



African Leadership for Child Survival

African Leadership for Child Survival—A Promise Renewed Meeting Consensus Statement 18 January 2013

We the African Countries that have signed the pledge of [Committing to Child Survival, A Promise Renewed](#) met in Addis Ababa between 16 and 18 January 2013, as the first continental follow up to consolidate our efforts to accelerate progress in newborn, child and maternal health.

The African continent shares a significant global burden of newborn, child and maternal mortality. Most of these deaths are preventable. Thirty per cent of African countries are on track to achieve MDG 4, and some African countries have already reduced U5MR to below 20/1,000 live births. However, many countries have to intensify their efforts to meet this important goal.

To accelerate progress we need targeted and effective implementation of high impact interventions. Dramatic reductions in preventable child deaths can be achieved through concerted action in five critical areas, outlined in the Global Roadmap:

1. **Geography**: Increase efforts in the areas where the most deaths occur, prioritizing budgets and committing to action plans to end preventable child deaths.
2. **High Burden Populations**: Focus country health systems on scaling-up access for underserved populations, to include rural and low income groups.
3. **High Impact Solutions**: Focus on the primary causes of child death.
4. **Gender Equality**: Invest beyond health programs to include educating girls and boys, empowering women and men, and inclusive economic growth.
5. **Mutual Accountability and Financing**: Unify around a shared goal and common metrics.

We are committed to develop and implement country-led roadmaps that integrate on-going efforts to accelerate progress to end preventable deaths among children under five years of age by 2035, and reduce U5MR to below 20/1,000 live births in all African nations.

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