

**Solving the Problem of Unplanned Pregnancy in Thai Teenagers**

The Third National Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on Solving the Problem of Unplanned Pregnancy in Thai Teenagers<sup>1</sup>,

*Informed* that unprepared pregnancy among teenagers is occurring at a rising trend due to many inter-related causes and factors,

*Aware* that unprepared teenage pregnancy creates a multitude of impacts, both on the teenager and infant born from the teenage mother and on the family, the community and the social and economic setting of the country as a whole,

*Informed* that many agencies in the public, private and civil society sectors as well as other relevant organizations including the First National Health Assembly, which issued a resolution on Sexual Well-being in Unprepared Pregnancy, have shown interest in working to prevent and address unprepared teenage pregnancy,

*Commending* the efforts of various sectors in seriously implementing and furthering the commitment to prevent and address sexual well-being issues and unprepared teenage pregnancy as well as to provide advocacy bringing unprepared teenage pregnancy into the public sphere, putting the issue under consideration from the Third National Health Assembly,

*Concerned* that efforts undertaken to manage unprepared teenage pregnancy implemented by national level mechanisms of state agencies will commence in late 2010 and will require the translation of policies into concrete practices in target areas while linking together state mechanisms and other sectors; that many items in the First National Health Assembly resolution on sexual well-being are still too broad; and that there are obstacles in the

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<sup>1</sup> NHA 3/ Main 4

implementation process, preventing the complete success of the resolutions' implementation,

Hereby issues the following resolutions:

1. The National Committee on Reproductive Health Development is requested to function as mechanism in conjunction with the National Child Protection Committee and other relevant partner networks such as the Thai Health Promotion Foundation's Sexual Well-being Development Network to set up implementation mechanisms by:

1.1 Translating national reproductive health development policies and strategies and strategies to prevent and address unprepared child and youth pregnancy into explicit action plans as well as prepare urgent measures to address the issue of teenage pregnancy in an integrated manner by 2011.

1.2 Focusing efforts on creating provincial level advocacy mechanisms such as by preparing provincial level teenage reproductive health development strategic plans under the First National Policy and Strategy to Develop Work on Reproductive Health and the Strategy to Prevent and Address Unwanted Pregnancy in Children and Youth.

1.3 Performing on-going coordination, supervision, follow up and assessment functions.

2. The Ministry of Education, in conjunction with state, academic, civil society and private sector organizations are requested to take action in developing sex education instruction and providing a system to assist students who become pregnant while still in school by:

2.1 Empowering and building positive attitudes among sex education teachers as well as expanding the network of sex education teachers to cover within and without the educational system.

2.2 Providing quality and evenly distributed comprehensive sexuality education and life skills education, offering sex education as a foundation or requisite elective course to provide sufficient opportunity for students to gain knowledge, understanding and comprehensive sexuality education skills for at

least 18 sessions per academic year and providing a suitable sexuality education learning system for youth outside the education system.

2.3 Providing and developing alternative curricula for pregnant teenagers to enable them to finish their education program. The courses provided should be various, have good quality and not pose an obstacle to their pregnancy.

3. Local administration organizations are requested to support sexual well-being development efforts by including it in community plans and expanding the local health security fund by increasing budget allotment for sexual well-being activities related to teenagers and families. The National Health Security Office is requested to provide support for all local administration organizations to undertake actions relating to sexual well-being through the efforts of the local health security funds.

4. Members of the National Health Assembly will provide the following support:

4.1 In conjunction with the Ministry of Culture, accelerate the creation of positive social attitudes towards sexuality, including instilling in children and youth a sense of sexual responsibility, respect for gender and seriously monitoring media which presents sexual content as well as supporting more safe and creative media in society.

4.2 In conjunction with parents' networks in educational institutions, family networks, and children and youth networks; participate in the development of sexuality knowledge and attitudes among children, youth and parents; and prepare guidelines to promote appropriate communication with teenage off springs about sexuality and possible scenarios.

4.3 Support and advocate for the enactment of the (Draft) Act on Protecting Reproductive Health, B.E. ... by 2012.

5. The Secretary-General of the National Health Commission is requested to present a progress report on this matter to the 5<sup>th</sup> National Health Assembly.