



STATEMENT BY
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AT THE 2ND NATIONAL NURSING AND MIDWIFERY LEADERS
AND MANAGERS CONFERENCE 2019 ON WED. 11 DEC. 2019

Protocol:

- **Honourable Minister of Health, Hon. Kwaku Agyeman-Manu**
- **Registrar, Nursing and Midwifery Council**
- **Director of Nursing and Midwifery Ghana Health Services**
- **President Ghana College of Nursing and Midwifery**
- **Development Partners - Sector Lead**
- **Members of Nursing and Midwives Associations**
- **Nursing and Midwifery Leaders/Managers from MoH/GHS**
- **Distinguished Invited Guests**
- **Friends from the Media**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

It is a privilege and honor to have the opportunity to say something on this day.

I would like to recognize the effort that has put in bringing the Nursing and midwifery leaders together, which shows a commitment to implementing strategic planning. This meeting is timely and relevant since strong leadership is critical to the transformation of the healthcare system.



The Nursing and Midwifery Profession must produce leaders from the grassroots to the national level. The commitment we see today should be a springboard for a robust nursing and midwifery system.

The Strategic Plan is a significant contribution of nurses and midwives to national level development. It should not remain on the shelf. Instead, it should reach the lowest organizational level.

UNFPA is happy to note that the Midwifery Service Framework (MSF) informed the development of the Nursing and Midwives strategic plan. A fundamental principle of the MSF is Midwives-led care.

Nurses and Midwives are leading the way in health care and are critical in achieving Universal Health Coverage. In Ghana, nurses and midwives are central to the delivery of Basic Emergency Obstetric Care at primary health care level. They have contributed to the gains Ghana has made in the reduction of maternal and newborn mortality.

UNFPA and partners are working with the MoH and Ghana Health Service to improve the quality of training of midwives in the country to sustain the gains made.



Honourable Minister, the new strategic plan recognizes leadership and governance as a significant tenet in the nursing and midwifery system. Indeed, in places where there has been considerable investment in leadership training and support, the results have been better.

Nurses and Midwives need leadership training if they must play their role in Ghana's journey towards Universal Health Coverage.

Ghana has defined a package of care, a significant part of which can be delivered by midwives. To ensure the package of care reaches the most vulnerable population in the country, the MoH and GHS must invest in addressing the inequity in the distribution of skilled midwives within and across regions. The distribution of midwives is disproportionately skewed towards urban areas leaving the rural populations underserved.

In conclusion, I wish to thank everyone involved in this initiative and assure you that indeed we are on the march to a Universal Health Coverage for all the people in Ghana and together we will move Ghana forward to a healthy nation.

Thankyou