

**ORIGINAL: ENGLISH**

**REPOSITIONING FAMILY PLANNING IN REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES:  
FRAMEWORK FOR ACCELERATED ACTION, 2005–2014**  
(document AFR/RC54/11 Rev.1)

The Regional Committee,

Recalling the Alma-Ata Declaration that identified family planning as an essential component of primary health care;

Further recalling World Health Assembly resolutions, WHA38.22, WHA40.27, WHA42.42, WHA44.33, WHA45.25 and WHA48.10, reaffirming the special role of the World Health Organization with respect to advocacy, normative functions, research and technical cooperation in the area of reproductive health, including family planning;

Aware of the millennium development goals (MDGs) which call for three-quarters reduction in maternal mortality and two-thirds reduction in child mortality by 2015, and the role of family planning in the efforts to achieve these goals;

Bearing in mind Regional Committee resolutions AFR/RC43/R6 and AFR/RC47/R4 on women, health and development; documents AFR/RC53/11, Women's Health: A strategy for the African Region; and AFR/RC47/8, Reproductive Health: Strategy for the African Region 1998–2007, which identified family planning as an intervention for improving the quality of life of women;

Recalling the *Health-for-All Policy for the 21st Century in the African Region: Agenda 2020* that calls for the creation of conditions that will enable women to participate in, benefit from and play a leadership role in health development;

Mindful of the reproductive health rights of women as stated in the International Conference on Population and Development, and subsequent declarations and plans of action;

Concerned about the high levels of maternal morbidity and mortality, as well as the additional efforts that will be needed by Member States to achieve international goals in reproductive health, including family planning;

Mindful of the need to preserve a critical proportion of the young population in order to maintain a balanced population pyramid while ensuring effective family planning services;

Convinced that “more than 2 years birth interval saves lives”;

1. APPROVES document AFR/RC54/11 Rev.1, “Repositioning Family Planning in Reproductive Health Services: Framework for Accelerated Action, 2005–2014,” which focuses on the health benefits of family planning to individuals and communities in the African Region;

**2. URGES Member States:**

- (a) to commit themselves to the implementation of this framework within the context of the national Road Map for the attainment of the MDGs related to maternal and newborn health through increased investment in family planning;
- (b) to translate the regional family planning framework into realistic national programmes by reviewing their reproductive health policies and making family planning an integral part;
- (c) to incorporate maternal and newborn health, including family planning, in national and subnational development plans as well as collaborative plans with the World Bank, New Partnership for Africa’s Development and regional economic blocs;
- (d) to promote access by all women and men to a full range of information and family planning services and commodities, with particular emphasis to the rural areas, and explore the possibilities of local production of quality family planning commodities;
- (e) to strengthen national institutional capacity for pre- and in-service training in family planning, including commodity logistics;
- (f) to mobilize government institutions, international development partners, non-governmental organizations, professional associations and the private sector to renew their support to Member States for improving commodity security and investment in family planning services.

**3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:**

- (a) to continue to advocate for a strategic approach to the reduction of maternal morbidity and mortality and the pivotal role of family planning;
- (b) to provide technical support to Member States for the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the framework for repositioning family planning in reproductive health services;
- (c) to develop relevant guidelines for use by Member States to advocate for and accelerate the implementation of the framework;
- (d) to report to the fifty-sixth session of the Regional Committee and, subsequently, every two years, on progress made in the implementation of the framework.