INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON "EXCHANGING EXPERIENCES IN MONITORING AND ADVOCACY OF QUALITY OF, AND ACCESS TO, SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND HIV AND AIDS SERVICES"

* MAPUTO DECLARATION –

The poor quality of the supply of, and access to, public health services in Mozambique, particularly in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, nutrition and HIV and AIDS, which have an impact on the rapid deterioration in life expectancy, on infant mortality and on the structure of the population, led national and international civil society organisation to meet, on 2 and 3 April 2014, in Maputo, at the Joaquim Chissano International Conference Centre, with the purpose of:

1. Reflecting upon the various national and international approaches and mechanisms for monitoring and advocacy of the quality of health, nutrition, and HIV and AIDS.

2. Understanding the existing strategies for coordination between the various national and international public and private stakeholders faced with the problematics of sexual and reproductive health, nutrition and HIV and AIDS;

3. Contributing to the formation and strengthening of networks and capacities of civil society organisations oriented towards the monitoring and advocacy of policies on sexual and reproductive health, nutrition and HIV and AIDS:

As a result of the reflections made by the various stakeholders (government, national and international civil society, cooperation partners), at the end of the conference, the participating civil society organisations understand that access to health care is a fundamental question of respect for human rights, and they therefore pledged to:

A. AT NATIONAL LEVEL

1. Consider the questions of sexual and reproductive health, nutrition and HIV and AIDS as points on a continual, priority and cross-cutting agenda of work in the programmes of action of civil society, and in its partnership with the government;

2. Participate effectively in actions to educate and inform the communities about questions of sexual and reproductive health, nutrition and HIV and AIDS;

3. Work to guarantee that questions of sexual and reproductive health, nutrition and HIV and AIDS are regarded as priority human rights manners on the governance agenda in Mozambique;

4. Establish a national platform to advocate for greater access and promotion of the quality of sexual and reproductive health, nutrition and HIV and AIDS services in Mozambique;

5. Improve the coordination and dialogue between civil society and the government in order to ensure greater integration of the following concerns: shortage of human and financial resources; lack of, or weak actions to humanise the health sector; corruption; inaccessibility of health services and of medicines;

6. Capitalise on the good practices of monitoring and advocacy presented by creating partnerships between the organisations which work in the same areas of interest;

7. Promote greater commitment to the mobilisation of financial resources to improve the conditions of access and quality of the health services and nutrition;

8. Strengthen the monitoring and governance programmes of the health and nutrition sector in order to guarantee greater transparency, quality and inclusion in the services offered;

9. Guide the establishment of outsourcing approaches to make effective national strategies in the health area;

10. To include, in an effective and inclusive manner, other groups at risk such as, for example, Men who Have Sex with Men, Disabled People, the Prison Population, and others;

11. Ensure that the available data base is made operational with evidence of the impact on sexual and reproductive health, nutrition and HIV and AIDS.

B. AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

1. To make members of governments and regional institutions aware of the agenda and undertakings given at the International Conference on Population and Development.

2. Organise civil society to support with one voice and disseminate the priorities stressed in the positioning of the post-2015 agenda.

3. Advocate for the support of African leaderships, inside and outside Africa, especially in countries which have reservations and resistance to the Addis Declaration post-2014.

4. Include the commitment of the Addis Declaration post-2014 in the framework of the development plans and strategies of African countries.

Maputo, 3 April 2014