



BERLIN CALL TO ACTION

Summary of recommendations from the 12th International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development November 5-6, 2014

2014 is a critical year: the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Beyond 2014 Review has outlined future priorities for implementing the ICPD Programme of Action (PoA), to secure a place for sexual and reproductive health and rights, particularly for women and girls, in the Post-2015 framework. In March 2014, the Commission on Population and Development recognized sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights without qualifiers; that adolescents' access to sexual and reproductive health services should not be restricted; explicitly supported the link between ICPD and post-2015, calling for stronger data collection and disaggregation of data; and outlined the need to address violence and discrimination on any grounds including gender.

As the Millennium Development Goals draw to a close in 2015, the global community has been reviewing their progress and exploring how to continue their success and their momentum. There has been a series of different strands of work, all of which will culminate in the development of a new and universal framework to be adopted at the UN General Assembly in September 2015.

If sexual and reproductive health and rights are not adequately reflected in the post-2015 framework, gains will not be protected, progress towards other sustainable development goals will be compromised, and young people, women, men, including people of diverse sexual orientation and gender identities around the world will be unable to realize a range of basic human rights related to sexuality, reproduction, education and participation in social, economic and public spheres.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights champions, experts, and leaders from all over the world have come together for the 12th International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development in Berlin to demand that the global community reinforce and strengthen their commitment to sexual and reproductive health and rights to guarantee its inclusion in the post-2015 framework.

As governments, civil society and private sector actors, we have a collective duty to ensure that the new goals, targets and indicators support advances to date in order to sustain impacts, continue progress towards unfulfilled targets, and address gaps and failures. Guaranteeing sexual and reproductive health and rights for all must be an essential component of the world's response to the challenge of generating sustainable development.

Discussions brought forward the following recommendations:

1. The post-2015 agenda should adequately reflect the following issues:

- a. Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, including , by 2030, universal access to high-quality, comprehensive, equitable and integrated sexual and reproductive health services, information and education, and the respect, protection and fulfilment of all human rights in this regard, with a particular focus on adolescents and young people.
- b. Gender equality; the full realization of the human rights of women and girls and their empowerment; the elimination of discrimination and violence against women and girls and gender-based violence; legal equality for women and girls; and women's equal participation in public, social and economic life and decision-making.
- c. Quality, relevant education for all young people, especially girls, must include universal access to comprehensive sexuality education in order to equip them with basic knowledge and skills about their health, sexuality, pleasure and protection, non-violence, gender equality and human rights, including prevention of unwanted pregnancy, HIV infections, and abuse.
- d. All outcomes from the ICPD Beyond 2014, including the ICPD+20 Global Review Report, Index Report 'Recurrent themes and key elements identified during the sessions of the Commission on Population and Development' and the Outcome of the Regional Conferences.
- e. A strong accountability system equipped with quantitative and qualitative indicators ensuring that the post-2015 agenda benefits all parts of societies. The data used for monitoring these indicators should be disaggregated by age, sex, educational background, economic quintile, geographic location, ethnic group and other relevant characteristics.

2. In order to achieve this, the following strategies should be pursued:

- a. Build and strengthen cross regional alliances to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights in the international negotiations.
- b. Strengthen the linkages between capitals and permanent representatives at the United Nations.
- c. Ensure and enable the participation of civil society organisations in the negotiation of the post-2015 framework.

