

**Intervention by Marianne Haslegrave, Commonwealth Medical Trust, on behalf of the Women's Major Group, for the Regional Ministerial Consultation on Accountability for the Post-2015 Agenda**

Thank you Chair.

Speaking on behalf of the Women's Major Group, we wish to point out that it is important not to overlook existing mechanisms for ensuring accountability.

The introduction to the proposed goals and targets, as included in the Report of the Open Working Group, refers to the "importance of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights" and "other international instruments relating to human rights and international law."

Among the treaty monitoring bodies, for the Stand Alone Goal on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, the monitoring process of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women is particularly relevant, insofar as there is a direct correlation between the proposed SDG targets and Articles of the Convention. The Committee, moreover, comprises independent experts.

The Women's Major Group would also like to bring to the attention of the meeting that Independent Experts are involved in the monitoring and accountability of women and children's health through the Secretary-General's Every Woman, Every Child initiative. This is carried out the Independent Expert Review Committee (iERG).

In monitoring and accountability for sexual and reproductive health and rights, which is an important component of the proposed sustainable development goals, the initiative taken by Family Planning 2020 in setting up a Working Group on Performance, Monitoring and Accountability should also be noted.

Thank you Chair.