



STATEMENT BY NIYI OJUOLAPE, UNFPA COUNTRY

REPRESENTATIVE, GHANA

**AT THE GHANA COLLEGE OF NURSES AND MIDWIVES' 4TH ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING AND 2ND SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE**

ON TUES. 08 OCTOBER, 2019

AT THE GHANA ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES -ACCRA

- Representatives of Government and Non-Governmental Organizations
- President of The Ghana College of Nurses And Midwives
- Members and Associate Members of the College
- Invited Guests
- Friends from the Media
- Ladies and Gentlemen

It is an honour for me to join you as you commemorate the 4th Annual General Meeting and 2nd Scientific Conference.

UNFPA commends the industriousness, and sometimes the sacrifice, that nurses and midwives go through as they contribute to the country's road map towards Universal Health Coverage. The life-saving work that you do contributes significantly towards the realization of UNFPA's three transformative goals, namely: ending unmet needs for family planning; ending preventable maternal deaths and ending gender-based violence and other harmful practices.

Nurses and midwives are critical players in ensuring that women and girls enjoy the complete fulfillment of their sexual and reproductive health and rights by providing,



among others, family planning counselling and services, quality antenatal care, skilled birth deliveries, emergency obstetric and neonatal care, post-partum care and HIV/STI counselling and testing, including preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

In the era of technological advancement and innovation, it is imperative that technology is employed in all endeavours, in order to improve access to, delivery of and the affordability of healthcare services to all. In this light UNFPA is delighted that the theme of your annual general meeting and scientific conference is **“Maximizing technology in accelerating Universal Health Coverage; the role of nursing and midwifery in the era of specialization”**.

We, at UNFPA, believe that we can go places with appropriate technology. In this meeting we will be making a presentation on the Safe Delivery App - a smartphone application that provides skilled birth attendants with direct and instant access to evidence-based and up-to-date clinical guidelines on Basic Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care. This was developed by The Maternity Foundation, and UNFPA is supporting its roll-out.

I appreciate that the Ghana College of Nurses and Midwives is committed to empowering nurses and midwives; churning out specialists with the skills to be innovative in utilizing technology in their daily clinical practice and research, ultimately contributing to the nation’s bid to achieving Universal Health Coverage. This is in line with the commitments Ghana is seeking to present at the Nairobi summit next month, hence addressing the unfinished business of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).



As you start your 4th AGM and 2nd scientific conference, I wish to encourage you to generate ground-breaking and innovative ideas, utilising technology in health care delivery. Universal Health Coverage is indeed achievable. No one should be left behind.

I thank you and wish you a successful and productive 4th Annual General Meeting and 2nd Scientific Conference.