



República de Panamá.
Ministerio de Salud

Note.DMS-1196-DAI-760-2021

April 28, 2021

Madam Director,

On behalf of the Government of Panama, we commit to the challenge of protecting and safeguarding the health and rights of women, children and adolescents worldwide through the **PMNCH COVID-19 Call to Action**.

With this endorsement, we reaffirm our commitment to strengthen the health of women, children and adolescents by investing in improving equity for women, children and adolescents and investing in improving equity and primary care, including our health and care workers. We commit to actions that improve and reverse risks to the health and well-being of women, children and adolescents during the response and recovery from COVID-19, leaving no one behind.

The Government of Panama, through the Ministry of Health, has committed to ensuring that within the first 100 days of 2021, vaccination of health care workers, the elderly and pregnant women was on track as part of the Declaration of Vaccine Equity, a symbol of hope for overcoming both the pandemic and the inequities that are at the root of so many global health problems.

We are also committed to improving basic health care services for the Panamanian population, especially access to sexual and reproductive health for adolescents and young people, through the Adolescent-Friendly Health Services Program (SSAA) in Panama, a program of the Ministry of Health and the Social Security Fund, supported by the United Nations Population Fund in Panama.



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To the Honorable
Ms. **HELGA FOGSTAD**
Executive Director
Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health
Present

Our commitment is directly aligned with the following request, as outlined in **the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH) Call to Action on COVID-19**:

- Quality care, particularly respectful and dignified care, and effective mechanisms for community engagement and redress.

To fulfill our commitment to the Call to Action, we will work collectively to incorporate input from all stakeholders, including civil society, the United Nations, health professionals, adolescents and youth, donor organizations, and private companies, as part of our national multi-stakeholder platforms and processes.


DR. LUIS FRANCISCO SUCRE M.
Ministro de Salud
Minister of Health



LFSM/TN/ls

C.C.: To the Honorable Mrs. Thahira Mustafa, Technical Officer, Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health.