



Media Briefing on High Level Event on Campaign on the Acceleration of Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa (CARMMA)

26 January 2013, 17:00 – 17:30 hours

Small Conference Hall 3, Africa Union Commission, Addis Ababa

Speakers:

- AU Commissioner for Social Affairs
- Minister of Health, Republic of Benin
- Minister of Health, Republic of Ethiopia
- UNFPA Executive Director

Background

- 37 African Countries have launched the Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa (CARMMA)
- Between 1990 and 2010, Africa has reduced maternal deaths by 41 per cent. Over the same period, it has also reduced under-five mortality by 33 per cent.
- Despite progress, 57 per cent of all maternal deaths occur on the continent, giving Africa the highest maternal mortality ratio in the world. Maternal mortality rates vary from country to country.
- Only about one half of the 123 million women who give birth each year receive antenatal, delivery and newborn care.
- To protect their health and that of their infants, women need access to basic health care during pregnancy and delivery.

No woman should die giving life: It's within our reach. It's in our hands.

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