INTERVENTION

We thank the Secretariat for this report.

As a country with a Feminist International Assistance Policy, Canada believes that we cannot achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and end poverty by 2030 unless sufficient attention is given to the health, rights and wellbeing of women, children and adolescents.

We recognize the critical importance of universal health coverage to improving the health, rights and wellbeing of women, children and adolescents. Globally, Canada advocates for sexual and reproductive health and rights; women’s, children’s and adolescents’ health and nutrition; and integrated care, including mental health and addiction services. All are key to achieving UHC.

In this regard, we welcome WHO’s on-going efforts to improve quality of care and to strengthen monitoring and accountability, including standardization of global data. We note the several useful SRMNCH-related tools, recommendations, and guidelines made available in 2018.

Canada also appreciates WHO’s efforts to encourage increased investment in adolescent health, including efforts to improve disaggregated data collection and the development of normative tools.

We would like to highlight the importance of working in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders, including women’s organizations, local civil-society and communities, as well as adolescents and youth-led organizations, to foster coordination and collaboration and to amplify women’s and girls’ voices inside and outside the health and nutrition sectors.

Canada strongly supports effective multisectoral and integrated approaches to address people’s needs throughout their life cycle. We are pleased to see greater emphasis being placed on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights; and greater emphasis on addressing social and other determinants of health.

Thank you