews. This will also inform the first full review of the 2030 Agenda at the UN General Assembly.

In preparation for this review, member states and each region of the world reviewed their progress since the 2013 regional conferences on population and development. National and regional reports of the review of ICPD@25 were prepared. Kenya's report was prepared and submitted to the UNFPA detailing the progress made on the implementation of the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population Development (AADPD), challenges and prospects, with recommendations of priorities in line with commitments reflected in the AADPD. The AADPD+5 report has six (6) pillars with eighty-eight (88) commitments spread across these pillars. The pillars are: (i) Dignity and Equity, (ii) Health, (iii) Place and Mobility, (iv) Partnership and International Cooperation, (v) Data and Statistics and (vi) Governance. The report is in line with the commitments set out per pillar and is on the basis of the operational guide of the AADPD and its Monitoring and Evaluation framework. This report among others from member states of the United Nations will be used to prepare the UN Secretary General's Report that he will submit to member states during the Commission on Population and Development fifty-second session to be held in April 2019.

## **The Nairobi Summit**

**The Nairobi Summit on ICPD25, themed: Accelerating the Promise,** will be held from 13 to 15 November 2019. This high-level summit, co-convened by UNFPA and the Government of Kenya, will further galvanize partnerships, mobilize political and financial support and help foster ideas and commitments on how to fully realize the goals of the ICPD.

The Summit will offer a platform for a broad range of public and private sector stakeholders – Heads of State, Ministers, civil society and youth leaders, parliamentarians, business representatives, media and others – to come together around the universally applicable principle of rights and choices for all.

This major event is coming to Kenya on a backdrop of the country embracing Universal Health Coverage among its Big four agenda to be attained by 2022 and its alignment to the SDG agenda 2030. This commitment is also galvanized by the country's capacity to host major events such as the TICAD and the recent Blue Economy conference.

Here is a link of a UNFPA Press Release for the Nairobi Summit.

<https://shar.es/aaL2Kp>