



AAA e-NEWS BRIEF – MAY 2013

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs) - PREVENTION MOTHER AND CHILD MORTALITY

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Learn About African Action on AIDS (AAA)

AAA is a tax exempt non-profit organization registered in the USA and operating under section 501(c) 3 of the IRS code. It is also registered in Cameroon (auth. No00174/A/MINAT/DAP/SDLP/SAC). It has special consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC and the UN Department of Information.

AAA's work is based on 3 programmes:

"JUST KNOW" Campaign emphasizes:

- Knowledge of one's body
- Knowledge that leads to behavior change
- Knowledge that helps to visualize a future without AIDS

"Health before Wealth" Concept promotes:

- Testing for HIV
- Clean hands (hand washing stations)
- Clean water (drinking stations)
- Dignified toilets
- Fighting against Malaria (treated mosquito bed nets)
- Vaccination
- Anti worms medicine

"Women's economic autonomy" through our Scholarship Programme. This scholarship enables each teenage orphan girl to complete at least a secondary, general or technical education that will lead to financial and economic autonomy, greatly reducing the risk of being infected with HIV through sexual abuse and violence.

On 22 April 2013, United Nations ECOSOC Chamber reopened in New York, with a debate on financing for development and the post - 2015 Development agenda. NGOs in consultative status were invited. Ms MENGUE-EKA-ABILA, one of AAA Representatives was present.

From the start, there was a general consensus that more needed to be done to meet a number of MDGs, including the reduction of Mother and Child Mortality in Africa. Suggestions for post-2015 Agenda emphasized the need to build on the Monterrey Consensus (March 2002 – Mexico) with close cooperation between the United Nations, the Civil Society and the Private Sector. Furthermore, the need to strengthen the capacity of civil society as an increasingly important actor in global economy was stressed. A representative of the private sector suggested the rethinking of the PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP with a financial model involving local governments as potential helpful tools to ensure better appropriation of development at local level. **This debate is a great reinforcement to AAA Strategic Plan's activities as highlighted below:**

The Reduction of Maternal and Child Mortality is built on 3 important ingredients: a) Competent Health personnel who are also committed to empathy involved in helping and assisting the people they serve! (Read: "*Le bon accueil du malade, c'est le premier pas vers la guérison* – by Fogue Foguito, Executive Director of Positive Generation – *Le Messager (Cameroon)*, 19 April 2013; b) Well equipped hospitals and health centres in urban as well as rural areas; c) Informed population committed to maintaining healthy habits throughout their lifetime. **To prevent Mother and Child Mortality, AAA has developed a PREVENTIVE HEALTH PLAN and has institutionalized a National Workshop that strengthens the capacity of Women Community Health Animators.** This allows an extended access to disease prevention, including HIV/AIDS Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT).

Public-Private Partnership involving local governments: For example, to impact health locally, AAA signed a Convention of Collaboration with the Mayor of Mengang, emphasizing Hygiene and Disease Prevention starting with Nursery and Primary rural schools. **FROM GLOBAL DEBATES TO LOCAL ACTIONS, PLEASE JOIN US TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

*Ruth Bamela Engo
President, AAA*



AAA training community health animators

Health animator counseling a mother

Collaborative convention with a local Council

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