

## The International Pediatric Association (IPA)

### **IPA Statement on “Paediatricians and Achievement of the Health-related MDG’s”**

62nd WHA 2009

Agenda Item 11.6 “Monitoring of the achievements of the health-related MDG’s”

by Professor Chok-wan CHAN, IPA President

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I speak on behalf of the International Pediatric Association (IPA) comprising of 148 national, 7 regional and 14 pediatric specialty member societies and together representing one million pediatricians in one unified voice for global child health.

We firmly believe in “child survival, child health and child development” and ten years ago, we already started programmes on “Newborn Survival” and on “Child Watch Africa” alerting the world of major health problems in Sub-Sahara Africa and launched the famous Nairobi Declaration for Child Survival arousing global awareness of the appalling conditions where our children lived. We are proud to be invited to the Meeting for 28 African Health Ministers at the World Health Assembly in 2005 on the issue.

Pediatricians at IPA are committed to the promotion of breastfeeding with zinc supplements, control of vaccine preventable diseases and environmental health through programmes on nutrition, immunization and environmental health. We created programmes on Child Survival, MDG and Child Health at Humanitarian Emergencies. Our Council of Delegates passed resolution in Athens in 2007 to support our MDG activities. We formulated strategic plans to link up our societies and encourage twining between members with successful results. We encouraged members to influence their ministries of health on child health issues and policies. We formed fruitful collaborations with obstetricians and gynecologists, nurses and midwives via the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH) since 2005 for maternal and child health.

At global level, pediatricians work closely with WHO, UNICEF, FIGO, World Bank and other agencies offering our expertise, experience and knowledge as well epidemiological data and updated research information for child health. We participated at global initiatives including the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI), the Global Action Plan against Pneumonia (GAPP), the Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunization (GAVI), the Countdown to 2015 as well as the Health Partnership Plus (HP+) and as civil society in consultation for the High Level Taskforce on Innovative International Financing For Health Systems,

We pediatricians are confident that with our dedicated effort, we should be able to contribute to the attainment of the MDG’s by 2015 because we strongly believe *“Healthy Children for a Healthy World”!*

Thank you for your attention.