



Saving the Lives of Mothers & Children

Rising to the Challenge

Delegates at a United Nations-convened high-level meeting on saving the lives of mothers and children in the Eastern Mediterranean Region agreed in Dubai on 30 January 2013 to urgently accelerate progress on improving maternal and child health between now and the end of 2015. They also committed to reduce the gap between current funding levels and those required if the Region is to meet Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5 on reducing maternal and child mortality.

The commitments are laid out in the Dubai Declaration, “Saving the lives of mothers and children: Rising to the Challenge”, which details seven key concrete actions to be taken by all countries in the Region to enable more women and children to access the health services they need. Countries agreed to develop and execute national plans for maternal and child health; to take measurable steps to strengthen their health systems; to mobilize domestic and international resources to establish sustainable financing mechanisms.

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