



## Acceleration towards the Sustainable Development Goal Targets for Maternal Health and Child Mortality

Thursday 30 May

**Mr. Chair, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,  
distinguished guests,**

I have the honor to present the State of Kuwait's  
national statement under agenda item **11.7**

The State of Kuwait thanks the Director-General for  
his report.

Kuwait's approach to maternal and child health  
robustly aligns with the global health objectives set  
by the World Health Organization's Sustainable  
Development Goals (SDGs), specifically aiming to  
lower maternal and child mortality rates. The  
country's health initiatives are well-supported by a  
spectrum of healthcare services, including prenatal  
and postnatal care, skilled birth attendance, and  
comprehensive immunization programs targeting  
young children.



Recent data showcases a positive trend in child health, with the under-five mortality rate consistently declining over the last three decades, marking significant progress by 2022. This trend underscores the efficacy of Kuwait's targeted health programs for young children. Similarly, in maternal health, Kuwait has reported notable improvements, highlighted by the recent absence of maternal mortality, a testament to the high-quality antenatal care and widespread accessibility of healthcare services. These accomplishments demonstrate Kuwait's dedication to enhancing maternal health, in line with international standards to reduce maternal mortality.

In the short term, Kuwait aims to boost the accessibility and quality of antenatal and pediatric care services further. This includes enhancing emergency obstetric care and broadening training programs for healthcare professionals in maternal and child health sectors. Long-term objectives focus on maintaining the healthcare advances contributing to the reduction of maternal and child mortality. This involves the continuous upgrading of healthcare infrastructure and the integration of sophisticated



data collection and analysis techniques to monitor and respond to health trends effectively.

Kuwait's commitment to improving maternal and child health services extends to increasing community engagement, advancing educational outreach on maternal and child health, and reinforcing policies that support robust health systems. These strategic efforts ensure that all mothers and children receive optimal care and support, reflecting Kuwait's commitment to meeting both national and international health standards and enhancing health outcomes for its population.

Shortages of skilled health personnel, such as midwives and community health workers, coupled with limited awareness, financial constraints, geographical barriers, and inadequate infrastructure, present formidable challenges to improving maternal and child health outcomes worldwide. Moreover, the persistence of poor-quality care across diverse healthcare settings contributes significantly to preventable deaths, revealing systemic deficiencies in healthcare delivery.



Furthermore, the escalating impacts of climate change further compound these challenges, exacerbating maternal and child mortality rates and underscoring the urgent need for comprehensive, multi-sectoral approaches to address these interconnected issues.

Thank you Chair