

SWAZILAND PRESENTATION

NEAPACO CONFERENCE –MUNYONYO RESORT

Date: 29TH June 2016

Introduction:

Chairperson –NEAPACO Delegates and all protocol Observed.

It is my singular honour and pleasure that I present to you the report on the resolutions that Swaziland had committed to undertake to Generate and Reinforce Political Will within and outside Swaziland.

In 2014, NEAPACOH conference held in Munyonyo, Swaziland chose to deliberate on the following topics:

- Strengthening the health Committee
- Parliamentary Reports from the Health Ministry which focuses mostly on the issues of FP/RH
- Partnership Increase with the Civil Society
- Champion in Family Planning, in Public Statements in Constituencies and Parliamentary Debates
- Increase in General Health Budget towards the Abuja declaration
- Strengthen the Health System

1. The first issue that Swaziland had committed to do is to Strengthening the health Committee structure by increasing FP/RH knowledge to the capacity of the Members. Members were engaged through workshops to fully capacitate them on issues of Reproductive Health. The Ministry of Health also engaged the Members in their activities as part of increasing the FP/RH knowledge and basic understanding of what it entails.

2. Parliamentary Reports from the Health Ministry which focuses mostly on the issues of FP/RH are debated during presentations of Parliamentary Quarterly Report Debates. Rallies piloted by the Health Ministry were conducted, and members of Parliament for the Health Portfolio Committee were invited to be part of the Rallies.

The dissemination of information through the use of documents and printed media has played a pivotal role in capacitating the Committee Members on the scope of FP/RH and reaches the society through media and awareness campaigns throughout the constituencies.

3. Partnership Increase with the Civil Society

The Civil Society in the Constituencies has formed groups in the constituencies that will help to advocate

on the aspects of FP/ RH issues. Rural Health Motivators were also engaged and through the help of the Clinics under Health Ministry, are able to disseminate information on these programmes across all constituencies.

Partners such as UNFPA Swaziland have indeed funded the programme through the provision of resources to various Health Centres and at constituency level. The Civil Society also has a mandate to play in this regard by heeding to the dictates of the FP/RH. Provision of workshops and Seminars also play a pivotal role in increasing the partnership with the Civil Society.

4. Champion in Family Planning, in Public Statements in Constituencies and Parliamentary Debates

The Government of Swaziland through the Ministry of Health do provide an adequate budget in the National budget for the implementation of the FP/RH. Organizations like Mothers to Mothers, Health Education Unit, UNFPA and others also have taken the initiative to help in constituencies in providing information and resources on the FP/RH. The Health Portfolio Committee also fully engages itself in ensuring that the programme is evitable in all the constituencies of the Country through making Motions and oral Questioning debates in Parliament.

5. Increase in General Health Budget towards the Abuja declaration

Swaziland has made great strides in increasing the General Health budget towards the Abuja Declaration. Swaziland sits at 12%. Through the Health Portfolio Committee efforts, we hope to achieve the 15% mark in the not so distant future.

6. Strengthen the Health System

The Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Health Portfolio Committee have the mandate to ensure that the health system in Swaziland is provided with the best resources and funding from Government and Health partners for promoting good health standards.

I Thank You!