



## **Global partners mobilize up to \$4.46 billion to accelerate Health-related Millennium Development Goals and end all preventable deaths of women and children**

**NEW YORK, 25 September 2014** – At a high-level [Every Woman Every Child](#) event held on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly, heads of state, business leaders, philanthropists, UN officials and civil society announced joint action including new financing and specific support to countries in an effort to save and improve the lives of millions of women and children and accelerate progress to achieving the health MDG before the end of 2015.

The *Every Woman Every Child* movement, spearheaded by the Secretary-General, was launched four years ago, and has grown to include 300 partners and 400 financial, policy and service delivery commitments. The financial commitments to date are estimated at a total of \$60 billion (\$45 billion excluding double-counted funds), of which nearly 60% or \$27.3 billion has already been disbursed to countries.

*“Under the ground-breaking Every Woman Every Child partnership model, we are finding new, creative solutions and expanding new partnerships that are saving lives. The world is reducing deaths of children under the age of five faster than at any time in the past two decades. In today’s troubled world, our progress in this area shines brightly. It demonstrates what can be achieved when we come together as a community in partnership,”* said **UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon**. *“For the first time ever, we have the opportunity to end all preventable deaths of women and children within a generation. I call on all of you to renew your commitments, boost financing, keep insisting on accountability for resources and results, and reach every woman and every child.”*

Responding to the Secretary-General’s call for expanded cooperation for action, the World Bank Group and the Governments of Canada, Norway, and the United States of America announced that they would be supporting the creation of an innovative Global Financing Facility (GFF) in support of Every Woman Every Child, which is being developed with a broad range of partners working in the areas of reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and countries. The GFF will support countries in their efforts to mobilize additional domestic and international resources required to scale up and sustain essential health services for women, children, and adolescents.

*“The creation of the Global Financing Facility will enable us to transform the business of global health and development with scaled-up, smart, and sustainable financing, so that all women and children have access to lifesaving care,”* said **World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim**. *“This signals our collective resolve as development partners to help countries push further and faster to bring an end to preventable maternal and child deaths and extreme poverty.”*

The initial donor commitments to the GFF include contributions in the amounts of \$600 million from Norway and \$200 million from Canada. The GFF resources will be provided to countries in conjunction

with low-interest loans and grants from the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank Group's fund for the poorest countries. Based on strong country demand for health results-based financing programs, these bilateral contributions could leverage up to an estimated \$3.2 billion from IDA, for a total of up to \$4 billion in financing to support MDG acceleration and improve reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health.

Recognizing the importance of building accountability into all aspects of global efforts on women's and children's health, a core element of the GFF will be to support countries to build and strengthen their national Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) systems. Through support from this Facility, the systems needed to record critical life events including every pregnancy, every birth, and every death will be put in place by 2030.

**Prime Minister Stephen Harper** said, *“I am very proud that Canada is a founding member of the Global Financing Facility for Every Woman Every Child. Canada believes that maternal, newborn and child health must stay at the forefront of the post 2015 agenda. Today's announcement will help ensure that developing countries have access to capital that will strengthen their health systems and build the necessary civil registration and vital statistics systems to record and track essential data, which saves the lives of mothers and children.”*

Canada's contribution to the GFF is part of its five-year commitment of \$3.5 billion announced this past May by Prime Minister Harper during the Saving Every Woman Every Child Summit in Toronto.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), on behalf of the United States, is committed to working with partners to establish the GFF, bringing its full arsenal of innovative financing mechanisms and public-private partnerships to the collaboration. Aligning USAID's support through these complementary mechanisms could bring up to \$400 million in leveraged resources to these efforts.

In addition to the GFF announcement, other commitments were made this week to address key gaps in achieving MDGs 4 and 5, including for adolescent health and newborn health.

The Government of Sweden announced a contribution of \$400 million from 2014 to 2019 with a clear focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights,

*“For the further push to accelerate progress toward MDGs 4 & 5 Sweden will specifically make more than \$400 million available for the coming 5 years. A special focus will be given to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). Sweden has doubled the financing in the field of SRHR during the last ten years. Our forecast indicates that we will make US\$2.2 billion in total available for the next five-year period for women's and children's health.”* said **Ms. Hillevi Engström, the Swedish Minister for Development and Cooperation.**

Innovators from both the public and private sectors announced additional commitments to advance the *Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health* at the *Every Woman Every Child* Private Sector luncheon on September 25, as well as throughout the week. These include announcements from: Philips, Medtronic Foundation, Medela, General Electric, Reliance Foundation, Novo Nordisk, BSR-GAIN, Royal DSM, GSK, GSMA, International Federation of Pharmaceutical Wholesalers Foundation and Nike Foundation totaling more than \$69 million in value. A number of commitments focused on newborn health – a key gap – in line with the vision of the *Every Newborn Action Plan*, launched in support of *Every Woman Every Child* in June 2014.

*“We look forward to working with the UN and its partners in the Every Woman Every Child movement to deliver impact at scale, through innovation, in regions where women and children need it the most,”* said **Frans van Houten, CEO of Philips.**

*Every Woman Every Child* private sector partners also met to discuss the Ebola outbreak and how they might contribute to the UN’s efforts through drug research, building clinics and supporting logistics aimed at treating and preventing the virus. The UN Foundation has set up a response fund to support the UN’s Ebola outbreak response.

New partners engaging in south-south cooperation from India, China, Thailand, and other developing countries across different sectors joined the *Every Woman Every Child* movement this year pledging resources and shared experiences to support the national development plans for women and children’s health.

**Madame Li Xiaolin, President of the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC)** said, *“I am pleased to announce that CPAFFC will support the UN Secretary-General’s Every Woman Every Child movement through the creation of a multi-stakeholder partnership network in China, which will leverage the greatest strengths of the private sector, civil society and academia leaders. This will provide substantial support to China’s national health plans and efforts in supporting and partnering through South-South cooperation with other developing countries on women and children’s health.”*

*“The MDGs have enabled remarkable shared progress toward ending preventable child and maternal deaths, but the job is not done,”* said **Ray Chambers, UN Special Envoy for Financing the Health MDGs and for Malaria.** *“With only 462 days left, we must take full advantage of the commitments announced today and do our best to save an additional 158,000 women and 2 million children needed to meet the goals.”*

Earlier in the week a report by the independent Expert Review Group, a group tasked by the UN Secretary-General to assess progress and offer recommendations on the Global Strategy, continued to stress the importance of accountability as we move to a new development agenda.

*“Our vision for women and children’s health beyond 2015 is one that includes accountability at its core with clear time-bound goals, targets and indicators to measure progress and results. We must develop, a new, broader, and comprehensive Global Strategy for Women’s and Children’s Health to end all preventable reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent mortality for the 2016-2030 period,”* said **Joy Phumaphi, Co-Chair of the independent Expert Review Group.**

We must also establish strong cross-sectoral linkages with health enhancing sectors such as education, women’s empowerment and water and sanitation.

*“The synergy between education and health is evident. Education and health are, quite simply, the drivers of change and development. There is clear evidence that better education leads to better health. To achieve this we need sustained and coordinated investments. We need to look for new partnerships and new funding mechanisms.”* said **Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of Norway.**

Today’s announcements mark an important way forward to end all preventable maternal and child deaths within a generation, and the *Every Woman Every Child* movement, with its strong focus on accountability, continues to be an effective multi-stakeholder platform to help get us there.

*“We know what we have to do to save the lives of women and girls everywhere. Needless deaths of women, newborns and children must stop. We must do more and we must do better because every action counts and every life counts,”* said **Graça Machel, Chair, The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health.**

This event will be webcast live at [webtv.un.org](http://webtv.un.org). For the full event programme, please visit [www.everywomaneverychild.org](http://www.everywomaneverychild.org).

For more information and to visit the newly launched website: [www.everywomaneverychild.org](http://www.everywomaneverychild.org)

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