Meeting: Seventy-second World Health Assembly (A72/1)

Agenda Item: 12.8 Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health (2016–2030)

Statement:

Thank you Chair,
The Alliance for Health Promotion fully supports the objective of improving women’s, children’s and adolescent’s health at all levels. For us universal health coverage is imperative for optimizing the health of these populations.

We are therefore pleased to see that progress is being made towards this goal. Whereas we remain concerned by the multitude of health issues that affect women, children, and adolescents, we are encouraged by the progress made towards implementing an effective global health strategy for these populations.

The Alliance supports strategies that prioritize health education and literacy, interagency collaborations, and the expansion of access to health services to improve maternal and child health.

In addition to expanding access, the quality of care provided must also be optimised. Expansion of access should not be limited to physical health, but should include mental health services.

WHO, member states and non state actors should partner and collaborate across sectors and organizations to expand coverage and improve quality of care for women and children, and to establish the policies that better serve women and children. Governments should prioritize and allocate funding to health promotion and prevention efforts in order to improve the health of women, children and adolescents. All interventions should be patient-centered and address the social determinants that negatively affect women’s health.

Thank you for your attention.