



AFRICITIES SUMMIT

NAIROBI - KENYA, 18 – 22 September 2006

« Building local coalitions for effective implementation of the Millennium Goals in African Local Governments »

MATERNAL HEALTH

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

Preamble

In the light of the global target for the improvement of maternal health by the year 2015 as contained in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the roles of the respective stakeholders involved in local government development were examined and it is therefore recommended that:

***To the Ministers**

- 1** Central Governments should formulate targeted and appropriate policies which take into account the rural and urban situations, special attention;
- 2** Provide sufficient budgetary allocations to programmes that increase women's economic productivity;
- 3** Political Commitment and good policies;
- 4** Good public health strategy;
- 5** Improvement and investment in infrastructure and appropriate structures, and
- 6** Increase investment in the Health Service including skilled human resources
- 7** Strengthen the Macro – Micro linkages in the health sector, and
- 8** Ensure political commitment and good policies

*** To the Mayors**

- 1** Local Governments should draw up local development plans to meet the health related MDG's, with targets that can be monitored;
- 2** Ensure the participation of women in establishing priorities in the delivery of health related goods and services;
- 3** Strengthen governance and knowledge systems to improve reproductive health service delivery and use the MDGs to enhance accountability and the smooth delivery of the services;

- 4 Encourage PPP and create effective partnerships in the delivery of maternal health related services;
- 5 Increase municipal budget allocations towards the training of traditional birth attendants and on timely referrals to obstetric units;
- 6 Local governments to promote awareness programs for safe motherhood also aim at discouraging retrogressive and dangerous traditional family planning practices;
- 7 Political Commitment and good policies;
- 8 Good public health strategy;
- 9 Improvement and investment in infrastructure and appropriate structures, and
- 10 Increase investment in the Health Service including skilled human resources
- 11 Promote special programmes for antenatal, postnatal and nursing mothers, and
- 12 Improve obstetric after care, through home care programmes and / or mother centers, feeding programmes.

***To the Development Partners**

1. Development Partners should insist on Political Commitment and good policies on the part of all governments;
2. Support capacity building in the formulation of good public health strategies;
3. Fund programmes that improve improvement and investment in infrastructure and appropriate structures, and
4. Increase investment in the Health Service including skilled human resources at the local level.