



Over 170 Governments Renew their Commitment to End Preventable Child Deaths

In June 2012, the Governments of Ethiopia, India and the United States together with UNICEF brought together more than 700 partners from the public, private and civil society sectors for the Child Survival Call to Action. Evidence presented at the Call to Action demonstrated that all countries, rich and poor, can accelerate progress towards the MDGs and, by 2035, every country can achieve a national rate of child mortality of 20 or fewer deaths per 1,000 live births.

What emerged from the Call to Action was a rejuvenated global movement for child survival. Under the banner of Committing to Child Survival: A Promise Renewed, and in support of the U.N. Secretary-General's Every Woman Every Child strategy, governments and partners are pledging to work together to scale-up high-impact strategies, monitor progress, and mobilize grass roots action and advocacy.

Since the Call to Action, 173 governments have renewed their promise to children by pledging to redouble efforts on child survival. Over 200 civil society organisations, 91 faith-based organisations, and 290 faith leaders from 52 countries have signed their own pledges of support, joining the global movement to end preventable child deaths.



Translating Commitments into Country-led Action

Participating governments are taking the lead in sharpening national strategies for maternal, newborn and child survival.

In January, the Government of Ethiopia convened a regional summit on A Promise Renewed to call attention to the critical importance of the child survival agenda to social-economic development. In February, the Government of India convened a national forum of state policymakers, technical advisers, civil society organizations and private sector partners to identify and commit to high-impact strategies for accelerating declines in preventable child deaths. In Zambia, the First Lady hosted a national launch of A Promise Renewed in April and unveiled a four-year road map that will save an average of 27,000 lives -- 26,000 under-five children's lives and 1,000 mothers' lives -- every year.

Bangladesh, DRC, Liberia, Malawi, Sierra Leone, and other countries are preparing to launch similar roadmaps for meeting the goals of A Promise Renewed.

Each national launch of A Promise Renewed presents an important opportunity to mobilize broad-based support for the principle that no mother or child should die of preventable causes.



Zambia's Hon. Minister of Community Development, Mother and Child Health, Dr. Joseph Katema, MP, said, "The launch of the MNCH [Maternal, Newborn and Child Health] road map cannot come at a better time than now. Indeed no woman should die while giving life and no child should die from preventable child death. This road map offers new and revitalized implementation approaches that incorporate a focus on ... the continuum of care in MNCH services ... while simultaneously focusing on equity and universal coverage of known effective interventions."

Leveraging Regional Platforms

A Promise Renewed is also emerging as a broad, cross-sectoral platform for regional action on maternal, newborn and child survival. In January 2013, the high-level meeting on saving the lives of mothers and children in the Eastern Mediterranean region resulted in the Dubai Declaration, signed by Ministers of Health from the region

Elsewhere, UNICEF, WHO and partners are developing a regional partnership to support A Promise Renewed and other health-related initiatives in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, PAHO and partners will host A Promise Renewed for the Americas: Reducing inequities in reproductive, maternal and child health in Panama in September 2013. The high-level forum will bring together the region's policymakers and technical experts to share high-impact interventions for maternal, newborn and child survival, including nutrition, and strengthen regional cooperation on MDGs 4 and 5.

The Dubai Declaration, 2013

We pledge to accelerate progress on maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health through national action and international cooperation. We hold ourselves accountable for our collective progress towards this goal. And on behalf of all mothers, adolescents and children in the Region, we recommit to give every woman the best opportunity for safe delivery so that every child has the best possible start in life.

Please click [here](#) to read more about the Dubai Declaration

Scaling-up high impact interventions: Recent developments

Prevention and Control of Pneumonia and Diarrhoea

- Pneumonia and diarrhea account for 29 percent of all child deaths globally, resulting in the deaths of more than two million children each year. The Integrated Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Pneumonia and Diarrhoea (GAPPD), developed by WHO/UNICEF, recognizes that the only way to combat these two preventable diseases is to address them simultaneously, in an integrated approach.

Newborn Survival and Care

- At the Global Newborn Health Conference in April, participants from more than 50 countries focused on high-impact interventions for the three leading causes of newborn mortality: prematurity, intrapartum-related complications ("birth asphyxia") and infections. Outcomes from the consultation laid the foundation for a Global Newborn Action Plan, a strategy that will be discussed and refined in future consultations, including the World Health Assembly 2013 and the Women Deliver conference in May 2013. For details, see globalnewbornaction.org.

Nutrition

- A new UNICEF report showcases evidence of real progress in the fight against stunting, the hidden face of poverty for 165 million children under the age of five. Improving Child Nutrition: The achievable imperative for global progress demonstrates that pregnancy and the first two years of life profoundly influence nutritional outcomes.



Upcoming Events

31 May 2013

National launch of A Promise Renewed, Democratic Republic of Congo

10-12 September 2013 A Promise Renewed for the Americas: Reducing inequities in reproductive, maternal and child health in Panama in September 2013
Panama City, Panama

Get Involved!

To learn more about A Promise Renewed and join the global movement, contact the Secretariat for A Promise Renewed.

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