

# The Maputo Plan of Action: A civil society perspective

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# The Maputo Plan of Action - at a glance...

- Commitment by African leaders to address the continent's RH challenges as a priority developmental issue
- Seeks to move the continent towards attaining universal access to comprehensive SRHR by 2015
- Centres around the following strategic areas:
  1. Integrating SRH and HIV/AIDS/STIs into primary health care
  2. Repositioning family planning as essential in attaining the MDGs
  3. Providing youth-friendly SRH services
  4. Reducing unsafe abortion
  5. Ensuring quality safe motherhood services
  6. Ensuring commodity security
  7. Resource mobilization
  8. Monitoring and evaluation.

## At a glance...

- A concrete plan with clear goals, outcomes, outputs and target indicators, timelines and costing (resource requirement is USD 16 billion over 4 years)
- An effort to domesticate the ICPD agenda and re-emphasizes the Abuja Declaration to dedicate 15% of national budget to health.
- Flexible, allowing for country-focused action, to identify gaps and areas for improvement.

# The Maputo PoA process...

- Ownership: African initiative that captured African realities, perspectives and aspirations for SRHR
- Developed through participatory processes including broad-based consultations with a wide cross-section of stakeholders policy and decision makers, AUC leadership, UNFPA Africa Division and civil society -From the formulation of the Continental Policy Framework on SRHR
- Inclusive: Clearly spells the role of all stakeholders as follows:
  - AUC-- Advocacy, mobilize resources, M&E, harmonize policies & strategies
  - RECs-- Technical support, training, harmonize national plans, M&E, & share best practices

## Maputo PoA...

- Member States -- Implement, mobilize resources & ensure budgetary provision. Include civil society & private sector in national programmes
- Partners -- Align financial & technical assistance plans with national and regional priorities
- Opened up political space for advancing the SRH agenda empowering citizens to demand government accountability and responsiveness to their social and economic rights
- In concluding, the Plan of Action notes: "African leaders have a civic obligation to respond to the SRH rights of their people. This Plan of Action is a clear demonstration of their commitment to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights in Africa."

## Role of CSOs: IPPFAR's experiences ...

### Regional level:

- Advocating for implementation and increased budgetary allocation for SRH at regional level
- Conducting policy dialogues with stakeholders: Meetings with the SADC/PF with RECs - EAC, ECOWAS, ECCAS
- Popularizing MPoA: Published popular version of PoA and fact sheets on how it links to MDGs
- Institutional strengthening of SRH department within the RECs-- recruitment of SRH experts at EAC and WAHO

## At national level...

- Mobilizing and supporting nationally-driven advocacy CSO networks led by our Member Associations to advocate for the implementation of the MPoA in Ghana, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, and The Gambia
- Maintaining policy dialogues with policymakers—parliamentarians, e.g ongoing collaboration with the Network of Women Ministers and members of Parliament, in Uganda, and -- in Ghana-- meeting with Parliamentary Caucus on Population and Health

# Much remains to be done...

- Advocate for allocation of necessary resources (financial & human) for implementation
- Strengthen national ownership of the plan to translate political will into programmatic realities
- Improve coordination, harmonize efforts and strengthening of partnerships among stakeholders

Thank You