

FEIM Oral Statement

44 CPD SESSION , theme 5

I speak on behalf of the project “Strategies from the South: Building Synergies in HIV/AIDS and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights”, which brings together 43 international networks from Africa, Asia Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean since 2006.

We urge governments, to:

- **Reaffirm the importance of the implementation of the ICPD** through and beyond 2014, as a condition for MDG's accomplishment, including the integration of Sexual and Reproductive Services to HIV Services.
- **Ensure the active participation of civil society, especially of youth, women and WLWHA**, in the implementation of the ICPD.
- **Strengthen, expand and increase access to sexual and reproductive health services**, especially for women,

adolescents, sex workers, LBT people, and for those living with HIV/AIDS, including access to Emergency Contraception and female and male condoms.¹ **Lack of access to female condoms,**

is a significant obstacle for women's prevention of HIV.

Contraceptive prevalence rates are still low in many countries in Africa, Asia and LAC, and must be increased to achieve MDG5b.

- **Reduce Maternal Mortality Ratio especially through access to routine and emergency obstetric care and safe abortion.**

The slow progress on reducing maternal mortality or its increase is unacceptable. A principal contributor to maternal mortality in the developing world is unsafe abortion. In 2003, 20 million unsafe abortions took place worldwide –98% of them in developing countries– causing approximately 13% of all maternal deaths. We advocate incorporating access to safe abortion and post abortion care in MDG 5.

- **Guarantee young people and adolescents, access to confidential, gender-sensitive sexual and reproductive health services, including HIV.** To achieve this it's necessary to remove all legal and social barriers still existing. Access to contraceptive methods, including female and male condoms, is still not assured for adolescents in many countries in the three regions.
- **Guarantee comprehensive sexuality education that addresses HIV prevention for young people,** to achieve the 95% goal established in the ICPD+5 and in the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS in 2001.² In most countries in Asia, Africa and LAC no CSE was implemented. This is reflected in the high number of young people lacking comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV transmission, impeding their prevention.
- **Eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls and incorporate in the response to HIV.** Violence against women is on the rise worldwide, and is a major

violation of women's rights. Gender inequalities and violence against women fuel HIV infections among women and girls and deny women full exercise of their rights.

- Increase resources for strengthening health systems to guarantee women's access to ARV drugs, especially important to ensure the women's life and wellbeing.
 - Improve PMTCT offering testing and treating if positive, pregnant women and their partners.
 - Respect the reproductive rights of WLWHA, including elimination of forced sterilization.
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