

Board of Trustees  
20-21 June 2024

Refers to  
agenda item 6.1

### **Agenda Item: Chair's and DG progress report**

We discussed the state of our world and implications for IPPF at our March meeting. The wars in Gaza and Sudan continue to cause massive devastation, the United Nations shows it is in acute respiratory distress and in a number of countries students are mobilising for peace.

IPPF has chosen to support a strategy that a younger, queerer, more diverse generation helped us delineate.

**Centre care on people:** We are working towards allocating Stream 2 funding for people on the move, with emphasis on routes that cut through the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. The work links to the six principles (attached) that will underpin our humanitarian work which were shaped by this Board's deliberations in Berlin. The launch of the Acceleration Plan for **the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation** saw international experts from Malaysia, Indonesia, Egypt, Mauritania, Somaliland, Mali, Chad and Sudan. Member Associations working on FGM will now report on social change, advocacy, services, partnerships and research. The Mauritanian Prime Minister and Minister of Women and Family Welfare pledged their support to FGM survivors, access to SRH and to IPPF. The Moroccan Red Crescent and our MA Association Marocaine de Planification Familiale) signed a partnership agreement to ensure better care to migrants and refugees. The Red Cross will ensure all providers are trained in clinical guidelines developed by IPPF, and share a facility to deliver services on the borders between Morocco and Spain. In Bhutan, the #GotToBreakFree initiative was launched by the Queen Mother to amplify the voices of **SGBV survivors** and promote community solidarity and activism. The DG attended the event and met with providers to discuss **adolescent pregnancy** and **safe abortion care**, and **LGBTQ inclusive services**. RENEW will collaborate with WHO for **joint advocacy on LGBTQ-inclusive services and facilitate cross-learning visits between Bhutan and other IPPF Member Associations**.

**Move the Sexuality Agenda:** The 11th African Conference of SRH was hosted by Morocco, and co-organized by IPPF. 600 participants from 42 African countries were represented by ministers, First Ladies, NGO's, the Arab league, the African Union, youth organizations and governments participated. 20 recommendations for the Rabat Declaration were shared with African Union permanent missions The next conference will be in Namibia in 2026.

On 04 April, a historic [resolution](#) on combating Discrimination, Violence, and Harmful Practices against Intersex Persons, was adopted by a vote of 24 in favour and 23 abstentions, with no votes against it. The resolution acknowledges that intersex people exist in all societies and face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination in all areas of life.

**Solidarity for Change:** On April 12 after years of effort by Polish Women Strike and others, three bills designed to **decriminalise abortion in Poland** were sent for a second reading in the parliamentary committee, signalling a critical moment of change. A European Citizens' campaign **My Voice, My Choice** is designed to make abortion accessible throughout the UE. The campaign is designed to collect one million signatures. IPPF EN and MAs based in the EU are supporting efforts initiated by our partners in Slovenia. Colleagues from the EU can [sign here](#).

The DG and representatives from the Director's Leadership team were present in, and speaking at the launches of UNFPA's State of the World's Population Report and the **ICPD Programme of Action** marked the 30th anniversary of the Cairo Conference. IPPF ensured representation in London, Tokyo, Berlin, New York, as well as the 8th International Parliamentarians' Conference, and in Cotonou, Benin where ICPD+30 sought input from young people to and craft a vision for the post-SDGs era. More than 25 Member Associations were represented across the Federation at different fora.

The Chair of IPPF was re-elected for 2 years as co-chair of the **WHO Human Reproduction Programme's Gender & Rights Advisory Panel**, providing opportunities to strengthen our collaboration on FGM, GBV in humanitarian, transgender care guidelines. IPPF has been re-elected as CSO representing the commodity Implementing Partners on the UNFPA Supplies Partnership Steering Committee.

As predicted in the set-up of **Kalavai**; cross-issue, cross continent organising will be critical. In a time of increased funding insecurity, we secured the necessary funding commitments to get going. Joint public statements have been released by Kalavai core convenors, IPPF and ILGA World in response to anti-LGBTIA+ rights legislative actions in Uganda and Ghana and the partnership is progressing well.

After an increasingly anxious few months, several large agreements were contracted. The government of the Netherlands doubled our core grant for 2024-2025 from €3.6m to €7 million/year and extended it to 2028, securing an additional €30m for the next 5 years. We successfully contracted the EMPOWER programme with Global Affairs Canada, securing CAD48m / 7 years. IPPF emerged victorious in the FCDO WISH competitive tender, securing £75m / 5 years for a new WISH program. We are in the final stages of signing a 3-year core funding agreement with SIDA for SEK180m (approx. USD 16.5m / 3 years). This period has also been marked by intense high level donor engagements in Spain, Japan, and China, to renew our collaboration and further our mission.

**Nurture our Federation:** We ended 2023 with a small surplus of unrestricted core and closed the year with a general reserve in the middle of the threshold agreed by the BoT, thanks to improved overhead recovery, better cash management and better individual giving (fundraising) performance, and forex gains. The 2024 budget carried significant risk, much mitigated by income from donors as described above.

The results of the **Secretariat Accountability Mechanism** survey conducted with MAs have been consolidated with data from a MA-wide questionnaire and follow up focus group discussions with 31 MAs. This allowed a deeper dive into the qualitative feedback and uncovered nuanced (and regional)

themes for action. A management response will be developed by DLT, and the results disseminated and discussed with Secretariat teams and MAs.

Following an extensive search with our partner agency in the region, interviews will take place in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May for the **South Asia Regional Director**. Depending on notice periods, we anticipate having the new Regional Director join between August and September.