



# Safe Motherhood: lessons learned from 10 years' experience

The death of a woman during childbirth is  
not only a health issue, but a matter of  
human rights and social justice

Colombo, 1998



# Human rights relevant to maternal and perinatal mortality (1)

- Life, Survival and Development (CRC, Art. 6)
- Standard of Living (CRC, Art. 27)
- Right of Health (CRC, Art. 24; CEDAW, Art. 12)
- Right to Be Free From Harmful Traditional Practices (CRC, Art. 24.3)
- Right to Decide Freely and Responsibly on the Number and Spacing of Children and Access to the Information, Education and Means to Do So (CEDAW, Art. 16.1(e))



# Human rights relevant to maternal and perinatal mortality (2)

- Right to Freely Consent to Marriage (CEDAW, Art. 16.1(a))
- Right to Registration Immediately at Birth (CRC, Art. 7)
- Right to Education (CRC, Art. 28; CEDAW, Art. 10)
- Right to Expression and Opinion (CRC, Arts. 12,13)
- Non-discrimination (CRC, art. 2; CEDAW, Arts. 1,2)
- Duty of State to Undertake Legislative, Administrative, and Other Measures for Implementation of Rights (CRC, Art. 4; CEDAW, Arts. 3,4)
- Right to International Cooperation (CRC, Art. 24.4)



# Using human rights in technical support to countries

Pilot project in Mozambique's Making Pregnancy Safer initiative (MPS)

- Review and analyse
- ↓
- Framework for action
- ↓
- Interventions/practices improved



# Using human rights in MPS

Review/map/analyse

Based on human rights commitments

- Laws, policies, regulations
- Plans and strategies
- Practices



# Using human rights in MPS

Framework for action through a participatory process, build consensus for:

- Key interventions
- Priority-setting
- Involvement of other sectors
- New approaches



# Using human rights in MPS

Interventions/practices for improving:

- Availability
- Accessibility
- Acceptability
- Quality of services