



Hello Youth Advocates from Women Deliver:

As part of the Deliver for Youth (D4Y) project, we are starting this monthly bulletin with new resources and advocacy opportunities around maternal health and young people, especially linking maternal health services and information to SRHR, including HIV/AIDS, programming and policy. As part of the Women Deliver initiative, we will be looking at these issues in the context of poverty eradication, sustainable development, and the march toward meeting the Millennium Development Goals.

We will continue to up-date you on the D4Y activities, and we hope that you will contribute by writing to us about the events and news in your community. Your knowledge and opinions and what inspires you will make this a valuable resource for young advocates striving for better integration of the youth voice within maternal health advocacy.

We want to hear what you are doing – tell us about the events you are attending, the state of sexual and reproductive health and rights in your community, and the perceptions of SRHR and maternal health among your friends, your classmates, your coworkers, your families. Write me at [nsorkin@familycareintl.org](mailto:nsorkin@familycareintl.org). For your news to be included on the next bulletin, please send me the information before **Friday March 7, 2008**.

This bulletin is divided into three sections: *Applause*: Deliver for Youth highlights; *Calls*: conferences, events, and other opportunities to advocate, participate, or connect; and *In the Know*: news and resources, including reports, toolkits, and books.

## **APPLAUSE**

### *D4Y Superstars and Successes*

On February 12 in Brussels, Belgium, Fatma Hacıoglu from Turkey, YouAct representative and Women Deliver plenary speaker, presented as part of a European Union Congressional Hearing, **SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE: The Need for Comprehensive Sexuality Education in the South**. To support on-going advocacy, Fatma and the young advocates working in Brussels are gathering endorsements for an Urgent Call for Comprehensive Sex Education. Please write her at [fatma@youact.org](mailto:fatma@youact.org) to endorse the call.

The Hearing was hosted by Ms Kathalijne Maria Buitenweg, Member of the European Parliament with support from YouAct, The European Youth Network on

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Sexual and Reproductive Rights, EuroNGOs, the European NGOs for sexual and reproductive health and rights, population and development, World Population Foundation (WPF), The Netherlands and the Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU), with support of DSW (The German Foundation for World Population).

## **CALLS**

*Conferences & Announcements*

**The 52<sup>nd</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women is upon us!  
February 25- March 7, 2008 in New York**

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/52sess.htm>

Please tell us if you're attending – FCI is planning a Women Deliver reception, and we want to be sure you are invited! There will be a formal guest list for security purposes so do tell us if you will be in town. We are also happy to work with you to disseminate news from the UN; Vanessa will be monitoring the Commission for FCI.

### **Reproductive Health in Emergencies**

June 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, Kampala, Uganda

<http://www.raiseinitiative.org/conference>

Aishah from Uganda wrote to say she will be attending this incredible conference that aims to expand comprehensive RH services in crisis settings. Please tell us if you're attending; we may be able to pull together a D4Y event there and will be glad to post news to the website.

### **Rapper Common wants your lyrical rhymes.**

Check out your this MTV contest to put activists' words on safe sex and getting tested in Common's mouth and out to the public at large. Tell us what you think of this kind of advocacy campaign and whether you're up for the challenge.

<http://www.aminutecontest.com/theContest>

## **IN THE KNOW**

*News and Resources*

### **News Clips**

**World Economic Forum, Davos, Switzerland**—check out the announcement by Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda in January. He challenged global leaders to tackle maternal and infant mortality in a new comprehensive framework of cooperation. Read the full story at: <http://www.womendeliver.org/campaign/index.htm>.

**Sexuality, Poverty and Accountability in Africa conference, Abuja, Nigeria** — In early February, about 400 delegates from 32 countries attended the “Sexuality, Poverty, and Accountability in Africa” organized by IPAS, the World Health Organization and other groups. The global conference emphasized inadequate responses to fertility demands and desires among people living with HIV. We can only hope that PEPFAR-

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funded programming for PMTCT interventions will be informed by this critical dialogue.  
For more read below:  
[http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily\\_reports/rep\\_index.cfm?DR\\_ID=50379](http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=50379)

## **New Resources**

**A new report and advocacy tools** from the Coalition for Adolescent Girls highlights disaggregated data on young girls and poverty as well as emphasizes the need further investment in education and health. Geeta Rao Gupta, President of the International Center for Research on Women and lead author of the WD background paper, advised on this report that takes us one step closer to evidence-based programming that takes girls' needs into account: <http://www.coalitionforadolescentgirls.org/>

Cordelia from the USA sends along this **must-read book**: *The Milk of Human Kindness* by Solveig Francis, Selma James, Phoebe Jones Schellenberg & Nina Lopez-Jones. Co-author Selma James is women's rights activist, socialist and anti-racism activist Selma James, who led the international movement for wages for housework and The Global Women's Strike and delegation at the UN in the 1970s and 1980s. This book addresses breastfeeding as critical for child survival in AIDS-endemic regions and how the commercialization of the AIDS eradication movement has created an opening for Nestle, the US-based multinational corporation once the target of powerful pro-breastfeeding movements, to resume promoting its baby formula full force in the Global South. The complexities of the breastfeeding debate make this a hot read for all of us. Visit <http://www.allwomenscount.net/Publications/MHKOrderForm.htm> for more information.

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