

Faith Alliance for Health

11 September 2015

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

On behalf of the Faith Alliance for Health (FAH) we are pleased to share our commitment to the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health. The new Global Strategy is an exciting opportunity to engage the global community to improve the lives and well-being of women, children and adolescents around the world and we are enthusiastic to join it.

The Faith Alliance for Health is a coalition of organizations working to build capacity of local faith leadership and networks to promote behaviour change and demand for maternal, child and adolescent health services while fostering stronger linkages between communities and health facilities. We are raising resources to engage, train, and equip communities of faith in effective and systematic support of the large-scale health programmes that are essential to reducing child deaths by building upon the comparative advantages of the faith community – trust and credibility, sustainability, scalability, peace and security, and experience.

Operational partners include Islamic Relief, Catholic Relief Services, CMMB – Healthier Lives Worldwide, Nigerian Interfaith Action Association, Episcopal Relief & Development, and World Vision. We also have a strong set of advisory members representing bilateral, multi-lateral and consulting organizations.

During our five year commitment (2016-2020) the Alliance will strengthen national and local faith networks of faith leaders and organizations to bring their influence to bear and use their assets to eliminate preventable deaths of women, children and adolescents. The Alliance will organize or augment country-level platforms which bring together a strategic array of religious communities who represent affected populations and who can contribute to strengthening health programmes, including Muslim, Christian and other faith communities.

The means to achieve this goal will include: 1) Establish or reinforce existing national level faith alliances to empower and equip faith organizations in country to act to improve child health, including development of national plans for faith mobilization for child health; 2) Increase health promotion and disease prevention behaviours and encourage families and communities to seek health-care; 3) Increase access to quality health services in the community and at facilities through advocacy and where appropriate, service delivery; 4) draw on the expertise of global partners to apply learnings and best practices for faith engagement for maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health. The Faith Alliance for Health plans on mobilising and training **1 million faith leaders** globally. Faith leaders will in turn reach their communities, multiplying their effort to reach an estimated 50 million families.

Thank you for this opportunity to stand with partners around the world so that millions of women, children and adolescents survive and thrive.

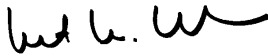
Kind regards,



Kevin Jenkins
President and Chief Executive Officer
World Vision International



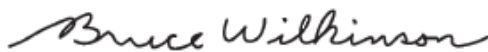
Bishop Sunday Onuoha
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Robert Radtke
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