

# **United Nations Commission on Population and Development**

44<sup>th</sup> Session Theme: Fertility, Reproductive Health and Development

Statement by

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Mr. Chairman, distinguished Delegates, fellow NGO participants, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of World Mission Foundation,(WMF), we welcome the theme” Fertility, Reproductive Health and development of the 44<sup>th</sup> session on the UN Commission on Population and Development. The Theme is extremely important to the missions of World Mission Foundation especially on our concerns on Women Health through our program, My Sisters' Health Initiative.

In the past two years, WMF has been working on a project “Responding to Women's Health in Cultural Diversity” Several issues had been made part of this project through My Sisters' Health Initiative of which Sexuality Rights, Reproductive Rights and Fertility is of good part. Our Concerns at WMF with regards to the 44<sup>th</sup> session theme are;

1. How best do we respond to Fertility, Reproductive and Sexuality rights of Women in cultural Diversity? We bear in mind that culture has a lot to do on issues pertaining women, sexual life, making families, reproductive health in most parts of the world.

11. How best do we respond to issues on fertility, reproductive rights and sexuality in situations where domestic violence, discrimination, Coercion, infertility, psychological and emotional issues occurs.

111. How best do we respond to rights of women on fertility, reproductive r rights and sexuality in situations of women living with HIV/AIDS remembering the fact that sexual life and reproductive outcome are a part of marital life.

Mr. Chairman, despite the remarkable achievements so far made in the areas of Fertility, Reproductive and Sexuality rights especially since ICPD, challenges still remain in these areas with respect to cultural policies in diversity.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, WMF in this cause on diversity is sincerely urging the commission to

1. Take into cognizance the issues of strict culture in diversity on women sexual rights, reproductive rights and fertility
2. Strict Culture on Sexual Rights of Women Living with HIV virus
3. Impact of Domestic Violence, emotional Trauma, Coercion against women
4. Take lead in guiding policies that could meet the challenges of responding to Sexual Rights, Reproductive Rights and fertility on women in diversity
5. Take lead in developing a curriculum model that could get parents involve in Community Family Integrated Approach program for Parents and youths at grassroots where youths will be provided with communal education on Sexuality giving them wider opportunity to learn with their parents together on sexuality education out of the school and home environments.

Finally, WMF sends her congratulations to our brother Dr Babtunde Osotimehim who is from a race with strong cultural principles on women sexual and reproductive rights on his appointment as the Executive Director of UNPF. We are confident that through his leadership the efforts of UNPF will be geared towards women Health rights in cultural diversity in meeting the goals and objectives of the ICPD program of Action and the MDGS.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman for giving WMF the time to make statement at this 44<sup>th</sup> session of UN Commission on Population and Development.

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