

2022 Report of the High-Level Commission on the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 Follow-up

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SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE AS THE VEHICLE

TO DELIVER

THE NAIROBI SUMMIT

COMMITMENTS



Acknowledgements

The Co-Chairs of the High-Level Commission on the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 extend their appreciation to all Commissioners in the release of this second report. We commend your partnership in the continuous advocacy for the implementation of the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 commitments and the call to action and recommendations from our first report – No Exceptions, No Exclusions: Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice for All, along with your simultaneous collaboration in producing our 2022 report. We thank the Commission's Secretariat, under the leadership of Ms. Saskia Schellekens, Global Coordinator, ICPD25 Follow-up, and the author of the report, Professor Terry McGovern and associates, who prepared the text with the inputs of the Commissioners and in close coordination with the Secretariat. We further thank Ms. Gretchen Luchsinger, who edited the report. We extend appreciation as well to Avenir Health for developing the Global Commitments Monitoring Framework to track progress against key indicators for the global Nairobi commitments, and the associated Country Profiles, which is a new addition to this year's report.

In this report, we continue to highlight progress against the Nairobi commitments, particularly by applying a sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice framework to our mandate as a Commission. We hope that the report will complement the efforts of so many others, especially those close to the ground, as we collectively seek to continue to leverage the momentum of ICPD25 as we move forward towards ICPD30. We commend your efforts and are grateful for your good practices and successes, which have been shared with us, even if only a few can be presented in this concise report. Our confidence that every action contributes to making the ICPD Programme of Action a reality in people's lives is unwavering and we will collectively continue to move forward.

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Foreword

We are pleased to present this second report of the High-Level Commission on the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 Follow-up. One year after the Commission's first report, No Exceptions, No Exclusions: Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice for All, we have seen progress in implementing its call to action. Yet its recommendations remain relevant and urgent today. With that in mind, this year's report explores the concept of sexual and reproductive justice - what it means and how it can be applied in diverse places. As an organizing framework, sexual and reproductive justice is fundamental to realizing the 12 global commitments of the Nairobi Summit. The Commission is tasked with advocating for action on these as well as annually reporting on progress.

As the Commission launches this report, our world is on the cusp of being home to 8 billion people. This is a remarkable achievement, reflecting striking achievements in health care and reductions in poverty over many decades. It brings challenges and opportunities for further advances. One issue already in sharp focus is that all people need to exercise rights and choices as key to their resilience, never more so than now, at a moment of profound change and crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic is in its third year. The war in Ukraine has sent shock waves throughout the world, threatening food security and raising the cost of living. Climate change threatens the very existence of our planet. And widening inequalities and

widespread polarization undermine hopes for sustainable development.

Realizing the global promises and ideals embodied in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the ICPD Programme of Action and the Nairobi commitments depends on sexual and reproductive justice. It encapsulates a spectrum of rights underpinning bodily autonomy and agency, and applies the notion of intersectionality to reach individuals and groups facing multiple forms of discrimination - and often the worst breaches of their rights. From this perspective, realizing sexual and reproductive rights is about health care as well as decent work, a safe environment, a voice in decisionmaking and freedom from any form of marginalization. Sexual and reproductive justice in essence will be key to unleashing the full potential of all human beings to create a future that is more equitable, secure and sustainable.

The work of the Commission provides a bridge between the global Nairobi commitments and the upcoming ICPD30 review and commemorative event by the United Nations General Assembly, both slated for 2024. With national and regional reviews about to begin in preparation for ICPD30, the Commission hopes its reports provide sound grounds and inspiration for intensified advocacy to put sexual and reproductive justice for *all* at the forefront.

And as we continue on this journey, we must also honour the life and legacy of the late Dr. Nafis Sadik, who passed away in August 2022. The former Executive Director of UNFPA, she was the first woman to direct a United Nations organization, serving in that role from 1997 to 2000. As Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994 and architect of its groundbreaking Programme of Action, Dr. Sadik made enduring contributions to advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights, women's leadership and global development.

In the words of Dr. Natalia Kanem, the current Executive Director of UNFPA, "Dr. Sadik helped the world understand that people are at the heart of development and that when we remove obstacles in their path and uphold their rights, they and their societies flourish – women especially." Since Cairo, millions of girls and young women have grown up knowing that their bodies belong to them

and that their futures are theirs to shape, a lasting testimony to Dr. Sadik's determination, courage and conviction.

As she herself once said, "Reproductive rights involve more than the right to reproduce. They involve support for women in activities other than reproduction, in fact liberating women from a system of values which insists that reproduction is their only function."

This visionary understanding was at the foundation of the ICPD agenda. It galvanized renewed commitment at the Nairobi Summit. It is central to our work as a Commission and torchbearer for sexual and reproductive justice and making rights and choices a reality for all.

By protecting rights and advancing justice, we can unlock the boundless potential of human beings. As 8 billion people, we have the power to alter the course of our shared world so that it works for everyone.

Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete

Co-Chair & Former President of the United Republic of Tanzania

Michaëlle Jean

Co-Chair & Former Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada; and former Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie



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