



Beijing at Ten:

UNFPA's Commitment to the Platform for Action



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Promoting girls' right to education in Kabul, Afghanistan, is one way of working towards achieving the objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action.

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Introduction

“We, the Governments participating in the Fourth World Conference on Women, gathered here in Beijing in September 1995, the year of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, determined to advance the goals of equality, development and peace for all women everywhere in the interest of all humanity... Dedicate ourselves unreservedly to addressing these constraints and obstacles and thus enhancing further the advancement and empowerment of women all over the world, and agree that this requires urgent action in the spirit of determination, hope, cooperation and solidarity, now and to carry us forward into the next century.”

— *Beijing Declaration*

Beijing Platform for Action: 12 Critical Areas of Concern

- 1 Women and Poverty
- 2 Education and Training of Women
- 3 Women and Health
- 4 Violence against Women
- 5 Women and Armed Conflict
- 6 Women and the Economy
- 7 Women in Power and Decision-making
- 8 Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women
- 9 Human Rights of Women
- 10 Women and the Media

How Does the Work of UNFPA Reinforce the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action?

At the Fourth World Conference on Women (FWCW) in Beijing, China, September 1995, 189 countries adopted the Declaration and Platform for Action, reflecting a new international commitment to the goals of equality, development and peace for all women everywhere. Five years later, in June 2000, Member States reaffirmed their commitments to the twelve critical areas of concern in the Beijing Platform at the Beijing +5 session of the General Assembly at United Nations Headquarters in New York, and considered future actions and initiatives for the year 2000 and beyond.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is fulfilling the principles and recommendations of Beijing through its ongoing work, mandated by the Programme of Action endorsed by 179 countries at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo in 1994. The Cairo agenda represents an international commitment to principles of reproductive health and rights for women and men, gender equality and male responsibility, and to the autonomy and

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