There can be no sustainable development without support to families

¿Is 2014 as the right time to face it?

Voice of the Family in Africa (VOFA)
International Federation for Family Development (IFFD)
Strathmore University Law School

Africa Preparatory Conference 2014

“Confronting family poverty and social exclusion; ensuring work-family balance; advancing social integration and intergenerational solidarity in Africa”

Nairobi, 23-24 January 2014
“Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

Africa Preparatory Conference
Nairobi, 23-24 January 2014
“There is an urgent need for new approaches, to be defined and measured in a way which accounts for the broader picture of human progress.”
“Civil society has never been more important or needed. That is why the growing pressures and restrictions facing civil society are so deeply troubling.”

Africa Preparatory Conference
Nairobi, 23-24 January 2014
“Family structure and family process matters: evidence shows that outcomes for both children and adults are not equal regardless of family background, and public policy should reflect this.”
“The family is the most powerful, the most humane and, by far, the most economical system known for building competence and character’. Still, families do better in a supportive policy environment.”
“This report highlights the extent to which family breakdown has contributed to the feminization of poverty and the fact that family structure matters in the long term fight against poverty, in particular child poverty.”

Africa Preparatory Conference
Nairobi, 23-24 January 2014
2 goals for 2014:

> Family Perspective

>> Family Impact Report

More information at
www.family2014.org
INTEGRATING A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE BY INTRODUCING A FAMILY IMPACT REPORT

23 Regional Entities and International Organizations

228 National Organizations from 65 countries

542 Civil Society Representatives, Academics and Policy Makers from 83 countries
Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014

Report of the Secretary-General

46. The International Federation for Family Development organized a side-event, on 12 February 2013, in the context of the fifty-first session of the Commission for Social Development, entitled “Towards 2014: promoting the empowerment of families”, as well as several awareness-raising meetings in Europe, South America and Africa.

68. As noted in previous reports on family issues, the Millennium Development Goals, especially those relating to poverty, education and the reduction of maternal mortality are difficult to achieve unless the strategies to achieve them focus on the family. Women, children and youth are among the major priorities for the United Nations and will remain a top priority in the post-2015 development strategy. Adding families to this agenda would be a step forward in the direction of empowerment and reduction of inequality and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals.
Recognizing that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.

1. Encourages Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes and to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking;

2. Decides to devote one plenary meeting during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, in 2014, to the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in order to discuss the role of family-oriented policies in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

9. Urges Member States to create a conducive environment to strengthen and support all families, recognizing that equality between women and men and respect for all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and recognizing the principle of shared parental responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child;
1. Support and supplement family functioning.
2. Encourage and reinforce commitment.
3. Recognize interdependence.
4. Encourage individuals to collaborate.
5. Take into account effects on different types of families.
6. Include families in need or vulnerable to breakdown.
Family Impact Report · Principles

1. Collecting, interviewing, reviewing, consulting.
2. Identifying how it supports families or doesn’t.
3. Doing research.
4. Meant to be nonpartisan and build consensus.
5. Not to plan for the sake of planning, but for acting.
6. Discussing, disseminating and assessing implementation.
More information at www.family2014.org

Africa Preparatory Conference
Nairobi, 23-24 January 2014-14