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