



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FP2020 Summit: Doctors of the World reaffirms its commitment to helping one million women access family planning by 2020

NEW YORK, NY (July 11, 2017) International humanitarian aid organization Doctors of the World (Médecins du Monde) has announced a commitment to help one million women access family planning services at the international Family Planning Summit in London. The summit is part of the FP2020 movement – a global initiative to enable 120 million women and girls to access contraception by 2020.

- There are currently 214 million women in the Global South who wish to avoid or defer pregnancy but do not have access to family planning services.
- It's estimated more than 96,000 women in developing countries will die from complications from an unwanted pregnancy in 2017.
- Almost 4 in 5 of these deaths could be prevented by full access to contraception.

Giving women access to family planning, which allows them to have children when they are financially and emotionally ready, also boosts national economies and development levels.

Doctors of the World runs family planning and sexual and reproductive health projects across Africa, Asia and South America. By 2020, the organization has committed to helping one million women, including 150,000 girls, access family planning in 13 countries including Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia, Pakistan, Haiti, and Iraq.

Fraser Mooney, Executive Director of Doctors of the World USA, says:

“Every woman has the right to be in control of her body, and to decide if and when she wants to have children. Following The Trump administration’s unfortunate decision to reinstate the “Global Gag Rule”, it’s more important than ever that we continue to build on the gains that that the FP2020 movement has made to date.”

"Today, alongside governments, civil society actors and the private sector, we are proud to announce our Commitment to FP2020 to help a million women and girls access the family planning services they need, which will build on our decades of groundbreaking work on sexual and reproductive health, particularly in humanitarian settings, and for youth. We believe that everyone should have access to sex education, contraception, and quality health services including safe and legal abortions.”

Dr Françoise Sivignon, President of Médecins du Monde France, says:

“Access to contraception is a fundamental right, as well as a powerful lever for fair and sustainable development. But it is a particularly essential requirement for women to reach their goals in their personal, professional or public life. While the FP2020 movement is a real step forward for women’s rights and health, this ambition will only be achieved if governments make strong commitments and devote significant funding to this.”

About Doctors of the World

Doctors of the World USA is a US non-profit that is part of the global Médecins du Monde network. We provide emergency and long-term medical care to vulnerable people, while fighting for equal access to healthcare worldwide. Founded in France in 1980, the network cares for the most vulnerable through more than 400 programs in over 80 countries around the world.

Press Contact

Françoise Meier

francoise@doctorsoftheworld.org

+1 (917) 565 2046

###