

Protecting and promoting women, children and adolescents' health through national, regional and global commitments

Agenda Item 2

PMNCH Board Meeting

14-15 July 2022



Redoubling our efforts to address a world in crisis

COVID-19

- 90% of countries surveyed in Q4 2021 still reporting disruptions in providing essential health services

Conflict

- In 2021, Sub-Saharan Africa experienced highest number of coups in 20 years
- Up to a third of girls living in a humanitarian setting report that their first sexual encounter was forced

Climate Change

- More than half a billion children estimated to live in high flood occurrence zones, and 160 million in high drought severity zones
- 88% of the global burden of disease attributable to climate change occurs in children younger than 5 years old



How can PMNCH work with countries to uphold commitments to WCAH ?

PMNCH Functions

Knowledge and Evidence

- Synthesizing robust and timely evidence on WCAH needs, gaps and policy solutions, including more visibility for lived experience and needs of community members

Partner Engagement

- Equipping and enabling partners to engage more effectively with each other, including through:
 - > Multi-Stakeholder Platforms
 - > Digital Advocacy Hubs

Campaigns and Outreach

- Disseminating information about country commitments to WCAH in UHC and promoting accountability

Board approved strategic advocacy priorities in 2022 and beyond

During its December 2021 meeting, PMNCH Board provided direction on priorities:

- **Continue to advocate strongly for the PMNCH Call to Action on COVID-19**, especially for Ask 1 (enhance and protect access to RMNCAH services, including mental health), Ask 2 (SRHR and gender), and Ask 3 (quality and respectful care, including midwifery-delivered care). The Board also agreed on the need for greater focus on health workforce protection (Ask 4) and the prevention of violence against women, children and adolescents (Ask 7)
- **Increase focus on women's, children's and adolescents' health, including SRHR within universal health coverage/primary health care, improving equity and access for resilience and recovery**
- **Increase focus on adolescent well-being**, including greater attention on the interconnection between SRHR and adolescent health and well-being; greater focus on mental health; and a greater focus on the impact of climate change on adolescents, as well as on women and children
- **Increase focus on ending preventable maternal, newborn and child deaths and stillbirths**, including a positive focus on optimizing care for maternal, newborn and child health and well-being, and linking this effort to our work on the COVID-19 Call to Action, i.e., increased attention to midwifery and quality of care, incl. respectful care (Asks 3 and 4).



For discussion

- From a country perspective, how best can PMNCH strengthen its support to governments and national stakeholders, to uphold commitments for women, children and adolescents within broader UHC efforts?
- How can PMNCH's constituencies work together to drive greater accountability for policy, financing and service delivery for women's, children's and adolescents' health and well-being?
- How can PMNCH work with other global and regional stakeholders, to promote multisectoral action for the most vulnerable?

