

# YOUR CHANGE FOR A CHANGE (YCFaC)



**Team Gambia**

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*“Making communicable disease history”*

## **PROPOSAL FOR A SIDE EVENT AT THE 3<sup>RD</sup> AFRICAN YOUTH COMMISSION GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2019 IN BANJUL**

**A. TYPE OF EVENT:** ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

**B. THEME:** “Breaking The Silence In Reproductive Health Issues, Contraception And Gender Based Violence”.

**C. PARTNERS:** NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL AND AFRICAN YOUTH COMMISSION

### **INTRODUCTION**

Your Change For a Change (YCFaC) is a non-profit organization founded on the 6th day of April 2011 by a group of young individuals who are motivated to give back to their community and the world at large. The foundation is a resource for under privilege children and expecting mother facing diseases. The foundation is made global in seeing to it that this noble endeavor is a success.

Your Change For a Change (YCFaC) is currently registered in the United States, United Kingdom, Sweden, France, and The Gambia. The goal of this organization is to inspire our generation to be involved in charity in our communities in other to help people attained the best of health.

## DESCRIPTION

The right to access good-quality reproductive healthcare; and the right to education and access in order to make free and informed reproductive choices is a human right. Reproductive health rights include the right to receive education about sexually transmitted infections and other aspects of sexuality, and protection from practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM). However,

Adolescents and youths have been hit hard by problems such as adolescent pregnancy, unsafe sex, FGM, STDs and even HIV/AIDS. This is largely because of the fact that many adolescents lack adequate knowledge and understanding of the reproductive process, and harbor many misconceptions with regard to reproductive health. On the other hand, teenage pregnancies because of early marriage are also a major problem in the Gambia and Africa as a whole.

Violence against women and girls is one of the most prevalent human rights violations in the world. It knows no social, economic or national boundaries. Both men and women can experience GBV, but because rates among women are significantly greater, violence against women is the focus of this review. Worldwide, an estimated one in three women will experience physical or sexual abuse in her lifetime. Gender-based violence undermines the health, dignity, security and autonomy of its victims, yet it remains shrouded in a culture of silence. Victims of violence can suffer sexual and reproductive health consequences, including forced and unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortions, traumatic fistula, sexually transmitted infections including HIV, and even death.

Despite the efforts made by the education/health sector with regard to health education, there is still a big lack when it comes to the awareness of youth in reproductive health. Hence, they are left on their own to understand reproductive health issues leading to belief in myths and origin of misconceptions and ultimately unhealthy sexual practices leading to STDs, teenage pregnancy, abortion and even HIV and AIDS.

Art. 14 of the Maputo Protocol guarantees the respect and promotion of women's right to health, including **sexual and reproductive health** (SRH). Control over fertility, and over whether and when to have children, are central to women's health. This is in turn closely related to women and girls' right to choose any method of contraception and their right to family planning education.

In light of the above, YCFaC intend to host **A Side Event at the 3<sup>rd</sup> African Youth Commission General Assembly 2019** with the title “ **Breaking the silence in Reproductive Health Issues, Contraception and Gender Based Violence**”.

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. To create awareness among African youth leaders about the knowledge on the pathogenesis, clinical manifestations, preventions, control and health implications of major reproductive diseases.
2. To encourage and challenge men and women's understanding of their own masculinity or femininity and their roles in relationships and in society.
3. To empower community youth leaders to act collectively in advocating for Adolescent Friendly Reproductive Health Services Program (AFRHS) adolescents through guidance on how to maximize the use of health care services.
4. To support the development of a youth led policy reforms to Securing legal recognition of adolescents' reproductive rights to access sexual and reproductive information and health care, protect them from sexual abuse and exploitation, and safeguard the right of pregnant adolescents to attend school.
5. To create a platform for young leaders to share positive stories of change with the aim of replicating such positive changes in their communities.

## **ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN**

**DURATION: Two and a half Hours**

**PRESENTATIONS:** 1. Concept of Reproductive Health, Contraception and Gender Base violence

2. Role of youth leaders in the fight to end GBV and access to reproductive health services freely

**NOTE:** Each presentation lasting for 40 minutes, 30 minutes for presentation and the last 10 minutes for question and answer sessions.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

This will last for one hour. During this open discussion delegates from different parts of Africa are expected to share their experience on the Theme of the side event and the AYCGA2019 and the way forward.

Delegates will also agree on a way to network and partner in order to scale up the fulfilment of reproductive right and as well as share contacts for future collaborations in future events in the continent.

## **LOGISTICS**

1. Venue For The side Event
2. Banner for the side event
3. Overhead projector

## **CONCLUSION**

We look forward to your acceptance of our proposal and wish to commend you for your continuous efforts and contributions towards the towards youth development in Africa.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Dr. Modou Bella Jallow'.

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