



In the spotlight

Adding up RH Commodity Security Commitments

More than 100 partners have committed to RH commodity security in the past decade. This remarkable figure is one of many that have surfaced in the recently-completed first phase of a global review of RH commodity security commitments made in the last 10 years. The review, undertaken by the Coalition, together with Cambridge Economic Policy Consultants (CEPA), aims to identify, review, and consolidate all such commitments into one resource – a compendium. This is part of a wider Coalition effort to celebrate actors who have made RH supplies commitments, and progress to date. To ensure this valuable information is easily accessible to all stakeholders, the compendium will go online as an interactive, searchable resource in the first quarter of 2014. For more information please contact [Lou Compernelle](#), Global Commitments Officer.

Coalition on the scene

Uganda to lead in Coalition's field-based commitments work

The Coalition recently developed a work-plan for the first field-based intervention under the Coalition's work-stream to fulfil supply commitments. Uganda was identified as the "inaugural" country of this field-based component based on local interest, the presence of strong local partners, and the country's prominence at the London Family Planning Summit in 2012. The intervention will serve as both a proof of concept and field-test for subsequent field-based efforts. A proposal and budget have been developed, and the lead consultant has been hired. Work will commence early January, with field-based activities getting underway in April 2014.

Coalition builds outreach and planning into end-of-year activities

The Coalition hosted a reception at its Brussels offices in December at which Coalition Chair Marleen Temmerman met not just key partners from the Brussels reproductive health and development communities, but also the entire Secretariat team. The Coalition team – from five offices on four continents – came together for a week of work-planning and team-building, and presented a rare and timely opportunity for networking.

Professional success for LAPTOP scholar

Simplice Kamdem used his LAPTOP scholarship to pursue a course in supply chain management at the Università della Svizzera Italiana in Lugano, Switzerland. Today, his studies are paying off in a tangible way. Previously USAID / PEPFAR's Commodities and Logistics Advisor in Abidjan, Simplicie has recently been promoted to Senior Supply Chain Advisor and now oversees a US\$40M per year project to address the supply needs of 130,000 people on antiretroviral treatment. Simplicie describes his course as having been invaluable and has no doubts over its contribution to his professional success. The [LAPTOP database](#) was the most-visited page on the Coalition's website in 2012 and 2013.

15th General Membership Meeting in Mexico City

Preparations are underway for this year's 15th General Membership Meeting, which will take place in Mexico City during the week commencing 20 October 2014. Further details on dates, venue, and agendas will be reported in SupplyInsider as soon as they become available.

Latest ERP decisions announced

In December, UNFPA announced the categorization by the Expert Review Panel (ERP) of three new contraceptives as suitable for procurement. These were: Cipla's Misoprostol 200mcg, Lupin Limited's levonorgestrel 1.5mg, and Bayer's one-month injectable contraceptive Norethindrone Enanthate + Estradiol Valerate, more commonly known as Norigynon in the public sector.

The Coalition has long championed the introduction of quality-assured products to the market, while the Coalition-supported [QuRHM programme](#), implemented by the Concept Foundation, provides ongoing technical support to manufacturers submitting dossiers for prequalification. Updated information on ERP decisions is available [here](#).

Bellagio Group reaffirms commitment

Greater access to long acting reversible contraceptives within a framework of rights, quality and equity is the focus of the Bellagio Group, first convened in 2012 by the Population Council, the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), and the Coalition. Members of the group reconvened at the Addis Family Planning Conference where they reaffirmed their commitment to expanding access to highly effective, long-acting, reversible contraception for women and adolescent girls within the full range of contraceptive choice. The Group's statement can be found [here](#).

Coalition membership reaches 266 with three new members

- Association for Reproductive and Family Health (ARFH), Nigeria, Civil Society
- [Ministry of Health](#), Peru, Governmental Organization
- [Association Rwandaise pour le Bien Etre Familial \(ARBEF\)](#), Rwanda, Civil Society,

News from the Implementing Mechanisms

ForoLAC members in South-to-South collaboration

At last June's Annual Membership Meeting of the LAC Forum, representatives of Uruguay's Ministry of Health raised the prospects of a South-to-South training exchange. Five months later, that vision became reality as UNFPA/Peru successfully organized a team from the Peru Office of Pathfinder International to train 35 Uruguayan physicians in implant (Jadelle) counseling and insertion, and 16 Ob-Gyns in post-abortion care, including counseling, pain management, and the use of manual vacuum aspiration. These professionals were also given the complete training curriculum so they could continue training their colleagues in Uruguay. Watch a short [film](#) of the session.

Technical product briefs now available in French and Spanish

Thirteen peer-reviewed technical briefs on selected reproductive and maternal health technologies are now available for the first time in French and Spanish. Produced and updated annually by the Caucus on New and Underused Reproductive Health Technologies, the briefs can be found on the Coalition's [French](#) and [Spanish](#) websites.

New functionality for MDA WG web page

MDA members can now scroll through an [online calendar](#) to find upcoming events. This is part of an ongoing drive to increase functionality of the Coalition website, and specifically the webpages of the Coalition's working groups and other implementing mechanisms.

Upcoming events

27-31 Jan	Prince Mahidol Award Conference
20-25 Jul	20th International AIDS Conference
17-18 Feb 2015	XXI FIGO World Congress

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