



Progress and Future Plans

Approval of WRA Uganda Chapter

The Board of The Global White Ribbon Alliance approved the registration of WRA Uganda Chapter. Uganda becomes the 12th national alliance! This is an important milestone and an opportunity for members to work together. However, it is also a big challenge that requires a lot of commitment and hard work. We hope WRA Uganda will measure up to the task ahead of making a contribution to improved maternal health and reduced maternal mortality in Uganda.

Preparation for the UN Leaders Meeting in New York to discuss MDGs

In preparation for the UN meeting, WRA Uganda mobilized members to sign a letter of appeal for increased budget allocation to health to the Head of State, copied to the Minister of Finance. The letter was signed by organisations and individuals and delivered to the First Lady. The head of state has responded to the letter by communicating to the Minister of

Health and other senior officials urging them to look into the interventions to reduce maternal mortality. WRA Uganda also briefed the First Lady, Janet Museveni, for events in New York around MDG 5.

What does White Ribbon Alliance Uganda plan to do?

- Building the WRA Alliance Uganda. This will include establishment of a national secretariat with strong governance structure, strategic planning, holding a stakeholders meeting to mobilise support, membership recruitment drive and capacity building of members
- Social mobilisation and education on maternal health
- Mobilisation of MPs and the private sector through awareness raising and consensus building
- High level advocacy for increased health budget allocation and human resources for health
- Raising the profile and attention to the problem of maternal mortality through information/media. This will specifically target the media and will include training journalists in maternal health reporting and development of media kits covering maternal health issues.

Commemoration of Safe Motherhood Day

Uganda commemorated Safe Motherhood Day on 17th October, 2008. The occasion was attended by the First Lady Janet Museveni who highlighted the burden of maternal mortality and morbidity and the debilitating conditions such as fistula as a complication of delivery. She appealed to the Ministry of Health to ensure availability of family planning services, skilled attendants for antenatal care and delivery. She also emphasised the role of the family and community in ensuring a woman seeks early care. She used the occasion to launch the "Road Map "for accelerating the reduction of Maternal and Neonatal Mortality."



Mrs Janet Museveni launches the road-map for accelerating the reduction of maternal and neonatal mortality in Buwama, Mpigi District