

**The Fourth Islamic Conference of Health Ministers
Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, 22 – 24 October 2013**

Concept Paper

Sixth Working Session: Panel Discussion IV on Ending Preventable Maternal and Child Death
– Accelerating Progress for 2015 and Beyond

The numbers of preventable child and maternal deaths have decreased over the last two decades. Globally, maternal deaths declined by 47% since 1990 to 287,000 deaths in 2010. More than 60 countries have reduced their maternal mortality by more than half since 1990, including 23 OIC member states. (Maldives, Iran, Oman, Egypt, Bangladesh, Syria, Turkey, Yemen, Afghanistan, Morocco, Indonesia, Burkina Faso, Tunisia, Algeria, Benin, Qatar, Lebanon, Niger, Mali, Togo, Guinea, and Gambia)

Globally, the number of deaths to child under the age of five has decreased from nearly 12 million in 1990 to less than 7 million in 2011. Countries are making significant progress. More than 20 high mortality countries have reduced their under-five mortality by more than half since 1990, including five OIC member states (Bangladesh, Niger, Mozambique, Azerbaijan, and Senegal).

Even as the global numbers of maternal and child deaths have decreased, the burden of deaths are now concentrated in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Those two regions account for 85% of all maternal deaths and over 80% of all child deaths. The higher prevalence of maternal and child mortality in these regions reflects inequities in access to health services across the OIC groups, and underlies the gap between high income and low income member states.

In past several years, countries around the world have made commitments under the Every Woman, Every Child movement and A Promise Renewed to accelerate the reductions in maternal, newborn and child mortality to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 and beyond. During this session, OIC member states will discuss the progress thus far and consider ways to meet these commitments.

The Panel Discussion provides opportunity to review the trends in maternal, newborn and child health in OIC countries, share successes from countries successful in improving maternal, newborn and child health and commitments for ending preventable maternal and child deaths. Highlight the role of accountability as key element to promote maternal, newborn and child health in OIC countries.

Date: 23 October, 2013	Time: 11:30 hours	Room:
Moderator: Minister of Health, Republic of Indonesia		
Rapporteur: USAID		
Session Programme and Speakers::		
No.	Name	Organization
1.	Dr Savas Alpay	SESRIC
2.	Prof A.F.M. Ruhul Haque, Minister of	Bangladesh

	Health and Family Welfare	
3.		Indonesia
4.	Prof. C.O. Onyebuchi Chukwu, Minister of Health, Federal Republic of Nigeria	Nigeria
5.	Dr David Hipgrave, Senior Health Advisor	UNICEF

Key Questions to be addressed by Panel Members

1. SESRIC

- To provide an update on maternal, newborn and child health in the OIC Member States;
- To highlight areas of opportunity for cooperation between OIC Member States;
- To provide summary of the OIC Strategic Health Programme of Action 2013-2022 on maternal, newborn and child health and its impact on all OIC Member States.

2. People's Republic of Bangladesh

- To highlight the success of maternal, newborn and child health care in People's Republic of Bangladesh
- To highlight support and role of Non-Governmental Organization for maternal, newborn and child health;
- To highlight the role that religious leaders and Islamic scholars can play to build community support and secure access to maternal, newborn and children for health services, including polio vaccinations.

3. Republic of Indonesia

- To highlight the successful approach taken by Indonesia in reducing maternal and child mortality;
- To highlight the role play by other partners in reducing maternal and child mortality;
- To highlight the innovative reducing maternal and child mortality as a model for other health initiatives and work with other partners.

4. Republic of Nigeria

- To highlight the reducing maternal and child mortality programme in Nigeria
- To present accountability measures put in place to track progress towards Nigeria's Saving One Million Live Initiative;
- To highlight the role of philanthropists and new partners in providing financing support for the reducing maternal and child mortality programme;

5. UNICEF

- To highlight the key challenges in reducing maternal and child mortality in OIC Member States;

- To provide examples of successful community mobilization and awareness raising initiatives in Islamic countries;
- To highlight areas where additional support from the OIC leaders will be critical to enhance community support.

Outcomes:

- The OIC member states commit to - ending preventable maternal and child deaths along with commitments of the United Nation's *Every Woman, Every Child, A Promised Renewed*, and the commitments made by nearly all OIC countries at June 2012's *A Child Survival Call to Action* - calling on Islamic institutions, governments, scholars, religious leaders, communities and parents to work together:
 - To reduce from 85% of all maternal deaths and over 80% of all child deaths in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia;
 - To highlight the higher prevalence of maternal and child mortality in these regions reflects inequities in access to health services across the OIC groups, and underlies the gap between high income and low income member states;
 - To reinforce the long-term commitment of OIC member country governments working with potential partners could include UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO and USAID to put maternal and child health higher on their national development agendas and share experiences across countries;
 - To promote Mutual Accountability in the Islamic World