



Liberia Update

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Women with OB/GYN Cases Receive Care at Jallah Lone Hospital in Gbarpolu

She may not have been there for long but six months seem long enough for her to command the admiration of many women with obstetrical and gynecological issues in Gbarpolu County. Dr. Susan Kimono is among

maternal and newborn health delivery system of the county.

“There has been an increase in the number of women visiting the hospital to seek obstetrical or gynecological services since the arrival of Dr.



Dr. Susan Kimono (Middle) and Dr. Claesia Jallah (1st from right) make a regular round of the OB Ward

the three Ugandan obstetricians and gynecologists deployed in Liberia and based in Gbarpolu via a joint partnership agreement between UNFPA and the Government of Japan in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.

In addition to providing clinical services at the Chief Jallah Lone Hospital in Bopolu, Dr. Kimono is helping with in-service capacity development of medical staff at the hospital. She mentors and also supports the overall

Kimono,” says Dr. Claesia S. Jallah, Medical Director of Chief Jallah Lone Hospital.

Dr. Jallah added that the major facilitating factors for the increase in facility utilization is the constant community engagement and awareness activities about Obstetrical and gynecological conditions and the availability of care at the Chief Jallah Lone Hospital for women and girls which is led by Dr. Kimono.

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Women with OB/GYN Cases Receive Care Cont'd

According to the hospital records, more than 40 Cesarean Sections were performed at the facility between February and June this year, something which represents a major boost in service delivery for the facility.

But the hospital has not been able to cope with the influx of patients. “We have to prioritize women needing obstetrical services over those requiring gynecological services because of the high maternal death and limited capacity by the hospital and its staff,” says Dr. Kimono.



Dr. Kimono guides the provision of an IUD to woman few hours after she gave birth.

women we receive on these days. We are able to treat only 10 patients on each service day due to the lack of space and skilled manpower which often leads many women to go back home without treatment;” says Dr. Kimono.

Midwives at the hospital have also been encouraged and trained by Dr. Kimono to provide postpartum family planning.

The OBGYN specialist says this has also helped young mothers with the prevention of unintended pregnancy and closely spaced pregnancies through the first 12 months following child-birth.

“When we first arrived, we noticed that there was no postpartum family services available. So we decided to engage the midwives working with us to counsel women after they have just delivered; especially

“We hope that Dr. Kimono can stay with us for a longer time as she has been a great addition to strengthening human resource in Gbarpolu County health team. But we are preparing to continue providing women with the same obstetrical and gynecological services the services after the departure of Dr. Kimono;” adds Dr. Jallah.

She however expressed fear that taking over the tasks being performed by Dr. Kimono may prove difficult, as there was no resident doctor at the hospital which was transformed from a health center status to hospital with no major expansion in its infrastructure facilities.

Since the launch of Liberia’s Investment Plan for Building a Resilient Health System in June 2015, UNFPA has stepped up efforts to support the Ministry of Health to ensure the availability of skilled health care providers across the country.



Dr. Kimono, assisted by Dr. Jallah during a surgical procedure

However, many women have benefited from various gynecological services including hysterectomy, tubal blow-out, and D&C for the treatment of infertility. “We run GYN clinic every Monday and Thursday to look after patients with special needs including infertility. We have been overwhelmed by the number of

those who are desirous of adequately spacing their children, to receive Intrauterine Device (IUD);” Dr. Kimono said.

the World Bank to include additional delivery room, labor ward, operating theaters, antenatal care, and OB/GYN units.

UNFPA is also helping with the supply of equipment and infrastructural expansion needed to restore basic health services, including maternal and newborn health services.

There is an ongoing expansion of the Chief Jallah Lone Hospital supported by UNFPA with funding from the Government of Japan and



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Hundreds Receive Family Planning Services as UNFPA & Partners Observe World Population Day

UNFPA and the Planned Parenthood Association of Liberia (PPAL) engaged in a weeklong outreach activities between 07 and 13 July to provide family planning information and voluntary

about family planning services among the youth of the area.

Hundreds of Grand Bassa residents benefited from free family planning ser-

Patience said that she is sexually active; as such, she decided to take advantage of the family planning services so as to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

“Because of the difficult economic situation in Liberia, it is important for one to plan his or her life in order to avoid unnecessary burden,” Patience said.

Rose, another teenager, could not hide her emotion after receiving the three-month injection.

“Look, uncle, I long been waiting to get family planning; we hardly get family planning services here. Whenever we go to the hospital, they will tell us that they don’t have them; so, I am so happy for me to receive it right here for free. Thank God for UNFPA and partners,” she said.



services to residents of Grand Bassa County.

vices. Among them is Patience, aged 15 who chose the injectable (depo).

The outreach activities include live appearances on various Community Radios to answer some of the concerns of the local population regarding the myth surrounding the use of family planning.

It also involved the use of the different family planning commodity distribution points to supply old users as well as recruit new ones.

As part of the celebration, kickball and football matches were played in Buchanan between two communities, Kaytor Town and Biafra to create awareness



The football squads of participating communities pose for picture



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Hundreds Receive Family Planning Services... Cont'd

Hannah Johnny, 32, said she was glad that UNFPA and partners decided to take family planning services to them because, they find it difficult to get them in the county.

Hannah, a mother of six children, said she does not want to have any child again, therefore believing that family planning is the surest way to prevent such.

She encouraged women and girls to take advantage of the family planning program because it helps them to plan their lives.

This year's World Population Day was celebrated under the theme: "Family Planning: Empowering People, Developing Nations."



UNFPA Supports Referral Care services in Maryland County with Motor-bikes and Ambulance

The Maryland County Health system has received three motor-bikes from the United Nations Population Fund for use by Karloken, Glofarken and Fish Town Clinics for improving referral care.



Speaking in Harper on 02 May during the presentation of the motorbikes as well as some medical supplies, Assistant Representative, Dr. Philderald Pratt said UNFPA was fully aware of the many challenges faced by health facilities in the county.

Dr. Pratt said UNFPA had also procured an ambulance for use by the Maryland County Health Team.

He noted that the supplies were part of UNFPA's efforts to support the delivery of quality maternal and newborn health services to the population.

Receiving the materials, the Acting Maryland County Health Officer and Director of Community Health, Mr. Cyrus B. Sneh

praised UNFPA for its support to the county health system.

Mr. Sneh urged UNFPA to continue its support; especially in helping the CHT to maintain midwives deployed in three health facilities in the county including Karloken, Glofarken and Fish Town.

Five midwives were deployed to the three facilities in May 2016 by UNFPA in collaboration with the Ministry of Health under the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) project which ends on 31 July 2017.

"We need these midwives at the three health facilities beyond the current project time. For this reason, we are appealing to UNFPA to find means of keeping these midwives in place until



such time when the County Health Team can absorb them into its system," Mr. Sneh says.



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UNFPA Provides More Support Toward Rebuilding Liberia's Health System

In continuation of its efforts aimed at strengthening the health sector of Liberia, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) donated three Toyota Land Cruisers ambulances to the County Health teams of Grand Cape Mount, Gbarpolu and Lofa.



UNFPA also constructed and turned over a maternity waiting home in Sinje, Grand Cape Mount County.

The facility was constructed and ambulances acquired with funding from the Government of Japan.

Speaking last on 26 May at the turning over and dedicatory ceremony in Sinje, UNFPA Liberia Country Representative Dr. Oluremi Sogunro said the ambulances were intended to convey patients, especially pregnant women who live in hard to reach areas to health facilities in the three counties.

“UNFPA has ZERO tolerance for Maternal death, therefore the agency attaches importance to pregnant women and girls having access to health facilities; we continue to seek assistance from donors and development partners

to buttress the Liberian Government's efforts in this direction,” Dr. Sogunro says.

He said when women and girls have access to health facili-

ties, it helps to reduce the high rate of maternal mortality and newborn death.

“The maternity waiting home is to be used to host pregnant women who may be in their late second or third trimester to



ensure that they are closer to the health facility and deliver there,” the UNFPA Liberia Country Representative says.

He called on the health teams of the three counties to only use the ambulances to transport patients especially women and girls.

Dr. Sogunro praised Japan for supporting the works of UNFPA in Liberia.

In his remarks, the Ambassador of Japan to Liberia Mr. Kaoru Yoshimura said his country attaches importance to the health of Liberians considering the cordial ties that have existed between the two countries over the years.



Dr. Oluremi Sogunro



Japanese Ambassador Mr. Kaoru Yoshimura



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UNFPA Provides More Support Cont'd

the health of Liberians considering the cordial ties that have existed between the two countries over the years.

“Japan wants to ensure that women and girls have access to quality health services, thereby helping to reduce maternal and newborn deaths in the post-conflict country;” Ambassador Yoshimura said

He said Japan’s support to Liberia health system is driven by the country’s high maternal mortality rate. “Japan’s funding to the health sector demonstrates its commitment to improve the delivery of better health care to the people of Liberia particularly women and girls;” Ambassador Yoshimura added.

The Japanese Envoy underscored the need for collective engagement to improve the delivery of health care to the people, especially women and girls, thereby helping to reduce the high rate of maternal mortality.

Earlier, Dr. Joseph Kerkula, Director for Family Health Divi-

ternal mortality, which the government considers as an emergency.

Dr. Kerkula called on the health officers of the three counties to ensure that the ambulances are pre-positioned in areas that



Dr. Joseph Kerkula



sion at the Ministry of Health commended UNFPA for its continuous support to the country’s health sector.

He said over the years, UNFPA has provided substantial support to Liberia’s health sector in every area, thereby strengthening government’s effort to provide quality and affordable health services to the people.

Dr. Kerkula also praised the Japanese Government for supporting Liberia in its recovery drive.

He said the donation of the ambulances and construction of the maternity waiting home would greatly help to reduce ma-

they can easily access patients to health centers.



Chiefs Honor Amb. Yoshimura

During the program, chiefs, elders and citizens of the beneficiary counties gownned the Japanese Ambassador for his country’s continuous support to Liberia.



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50 Midwives Trained As Master Mentors with Support from Johnson & Johnson, Inc.

UNFPA Liberia has supported the train- program under the Project-Rebuilding



One of the participants demonstrates how to carry out external and internal abdominal aorta stage

well as increase maternal health knowledge and services within hard-to-reach populations and teenage girls.

According to UNFPA Liberia Reproductive Health Specialist Esther King-Lincoln, the training is intended to create a pool of competent and seasoned midwives who will provide on the spot coaching for junior midwives in practice so as to improve quality of care for women and adolescents during pregnancy, labor, childbirth and post-delivery.

Ms. Lincoln said the training helped to sharpen the skills of the “master mentors” who are being used as trainers of key health staff at the county level.

She noted those trained personnel at the county level will, in turn, provide training for skilled birth attendants at health facilities as peer practice mentors to enhance continual education, skill building and competency to ensure delivery of quality Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (RMNCAH) services for women and adolescent mothers.

Meanwhile, the Director of Family Health Division at the Ministry of Health, Dr. Joseph Kerkula has urged midwives across Liberia to remain committed to their tasks if the country must make reality the reduction of maternal and newborn deaths.

Dr. Kerkula said midwives have critical roles in stopping women from dying in childbirth as well as helping their newborns to survive.

He urged the midwives to use friendly approaches to get pregnant women to deliver at the health facility.

ing of 30 midwives as Master Mentors.

The Johnson and Johnson Inc. funded

maternal health services in Post Ebola Liberia- was conducted by the Liberia

Prevention of Maternal Mortality (LPMM) in collaboration with the Liberia Board of Nursing and Midwifery and Jhpiego. Its main objective is to increase institutional deliveries by reinforcing the number and role of skilled birth attendants

(midwives) as



A group photo of participants and facilitators of the w'shop



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Midwives Commit to Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Liberia

As part of the 2017 observance of International Day of the Midwife, the Liberia Midwifery Association (LMA) with support from UNFPA carried out series of activities to raise awareness on how midwives promote the health and well-being of women, newborns, families and communities, and help save lives of women and their newborns in case of obstetric emergencies.

The week-long activities ended on 5 May and included a scientific session for midwives, school visitation to promote midwifery as a noble career with young students and an indoor program to recognize the work of midwives in Liberia.

LMA President Wilhelmina W. G. Flo-mo said the scientific session was intended to refresh and build the capacity of midwives in Liberia.

Madam Flo-mo said it was important for midwives to be trained with the requisite skills and knowledge that would enable them to perform their duty professionally. "Once they are trained, they can contribute to the reduction of the high number of maternal mortality in Liberia," she said.

She called on midwives to always discharge their duty professionally.

Delivering paper on "Respectful Maternity Care," Madam Comfort Wiles, challenged her colleagues to give care with respect.

According to her, it is important for midwives to treat every patient equally and with respect, considering that a patient needs the help of health workers to recover. "When people come to the hospital with emotions, we as midwives need to calm them down rather than making their situation worse...we should talk to them in a way that will



A group of midwives during the main program

always encourage them to return to the hospital," Madam Wiles said.

Similar call was made on 05 May by Madam Marion Zubah, JHPIEGO Chief of Party when she served as keynote speaker during the indoor program held in Buchanan.

"It is your responsibility to always ensure safe delivery of women especially those who have come to the health centers," Ms. Zubah told the gathering of the midwives who had come from across the country.

"When a pregnant woman goes to the hospital and takes off her slippers and lie on that bed to give birth, you as midwives must ensure that she and her baby survive and are in good health to wear her slippers to go back home with her baby," Ms. Zubah said.

She told the midwives that they must treat every patient especially pregnant women with respect and dignity in order to ensure that they are attracted to health facilities whenever they need medical attention.

Madam Zubah also told the midwives

that they are under obligation to accompany women through their pregnancy, child birth and beyond.

She underscored the need for midwives to ensure respectful maternal care to their patients which is key to reduction in maternal mortality.

The JHPIEGO Chief told the midwives to hold themselves in high esteem considering the job they do, adding "you are very important to the society. You play a key role in the health sector, as such, you must value and respect yourself."

For her part, Ms. Magbush S. Snoh-Miller who represented the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) said Liberian midwives play critical role in the health sector especially in the fight against maternal mortality, as such, they must be well trained and supported.

Ms. Snoh-Miller recounted the numerous sacrifices midwives make in the discharge of their duty to help women bring forth lives.

She assured the meeting of UNFPA's continued support to Liberia Midwives Association.



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UNFPA and ECOWAS Reaffirm Commitment to End Fistula in Liberia

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and UNFPA

The main indoor program was highlighted by the high-level participation of the

man Resources and His Excellency the Special Representative of the ECOWAS Commission in the Republic of Liberia.

Representatives of Ministries of Health, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Members of Parliament and Senate of Liberia, Representatives of the UN and Diplomatic Missions were also present.

Most importantly, some women and girls who have survived fistula were also present to provide their testimonies.

Speaking at the program, the Vice President of Liberia, Ambassador Joseph N. Boakai said the importance of tackling obstetric fistula in the sub-region cannot be over emphasized, as it poses a major setback to the reproductive health of young girls and women.



L-R: Deputy Health Minister Mrs. Yah Zolia, UNFPA Liberia Country Representative Dr. Oluremi Sogunro and ECOWAS Commissioner for Social Affairs and Gender, Dr. Fatimata Dia Sow address the media at the Monrovia City Hall

Liberia have agreed to strengthen partnership to end obstetric fistula in Liberia and the West African sub-region in general.

ECOWAS Commission represented by the President of the Commission, the President of the ECOWAS Court of

As a mark of commitment to this partnership, UNFPA Liberia and ECOWAS Center for Gender Development (EGDC) jointly organized this year's International Day to End Obstetric Fistula in Monrovia in collaboration with Liberia's ministries of Health and Gender, Children and Social Protection.

This celebration was characterized by a wide dissemination of information on obstetric fistula and the availability of support for women and girls with the condition.

The EGDC also joined action to words through symbolic donations of US\$80,000 for the rehabilitation of the Fistula Rehabilitation Center in Phebe, Bong County and the Medical Unit for the care of fistula survivors at the St. Joseph Catholic Hospital in Monrovia.



H.E. Joseph N. Boakai, Vice President of the Republic of Liberia

Justice, and the ECOWAS Commissioner for Social Affairs and Gender, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS), Commissioner for Administration, Commissioner of Hu-

"Obstetric fistula has been a serious concern to the Liberian government, considering the number of women suffering from the condition;" Vice President Boakai said.



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UNFPA and ECOWAS Reaffirms Commitment Cont'd

He lauded ECOWAS and UNFPA for efforts to ensure decent, productive and dignified life for women and girls of Liberia.

Earlier, UNFPA Liberia Country Representative Dr. Oluremi Sogunro said ending fistula was a high priority of UNFPA and a key step on the road to achieving

“obstetric fistula has been virtually eliminated in the world’s wealthier countries, so we know that it can be eliminated in every country. Strong health systems and



Fistula Survivor, Joetta Tarlo (in white t-shirt and cap) flanked by dignitaries including H.E. Vice President Joseph N. Boakai

For the ECOWAS Commissioner for Social Affairs and Gender, Dr. Fatimata Dia Sow, obstetric fistula raises issues that question the relationships between men and women in the society.

“In organizing today’s event to mark the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula, ECOWAS therefore, wants to seize the opportunity to take stock of the disease in the West Africa region and call on the implementation of suitable solutions to end it once and for all for the benefit of our people,” she said.

Dr. Sow said despite efforts by ECOWAS member countries to improve the reproductive health of women and girls, the region is still among the zones with the highest number of women with fistula, with 50,000 to 100,000 cases per year, referencing WHO 2009 report.

the world’s Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

greater efforts to address the underlying issues that perpetuate it, including poverty, gender inequality, early marriage and childbearing, and lack of education, are crucial.”



ECOWAS Commission President Marcel Alain De Souza

ECOWAS Commission President Marcel Alain De Souza said the commission was determined to help member states in the fight against fistula.

This year’s International Day to End Obstetric Fistula was celebrated under the theme: Hope, healing, and dignity for all while the local theme was: “ECOWAS Restores Dignity and Hope of Survivors of Obstetric Fistula.”

In a statement read on behalf of UNFPA Executive Director, Dr. Sogunro said:



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More Fistula Survivors Receive Free Treatment

The Liberia Fistula Project at the Ministry of Health, launched in 2008 with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has continued to work towards the total elimination of obstetric fistula in Liberia, while at the same time ensuring that women and girls already affected by the condition receive free treatment, skills training and social reintegration packages. Obstetric fistula is a condition that normally arises from complications during child birth, leading victims to abnormally discharge bodily wastes including urine and/or feces.

In continuation of this quest, a recent surgical campaign to restore hope and

Doglioti College of Medicine, University of Liberia.

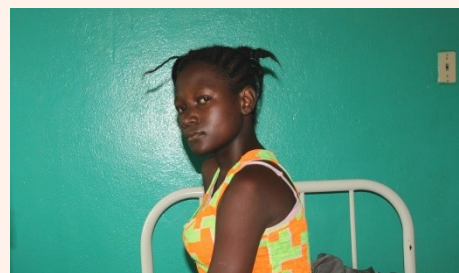
One of the beneficiaries of this free fistula surgical repair campaign is 20-year old Hannah Zayzay, a resident of Fassama, Gbarpolu County.

Hannah developed obstetric fistula in September 2016 as a result of prolonged labor.

Hannah's account of how she acquired obstetric fistula is similar to most of the accounts of women who suffered from the demeaning condition across the Liberia.

According to her she was pregnant and when the time of labor came, there was no transportation to get her to the clinic. The contractions lasted for four whole days and nights. "On the fifth day, my

Like Hannah, Kadie Jamah, aged 37 went to give birth to her fifth child when he developed complications which led to obstetric fistula.



Hannah Zayzay

"In Weaju, Grand Cape Mount County where I lived, there is no health center. Because no vehicle was available to transport me, I had to ride a motorbike for more than two hours to get to the nearest health facility, the Liberia Government Hospital in Tubmanburg, Bomi County. I was made to sit in a tub of chlorinated water at the Liberia Government Hospital. After few hours, the midwives attending to me requested that I should be transferred to the Redemption Hospital in Monrovia," Kadie recounted.

"We arrived at the Redemption Hospital after midnight. My condition was so critical. The nurses we met on duty requested six thousand Liberian Dollars from my family before they would touch me. And since my family never had such money, they had to take me to JFK Hospital at the back of a pickup. It was at JFK that I was given an operation to remove the dead baby," Kadie added.

Kadie said she was delighted by the opportunity to receive the free surgery.

But unlike Hannah and Kadie who received surgeries to repair their fistulae, Hawa Kerkula was repaired through catheterization.

Hawa, aged 24, who developed obstetric fistula on 18 April 2017 as a result of prolonged labor had Foley Catheter inserted due to the tiny nature of her fistula.



dignity to fistula survivors was held at Phebe Hospital from June 7th to June 21st 2017.

During the campaign, 28 fistula survivors were surgically managed out of 38 patients that were recruited and assessed. Out of the remaining 10, four were medically treated and discharged while the others were deemed not fit for surgery at the time.

This campaign was organized by the Liberia Fistula Project (UNFPA) in collaboration with Phebe Hospital and C.B. Dunbar Hospital in Bong County and the Post Graduate Program at the AM

family managed to get a car that took me to the hospital in Bopolu. By the time I got there the child has already died in me," she said.

"I was operated (C-section) to get the dead baby out. From that day I have been so sick. I could never hold my urine anymore. My family has been helping me to survive because my boyfriend abandoned me," she lamented.

Hannah who had earlier had a failed fistula repair surgery expressed the hope that her recent surgery would hold. "I want to be healed and have a child again. I hope and pray that this is my last fistula surgery," Hannah said.



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Religious Leaders Commit to Sexuality Education in Churches and Mosques in Liberia

Religious leaders under the auspices of the Inter-religious Council of Liberia has resolved to support efforts to end teenage pregnancy in Liberia. The Inter-religious

Adolescent Sexual & Reproductive Health rights.

According to the Inter-religious Council of Liberia, “the lack of requisite information on sexuality

stability, unplanned family life and peer pressure are some of the factors promoting teenage pregnancy in Liberia.

In their 2-page Communiqué, the Council called on the Government to place emphasis on sexuality education in the education policy and national curriculum. The body also wants the Government to provide support and economic empowerment for victims of teenage pregnancy through skills training and reinforce punitive action against parents who use children or teenagers for street selling.



A group of participants during one of the working sessions of the 3-day dialogue

Council of Liberia is a consortium of Liberia Council of Churches and the National Muslim Council of Liberia.

The commitment of the religious leaders was contained in a Communiqué released in Monrovia on July 20, 2017 at the end of a 3-day dialogue on adolescent health including the prevalence of teenage pregnancy in Liberia.

Among key issues discussed during the 3-day dialogue supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) with funding from the Embassy of Sweden include: Christian perspective of teenage pregnancy, Islam and early marriage, child protection and teenage pregnancy, as well as

education, poverty/economic in-

The religious leaders pledged to advocate for the inclusion of sex education in national school curriculum and the establishment of health clubs in schools and communities as well as encourage the teaching of sexuality education by parents in communities and at



The 3-day dialogue was attended by executives of the Inter-religious Council of Liberia as well as representatives from the Council's Women and Children wings



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Religious Leaders Commit to Sexuality Education Cont'd

Meanwhile, the Inter-religious Council of Liberia has presented the Communiqué to the Embassy of Sweden in Monrovia.

religious Council of Liberia presented the document to Ambassador Ingrid Wetterqvist on Friday 28 July at which time the religious leaders expressed their ap-

They pledged to share the Communiqué with Churches and Mosques across the country. In remarks, Ambassador Wetterqvist said young people must



An array of religious leaders during the presentation of the Communiqué to the Embassy of Sweden

Bishop Jonathan BB Hart, President and Sheik Omaru Kamara, Vice President of the Inter-

religious Council of Liberia expressed appreciation to the Swedish Government for its support to Liberia.

be given the opportunity to have a responsible, satisfying and safe sex life, without coercion, violence, discrimination or the risk of becoming involuntarily pregnant or being infected by HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases if they are to contribute to the economic growth of the country.

Ambassador Wetterqvist said Sweden's support to Liberia through UNFPA was aimed at empowering young girls and boys with information and services to exercise their reproductive rights and fulfill their full potential.



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Deceased UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin Laid to Rest

The remains of the late UNFPA Executive Director, Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin has been laid to rest.

Dr. Osotimehin who died on 4 June was buried on 21 July in Ibadan, Nigeria.

The late UNFPA Executive Director vigorously championed three major transformative goals of zero preventable maternal deaths, zero unmet demand for family planning and zero gender-based violence or harmful practices against women and girls. UNFPA urges all to honor



Dr. Osotimehin, a physician and public health expert, became UNFPA's fourth Executive Director on 1 January 2011, with the rank of United Nations Under-

was Nigeria's Minister of Health. Prior to that, he was Director-General of the National Agency for the Control of AIDS, which coordinated HIV and AIDS work in Nigeria.

Dr. Osotimehin qualified as a doctor from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, in 1972, and went to the University of Birmingham, England, where he got a doctorate in medicine in 1979. He was appointed Professor at the University of Ibadan in 1980 and headed the Department of Clinical Pathology before being elected Provost of the College of Medicine in 1990. Dr. Osotimehin received the Nigerian national honour of Officer of the Order of the Niger (OON) in December 2005. He led



his legacy by rallying around those global goals.

Secretary-General.

Before this appointment, Dr. Osotimehin

several councils, including in the World Economic Forum.