

**IMPLEMENTATION MEETING OF THE UN COMMISSION ON LIFE-SAVING COMMODITIES
FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN
ABUJA, NIGERIA, OCTOBER 14-16, 2012**

Ministerial Communiqué

We, the Ministers of Health from the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, applaud the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Government of Norway, for their leadership in the United Nations Commission on Life-Saving Commodities (UNCC). We acknowledge the UNCC Secretariat – the United Nations Population Fund and United Nations Children Fund– for their immense support.

We invite our Ministers of Health from other countries to join this initiative;

Recalling the objectives and the recommendations of the UNCC; the UN Secretary General's Global Strategy for Women and Children's Health; the Every Woman Every Child (EWEC) movement and building on the pledges made as part of A Promise Renewed for Child Survival and Family Planning 2020;

Recognizing the need for immediate action to increase access to life-saving commodities for all women and children;

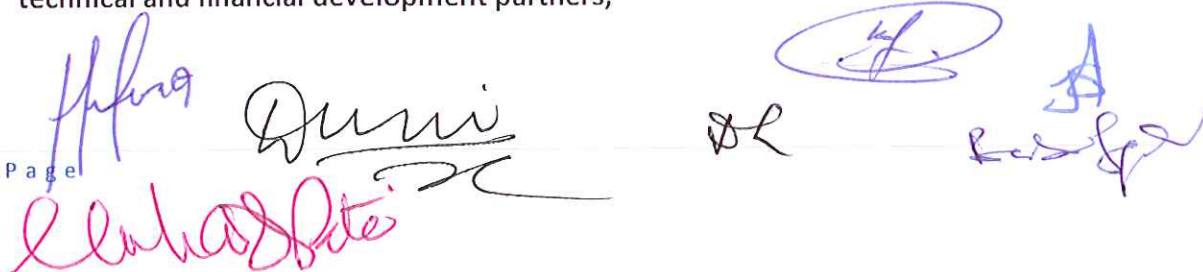
Acknowledging that as Government Officials we have a responsibility to guarantee health for women and children in our respective countries;

Building on Nigeria's "Saving One Million Lives" initiative, and other best practices from member states, through enhanced South-South Cooperation and innovative practices including the strategic use of Information and Communication Technologies;

And using existing harmonization mechanisms to align policies and normative processes.

We commit to:

- Undertake a review of the status of the thirteen life-saving commodities, opportunities, bottlenecks and gaps in our respective countries;
- Engage national stakeholders including Parliamentarians, private sector, civil society, technical and financial development partners;



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- Develop effective scale-up plans founded on evidence-based strategies, leading to the prioritization of high impact interventions;
- Reconvene in April 2013 to discuss our respective progress;
- Work with development partners and other stakeholders to carry-out the necessary actions to ensure sustainable and equitable access to and use of life saving commodities to all women and children in our respective countries by 2015, including relevant systems strengthening, demand creation (as part of a long-term strategic plan);
- Continue to engage our respective Governments to allocate additional funding and sustainable budget lines for life-saving commodities by 2015.

Signed in Abuja, October 16, 2012

Democratic Republic of Congo

Dr Felix Kabange Numbi

Minister of Health

P.O. Dr Pierre Lohasli opelle
Secrétaire général


Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

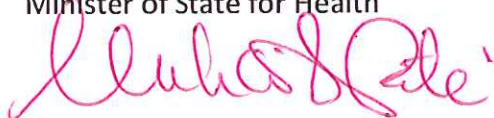

Minister of Health



Federal Republic of Nigeria

Dr Muhammad Ali Pate

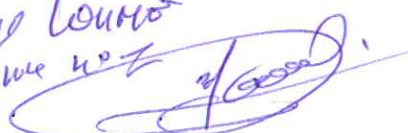
Minister of State for Health

Senegal

Professor Awa Marie Coll Seck

Minister of Health

P.O.
Doe Mandiaye Loumo
Conseiller technique


Sierra Leone

Hon. Tamba M. Borbor-Sawyer

Acting Minister of Health and Sanitation



United Republic of Tanzania

Hon. Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi

Minister of Health and Social Welfare

Hon. Juma Duni Haji, Minister of Health, Zanzibar



Uganda

Hon. Sarah Achieng Opendi

Minister of State for Primary Health Care