



## NEWSLETTER

### What is Happening?

Since the Child Survival Call to Action, **176 governments** have now renewed their promise by pledging to redouble efforts on child survival. The most recent countries to sign the pledge are Chile and Venezuela.

### Where is it Happening?

In July, 3 countries held A Promise Renewed launches: Senegal, Bangladesh and Liberia.

#### SENEGAL

July 5: The Government of Senegal launched a National Child Survival Action Plan with the goal of saving more than 10,000 mothers and children from death by preventable causes in the next two years. As a focus country for both A Promise Renewed and UN Commission on Life Saving Commodities, Senegal has created an integrated plan for child survival and access to life saving commodities, by among others, ensuring the continuous availability and regular use of 17 essential, overlooked commodities for maternal, reproductive, newborn, and child health. Availability of these commodities will drive effective and affordable interventions such as healthy timing and spacing of pregnancy, stopping post-partum bleeding, cleaning newly cut umbilical cords, and preventing and treating pneumonia and diarrhea. [More](#)

Senegal has the fastest rate of reduction of under-5 child mortality in Africa



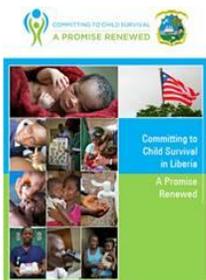
#### BANGLADESH

July 21: The Government of Bangladesh committed to ending preventable child deaths in the country before 2035. This commitment builds on the impressive progress that Bangladesh has made in reducing maternal and child mortality, and improving the health and wellbeing of mothers and children over the past 40 years. Bangladesh has stepped up its efforts to bring down neonatal and child mortality to 20 per 1,000 live births by 2035 along with 23 other countries of the world. The success in achieving this target, however, depends on the partnership and ownership of the private sector, development partners, UN agencies, professional bodies, civil society and the population at large. [More](#)

*Professor Dr. A.F.M Ruhul Haque, Minister, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare said: "Bangladesh has achieved significant success in reducing under-5 child mortality. However, the rate of neonatal mortality reduction is comparatively slower than the overall under-5 child mortality reduction. We need to address this now as 60% of child mortality in Bangladesh is due to neonatal mortality."*

#### LIBERIA

July 25: The President of Liberia, H.E. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, launched "A Promise Renewed: Committing to Child Survival in Liberia" at a gathering of community leaders, health workers, government officials and development partners. The launch was one of the key events commemorating the 166th Independence Day anniversary of Liberia. Liberia has made remarkable progress during the first decade of peace since the end of the 14-year civil war. According to the 2012 progress report of A Promise Renewed, the infant and under-five mortality rates were 58 and 78 per 1,000 live births respectively in 2010 in Liberia. This decline of over 68 per cent from the 1990 levels of 241/1,000 (U-5MR), represents a remarkable annual reduction of about 5.4 per cent, the highest in Africa. [More](#)



## Partners Spotlight

### “Close the Gap” Campaign led by the Child Health Now campaign



A July 2013 United Nations (UN) progress report on the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) states that "Big gains have been made in child survival, but more must be done to meet our obligations to the youngest generation." In addition, the report says: "Most maternal deaths are preventable, but progress in this area is falling short." These vital points are at the heart of the Child Health Now campaign and its upcoming effort to ask leaders to “Close the Gap”. In 4-10th September 2013, just before the UN General Assembly, World Vision country offices around the world will mobilise their supporters through public events, church services and both traditional and social media. This will occur in both developed and developing countries. **Information and updates will be made available on [www.childhealthnow.org](http://www.childhealthnow.org).**

### MEETING ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UN COMMISSION ON LIFE-SAVING COMMODITIES

Aimed at accelerating the implementation of commitments towards UN Secretary General Every Woman Every Child movement and in response to the recommendations of the Commission on Life Saving commodities, over 120 participants representing national teams from eight pathfinder countries: DRC, Ethiopia, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and Uganda; UN technical agencies and partners met from 3-5 July 2013 in Dakar, Senegal to discuss and finalize country work plans to address gaps and bottlenecks in availability, access and use of thirteen lifesaving commodities for women’s and children’s health. [More](#)



### THE SAVING LIVES AT BIRTH GRAND CHALLENGE FOR DEVELOPMENT

On July 31, 22 award nominees were announced from a pool of 53 finalists – innovators who descended on Washington for three days to showcase bold, new ideas to save the lives of mothers and newborns in developing countries with aspirations of international funding to realize their vision. [More](#)

### NEWBORN ACTION PLAN

The Every Newborn movement brings greater attention to the links between reproductive, maternal and child health, focusing on care and prevention of newborn mortality, which now represents 43% of all deaths of children under age five. In support of Every Woman, Every Child and linked to A Promise Renewed, a series of national, regional and global consultations to encourage multi-stakeholder analysis and action are currently taking place. Recent consultations have been held in West and Central Africa, Malawi, Uganda, India, and Nepal, with several others planned in the coming months. A major Asian regional consultation will be held in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 30 August - 1 September 2013. The results of these consultations will support the implementation of sharpened national plans linked to A Promise Renewed and will feed into the development of a global action plan for newborn health to stimulate greater policy action and investment. The Every Newborn action plan is expected to launch in May 2014. For more information: [www.globalnewbornaction.org](http://www.globalnewbornaction.org)



### Upcoming Events

**30 August - 1 September 2013**

Newborn Regional Consultation  
Kathmandu, Nepal

**4-10 September 2013**

Close the Gap Campaign, Global

**10-12 September 2013**

A Promise Renewed for the Americas:  
Reducing inequities in reproductive,  
maternal and child health in Panama  
September 2013 Panama City, Panama

**12 September 2013**

Release of the latest global child mortality  
estimates, as well as the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual A  
Promise Renewed report

**20 September 2013 (tent)**

Release of the latest global maternal  
mortality estimates

**TBD October 2013**

National launch of A Promise Renewed,  
Uganda

### Get Involved!

To learn more about A Promise Renewed and to join the global movement, add your name to our distro list [here](#).

Our new email address is  
[info@apromiserenewed.org](mailto:info@apromiserenewed.org)