

DRAFT BILL / RESOLUTIONS: COMMITMENTS FOR THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT
7 APRIL 2009

(Part of Draft Bill presented to the Italian Parliament)

- Promote greater awareness and emphasize the importance of reproductive health as a key tool in global health and development in international fora and meetings of high political level; highlight the area of reproductive, maternal and child health as a priority for international cooperation with developing countries and provide greater economic and political support to these efforts;
- Promote the technical support to programs for exchange of health professionals between Italy / EU and African countries to train and improve skills and knowledge of local health workers to provide reproductive, maternal and perinatal health services;
- Promote public health programs by providing financial budget support to countries with insufficient progress towards the Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5, particularly in Africa; increase the support and collaboration with national and international NGOs on issues relating to reproductive, maternal and child health, particularly in developing countries;
- Stimulate and guide the promotion of innovative strategies to mobilize resources, increase awareness and promote the active participation of society for the improvement of maternal and child health research and services in developing countries;
- Foster and promote a comprehensive approach to reproductive and maternal health in which women can be partners in the effort to change their own circumstances of life and their low levels of health;
- Increase, compared to the contribution of assets earmarked for international health, the participation of professionals and institutions in Italy to define the priorities and policies of health globally including in the field of research to develop interventions for the prevention and treatment of complications during pregnancy that can be applied in situations of limited resources;
- Maintain funding for maternal child health globally, even in this period of economic and financial crisis, in line with the gradual increase in recent years by the OECD countries, in order to ensure the achievement of Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5;
- Support the work of the Department Reproductive Health and Research of WHO and the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health in their efforts to improve maternal & child health in developing countries, in particular by facilitating access to safe and reliable services for maternal and reproductive health.

Rome, 12 february 2009

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