

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH



**TANZANIA PRIORITIES FOR ADOLESCENT HEALTH AND WELLBEING INLINE  
WITH THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL (SDGs) BY 2030.**

05<sup>th</sup> September, 2023

Honorable, Ummu Ally Mwalimu,  
The Minister of Health,  
P.O.Box 743,  
Dodoma, Tanzania.

***Subject: Tanzania Priority Commitments to Accelerate and Improve Adolescent Health and Well-being in line in response to the UN Secretary General's Call for SDG Transformation Commitments at the SDG Summit 2023; and in support of the 2023 Global Forum for Adolescents.***

On behalf of the Government of Tanzania, we recognize that the well-being of adolescents is critical to achieving sustainable development and acknowledge the importance of adopting a whole-of-government approach to work together in a coordinated and collaborative manner to address the multiple and intersecting factors that impact adolescents.

We commit to strengthen the government's approach to improving adolescent well-being and accelerate the achievement of related SDG priorities for adolescents and young people as a smart investment in the future of our societies, economies, and the planet. We commit to prioritize adolescent well-being, and related SDG priorities for young people in national development plans and strategies, to ensure disaggregated data collection to better understand the challenges and opportunities for ensuring adolescent well-being, and to integrate adolescent-specific indicators into the monitoring and reporting frameworks by meaningfully engaging adolescents and young people in the design, implementation, and monitoring of policies and programs that affect their well-being.

- Tanzania, in response to the United Nation's Secretary-General's that call for national and global commitments to deliver the 'Rescue Plan for People and Planet' at the SDG Summit 2023, that will help drive SDG transformation for inclusion and sustainability in the years ahead; and In support of the Global Forum for Adolescents, the world's largest-ever convening of stakeholders – youth networks, governments, private sector, donors, the United



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Nations agencies and others – to raise attention to the need for immediate action to advance the major determinants of adolescent well-being, as a major milestone within the 1.8 Billion Young People for Change campaign, convened by PMNCH

On behalf of the Government of Tanzania we commit to address adolescent well-being through the following aspects:

**Political commitment**

- 1) Strengthen MoH's approach to improving adolescent health, optimum nutrition and wellbeing and accelerate achievement of related SDGs priorities for adolescents as a smart investment in the future of our society, economy, and the planet. I commit to prioritize health related interventions for adolescent boys and girls in the national plans and strategies, to improve planning, implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation. for ensuring adolescent health, optimum nutrition and wellbeing.

**Policy commitment**

- 2) Tanzania commits to maintaining a positive and progressive policy environment for adolescent health and wellbeing. The country has made great progress in the area of life skills-based sexuality education and adolescent-friendly SRHR services. The launch of multi-sectoral National Accelerated Investment Agenda for Adolescent Health and Wellbeing (NAIA-AHW) and the commitment to allow all girls who become pregnant to return to school after giving birth are among key milestones achieved. Adolescent health and wellbeing are included in all key national strategies including the Health Sector Strategic Plan; National Plan for Reproductive Maternal Neonatal Child and Adolescent Health (One Plan III); and National FP2030 commitments. The MoH will promote and participate in the review of policies and laws with negative effects on adolescent health, nutrition and wellbeing, such as the Law of Marriage Act 1971 as amended which permits marriage of 15 years old girls, exposing teen girls to teen pregnancies and their negative consequences.

**Financial commitment**





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- 3) The MoH, working in collaboration with other sectoral ministries, shall intensify efforts to mobilize additional financial resources from different stakeholders including development partners and implementing partners to complement the national health budget. It is estimated that over TZS 1.3 trillion is required to actualize NAIA-AHW targets in Tanzania by 2025

**Programmatic commitment**

In the period leading up to 2030, working in collaboration with other sectoral ministries, development partners and implementing partners, the MoH commits to:

**4) STIs and HIV prevention, care and treatment**

- a) Ensure full implementation of STIs and HIV interventions stipulated in the NAIA-AHW and national STI and HIV prevention, care and treatment guidelines by 2025.

- b) Accelerate and scale the implementation of interventions to reduce new HIV infections among adolescent boys and girls to less than 1% respectively by 2030 in line with the NAIA-AHW, NMSF V and the HSHSP V.

**5) Prevention and response to SGBV**

- a) Increase collaboration with different stakeholders to mitigate sexual and gender-based violence and violence against adolescents and young people through preparation and review of policies, guidelines and laws and implementation, including establishment of one-stop-centres through multi-sectorial approach by 2030.

**6) Prevention of unintended and unwanted adolescent pregnancies**

- a) Continue to invest in high quality, evidence-based, gender-transformative, age- and culturally-appropriate accurate comprehensive sexuality education, both in- and out-of-school, that covers a broad range of critical topics on values, the human body, relationships, safety, consent, gender, and health and wellbeing. This investment will equip adolescents with necessary knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values that will enable them to

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realize their health, wellbeing, potential and dignity; develop respectful social and sexual relationships; consider how their choices affect their own wellbeing and that of others; and understand and protect their rights throughout their lives. This education will be linked to integrated quality adolescent-friendly HIV, SRHR, psychosocial, and SGBV services.

- b) Improve access and utilization of modern contraceptives among adolescents from 13 % (TDHS 2015) to 20% (HSSP V) by 2025 by building the capacity of health care providers on provision of adolescent-friendly gender responsive health services; and increasing the proportion of health facilities providing adolescent-friendly services from the current 69% (SARA Report 2020) to 80% by 2030.
- c) Reduce teen pregnancies/adolescent birth rate from the current 123 per 1,000 women girls 15-19 years in 2022 to <90 per 1,000 women girls through adhering to the current national standards for adolescent-friendly reproductive health services by 2030.

**7) Optimum nutrition**

Enhance implementation of interventions and programs to improve adolescent nutrition by 2030.

**8) Cross-cutting**

- a) Meaningfully engage adolescent boys and girls in the development and implementation of policies and programs that affect their health, nutrition, and wellbeing to ensure their specific needs, challenges, concerns, and aspirations are addressed.
- b) Promote gender equality by addressing harmful practices, such as child marriage and female genital mutilation, and by empowering women and girls to make their own decisions regarding their bodies and lives.
- c) Improve data collection and monitoring systems to track progress and identify areas for improvement in adolescent health and wellbeing.

In support of our commitment/s please see attached supporting documents:

- a) National Health Policy 2007

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- b) National Accelerated Action and Investment Agenda for Adolescent Health and Wellbeing (NAIA-AHW) 2021/22-2024/25.
- c) National Plan for Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child Adolescent Health and Nutrition 2021/22-25/26 (One Plan III).

Our commitment is directly aligned to the health and nutrition domain of the Adolescent well-being framework.

Our commitment is aimed at accelerating progress towards SDG 3 on good health and wellbeing.

By making this commitment we agree to register our commitments on the SDG Summit Acceleration and Accountability Platform. We commit to systematically report on the implementation of these commitments through existing follow-up and review processes including the Voluntary National Review Process.

Sincerely,

Ummy Ally Mwalimu (MP)  
Minister of Health