

Summary
briefing

ICPD+25 NAIROBI SUMMIT

Commitments analysis

A roadmap for fulfilling the promise

INTRODUCTION

The [Nairobi Summit on ICPD+25 – Accelerating the Promise](#)¹ marked the 25th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) held in Cairo in 1994 that recognized sexual and reproductive rights as human rights for the first time.

The Summit brought together governments, civil society, academia, the private sector, faith-based organizations, international financial institutions, grass roots organizations and other partners interested in the pursuit of sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Participants made commitments as part of an international effort to ensure that the promise of the ICPD Programme of Action (PoA) and the 2030 Agenda are achieved, and women and girls have autonomy over their bodies and their lives.

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) analysed the commitments made by governments² of 137 countries who participated at the Summit to contribute to accountability action at the national level to ensure that those commitments are fulfilled. The report [ICPD+25 Nairobi Summit – A roadmap for fulfilling the promise](#) identified thematic patterns, gaps, regional and global trends. The commitments were also analysed against SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound) criteria.

The report includes a [commitments database](#)³ and identifies many opportunities for civil society and governments to galvanise the political energy of the Nairobi Summit.

Now is the time to increase efforts, to hold governments to account and to ensure that these political commitments are turned into real national action to improve the lives of women and girls.

REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES AT A GLANCE

The database of national commitments and this report [ICPD+25 Nairobi Summit – A roadmap for fulfilling the promise](#) captured the commitments made by 137 countries in a systematic and granular way, with a focus on core thematic areas as stated in IPPF’s [Advocacy Common Agenda](#). These priority thematic areas are: (A) Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (B) Safe and Legal abortion (C) Comprehensive Sexuality Education (D) Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (E) Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender Equality in the Political Architecture. The analysis also examines financial commitments and emerging issues.

The detailed analysis can be found in a [main report](#) and [five regional reports](#) accompanying this summary briefing translated into Spanish, French, Portuguese, Russian and Arabic.

AFRICA REGION*

For the Africa region 305 commitments made by 37 governments were analysed. For the priority theme areas, 150 of those commitments directly linked to – Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Abortion, Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender Equality in the Political Architecture. The commitments focus mainly on gender equality and sexual and gender-based violence rather than other priority areas such as abortion, where only two countries made a commitment.

On funding only 13 per cent of commitments were made from a total of 21 African countries, with the strongest investment focused on youth. It is also important to note that two commitments (Eritrea and Ghana) highlighted comprehensive sexuality education as a means to reduce gender-based violence which reflects a positive trend.

THE AMERICAS*

Twenty governments made a total of 178 commitments, with 61 of those directly related to the priority themes – Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Abortion, Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender Equality in the Political Architecture. There were seven abortion commitments by four countries.

Only five per cent of commitments in this region were related to domestic funding commitments, raising a red flag in a region with the strongest regional commitments on the ICPD in the progressive Montevideo Consensus. Only 22 per cent of the commitments met SMART criteria.

ARAB WORLD REGION*

Twelve governments in this region made a total of 168 commitments, with 88 of them directly related to the priority themes – Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Abortion, Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender Equality in the Political Architecture.

The analysis did reveal that there is still a reluctance to broach sensitive policy areas such as abortion and comprehensive sexuality education. Other priority themes such as sexual and gender-based violence, gender equality and universal health coverage show a picture of hope and potential. A strong commitment came from Lebanon to address the needs of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI+) community. Ten per cent of the commitments are related to increasing domestic funding. Fifty-two per cent of the commitments made in this region are SMART.

*Africa region: Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cote d’Ivoire, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zambia

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC*

In South Asia, six out of the eight governments of this sub-region made a total of 65 commitments, with 24 of those directly related to the priority themes – Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Abortion, Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender Equality in the Political Architecture.

The commitments for universal health coverage and sexual and gender-based violence are particularly strong and offer advocacy opportunities for implementation at the country level. Twenty-five per cent of commitments in the region are SMART, the majority led by Pakistan and Nepal. Four commitments were made by Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and India, that include language on vulnerable and marginalized groups and reference access to sexual and reproductive health services.

For East Asia, South East Asia and Oceania, 20 governments made a total of 218 commitments, with 88 of these commitments aligned with the priority themes. Youth emerged as a key theme for this sub-region, with 12 commitments focused specifically on youth policy and sexual and reproductive health services for young people, seven of these being SMART.

Aside from the low number of funding commitments at six per cent, the greatest challenge is the complete lack of attention to abortion – apart from one commitment to integrate measures

to prevent unsafe abortion into universal health coverage by Vietnam. Overall, 29 per cent of the commitments were classified as SMART.

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA*

In this region, 28 countries made a total of 353 commitments, 145 of which aligned with the priority themes – Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Abortion, Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender Equality in the Political Architecture. Twenty-eight per cent of the commitments were classified as SMART. The majority of commitments made were to end gender-based violence.

Youth development was the primary focus of 25 commitments in this region. These commitments tended to focus on youth policies and legislation as well as youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services. The commitments made by North Macedonia are notable, as they focused on addressing the needs of marginalized communities, including a pledge to add a specific line in the national budget for sexual reproductive health services for these groups.

Of the total number of commitments, 11 per cent were on domestic financing while five per cent focused on funding for development assistance. There were no domestic funding commitments made on comprehensive sexuality education or abortion.

* **The Americas region:** Anguilla, Antigua, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Canada, Curacao, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guadeloupe, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Martinique, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Suriname, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela

* **Arab World region:** Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia, Palestine, Somaliland, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen and Somalia

* **Asia-Pacific region:**

East Asia, South East Asia and Oceania sub-region: Australia, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Micronesia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Vietnam, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Papua New Guinea.

South Asia sub-region: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka

* **Europe and Central Asia region:** Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, North Macedonia, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan and Ukraine

CONCLUSION

The Nairobi Summit and its commitments represent a landmark moment in the history of the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action. The commitments should be used to advocate for sustainable changes at the country level on the specific themes that governments committed to at the Summit. The analysis highlights areas for advocacy focus:

- **Political will:** The commitments show governments' support for the ICPD PoA agenda and offer opportunities for further advocacy to accelerate implementation.
- **Trends:** Civil society can use regional trends to demonstrate the need for coherence in addressing common themes at the regional level.
- **Intergovernmental advocacy opportunities:** Advocacy for the Nairobi Summit commitments can be explored within the following opportunities:
 1. Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process
 2. Human Rights Treaty Body Committees – Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)
 3. Relevant UN Special Rapporteurs and Working Groups
 4. Human Rights Council and UN General Assembly Resolutions
 5. Commission Population and Development (CPD), Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and the Beijing Platform for Action for gender equality.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Advocacy based on the Nairobi Summit commitments should begin immediately at the national level and should be part of sustained accountability efforts towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in 2030, liaising with important international agendas such as the Beijing Platform for Action on gender equality.

We hope that civil society use this report to define advocacy strategies at the country level to advance the International Conference on Population and Development Agenda, developing strategic partnerships and convene in coalitions with social movements to foster political will for change, engaging with national and international political powers.

Efforts should be supported by concerted action with academia, the private sector and UN agencies such as United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Health Organization (WHO) and UN Women among others at both country and international levels.

Regional policy documents on ICPD beyond 2014, the Montevideo Consensus and the Maputo Protocol and Plan of Action represent opportunities to achieve the fundamental changes we want to see in women's and girls' lives by 2030.

This summary is part of a series of reports:

- [ICPD+25 NAIROBI SUMMIT – A roadmap for fulfilling the promise](#)
- [Regional analysis reports:](#) Africa, The Americas, Arab World Region, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia
- [Analysis database with guide](#)

NOTES

¹ [ICPD+25 Nairobi Summit Accelerating the Promise, November 12 – 15, 2019](#)

² The IPPF Nairobi Summit database comprises commitments made by national Governments only (excludes NGOs and Private Sector)

³ The research methodology used was designed for the purpose of this report hence numbers might differ from other analysis. It is important to highlight that the Nairobi Summit Commitments website is still open and new commitments are being uploaded. This analysis reflects data on commitments on the website published until December 2019