Oslo meeting: “we’re shaping the future”

The call for a dedicated Youth Caucus drew enthusiastic support at the Coalition’s successful 16th General Membership Meeting, recently concluded in Oslo, Norway. Over 270 participants came together to discuss the role of reproductive health within the wider development context in the post-2015 era. They heard about the Take Stock campaign’s success, and witnessed the launch of the campaign’s new website. The winners of the Take Stock Hero and Champion Awards received their honours, and members welcomed the new Coalition Chair John Townsend. The meeting was a social media success, with the Twitter hashtag #rhsupplies2015 making nearly 1.5M impressions in under five days. All meeting photographs can be found here and presentations are being added online on an ongoing basis. A three-minute film captures key scenes and moments from this extraordinary event.

New video shows the pay-off of financing innovation

- Between November 2011 and April 2013, PSI Burundi’s social franchising study yielded a 15,000 per cent return on investment. How did that happen?
- Doctorstore’s client base has jumped from zero to 1000 in six months. What’s the value proposition for doctors?
In Afghanistan, a new reproductive health caucus succeeded in bridging religious, gender and political divides. What can we learn from that?

These, and other successes of the Innovation Fund appear in a new video celebration of the Innovation Fund’s key achievements since 2008. The film was aired in plenary on the first day of the Oslo meeting.

**Chinese members benefit from Coalition’s drive for greater inclusion**

In his annual speech in Oslo, Director John Skibiak called for greater inclusion and engagement of our membership. Language, distance and time barriers should not, he said, “impede any member’s ability to access critical information”. China’s nine member organizations, many of whom stand to meet the supply needs of an anticipated 120M new users of contraception by 2020 will be among the first beneficiaries of this extended communications reach. The Secretariat, together with the China Contraceptive Security Authority (CCSA), has published several communiques, including the first quarterly issue of the SupplyInsider in Chinese. In addition, the Coalition is now supported by a Beijing-based coordinator, Dr. Yonggang He. As China Coordinator, Yonggang will serve as the Coalition’s point person in China, liaising between the Coalition and the CCSA, keeping both parties updated on developments. Yonggang can be reached at china@rhsupplies.org.

**SECONAF and UN Commodities Commission host joint meeting**

From 7-8 September, the Coalition’s regional forum for Francophone Africa, SECONAF, held its annual meeting in Dakar. More than 60 members attended the event, which was preceded by a workshop sponsored by the UN Commodities Commission’s TRT on Supply Chains and Local Markets. During the meetings, participants discussed approaches for creating more efficient and equitable markets for RH products. SECONAF’s Executive Committee also elected its new President, Dr. Meba Kagone of JSI, who takes over from Dr. Bocar Mamadou Daff of the Senegalese MOH.

**Kangu forges new high-profile partnerships**

Innovation Fund recipient, [Kangu.org](http://kangu.org), an online platform for crowdfunding safe births has launched three new partnerships with parenting website BabyCenter, Amazon, and GoodWorld’s Social Giving September initiative. This time last year, the Coalition awarded Financing for Development (F4D) an Innovation Fund grant to help Kangu mobilize a new community of socially-committed donors. To date, Kangu has raised enough funding to help more than 1,450 pregnant women give birth safely. This video describes the Kangu’s initiative.
Uganda’s Health Ministry acts locally, thinks globally

This summer, Uganda’s Ministry of Health joined with global partners to respond responsibly to a warning sounded by the Coalition’s Coordinated Supply Planning group (CSP). Last April, the CSP cautioned that because of constrained global supplies of Bayer’s two-rod implant, Uganda’s large pending order could prevent other countries from receiving the product in a timely manner. Immediately, the Ugandan government joined with other Coalition partners, including the manufacturer, to determine how its order could be split and filled over time without jeopardizing its own goal of providing contraceptive choice. Together, the partners reviewed warehouse space, assessed demand forecasts and secured a loan extension from the World Bank – all of which allowed the Ministry to stagger its order over time, thereby helping to avert stockouts elsewhere in Africa. Read about the CSP’s function and history in this [fact sheet](#).

New study demystifies the global financial landscape

Who contributes the most to sexual and reproductive health products and services? What did the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development really accomplish? And which upcoming events offer the best platforms for advocacy around sexual and reproductive health and rights? Answers to these questions and more can be found in [Financing Demystified](#), a new document that aims to take out the mystery behind so much of the thinking and actions surrounding financing for international development. Published by IPPF with funding from the Coalition’s Innovation Fund, the manual is designed to equip civil society with the tools and knowledge necessary to advocate effectively for increased funding for RH supplies and services.

19 webinars available online

The [webinar page](#) of the Coalition’s website currently hosts 19 webinars on topics ranging from navigating the post-2015 development architecture to marketing to youth. Webinars in English, Spanish and French can be viewed here, the latest being a Spanish-language case-study on efforts in Guatemala to improve supply chains.

Five members join the Coalition, bringing total membership to 353

- [Male Contraceptive Initiative](#) is a USA-based non-profit that seeks to expand contraceptive options for men through education, advocacy, and fund raising.
- An employee-owned international development company, [Chemonics International](#)’s portfolio ranges from agriculture and private sector development to health and education. Chemonics is now partnering with USAID on the Global Health Supply Chain – Technical Assistance (GHSC-TA) project, which
harnesses technology, partners, and data visibility to improve global health supply chains

- **Acme Formulation Pvt. Ltd.** is an Indian firm that develops and manufactures dosage forms including pills, tablets and capsules, for the pharmaceutical industry
- **Burkina Faso – Ministry of Health**
- For more than 60 years, India’s **Ipca Laboratories Ltd.** has manufactured over 350 formulations and 80 APIs for markets in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe and the US.

**In the calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-4 November</td>
<td>EuroNGOs Annual Conference</td>
<td>Oslo, Norway</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 November</td>
<td>Emergency contraception symposium</td>
<td>Nusa Dua, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-12 November</td>
<td>4th International Family Planning Conference</td>
<td>Bali, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-13 November</td>
<td>8th Global Health Supply Chain Summit</td>
<td>Dakar, Senegal</td>
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<td>18-19 November</td>
<td>AidEx</td>
<td>Brussels, Belgium</td>
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<td>1-3 December</td>
<td>Global Female Condom Conference, Durban</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-11 December</td>
<td>4th Annual Ouagadougou Partnership Meeting</td>
<td>Cotonou, Bénin</td>
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<td>14-24 March</td>
<td>60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women</td>
<td>New York, United States</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-15 April</td>
<td>49th Session of the Commission on Population and Development</td>
<td>UN, New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-19 May</td>
<td>4th Women Deliver Global Conference</td>
<td>Copenhagen, Denmark</td>
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**45 Partners Commit to Take Stock**

**Take Stock** is galvanizing the public health community to resolve stockouts of reproductive health supplies. New Take Stock partners include the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, **SERAC-Bangladesh** and **International Centre for Reproductive Health (ICRH)**. Read each partners’ commitments and join the movement at [www.noemptyshelves.org](http://www.noemptyshelves.org).

Follow Take Stock on Twitter at @TakeStockRH and like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).