



## **BRIEF FOR THE PRESS**

### **Orientation Training Workshop for the Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights, HIV/AIDS and Governance Programme for Boundary Partners 29-30 October 2015, National Assembly, Port Louis, Mauritius**

The Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), HIV/AIDS and Governance Project, approved by the 35<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly session in Mauritius has been fully integrated within the agenda of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, spearheaded by the Standing Committee on Human and Social Development and Special Programmes.

Funded by the Embassy of Sweden, the project aims to work with and strengthen the capacity of SADC national parliaments, including the Mauritius National Assembly for a period of four years, to influence national responses to SRHR and HIV/AIDS and Governance in the SADC region.

The project includes Members of Parliaments working together with Civil Society, line Ministries and Media to advocate on SRHR and HIV/AIDS and Governance in Mauritius. As elected representatives of the people, parliamentarians are uniquely positioned to advocate for national and other resources and to legislate around SRHR, HIV&AIDS Governance.

The programme will initially be implemented in seven countries: Angola, Lesotho, Mauritius, Seychelles, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe with a view to replicating its successes in SADC countries.

In view of the above, a stakeholder analysis was conducted in order to generate information on which organisations at the national level can better partner with and influence the work of parliament as they consider issues of national importance, and to exert influence on the project and its outcomes.

The stakeholders identified are directly or indirectly affected by the issues related to SRHR and HIV and were considered to already be working on some critical issues that they could collaborate with parliaments while taking into account that they can also offer a unique perspective on areas that need parliamentarians oversight and intervention which may also lead to further engagement and participation.

This orientation Programme is therefore organised as part of strengthening such partnerships between parliament and key stakeholders to work with parliaments through the national training programs on SRHR, HIV/AIDS and Governance.

## **Goal of the Orientation and Training Workshop**

To facilitate the collaboration of primary stakeholders in SRHR & HIV to partner with national parliaments towards capacity building of **parliamentarians (MPs)**, to *intervene and advocate* for comprehensive and essential sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), HIV and AIDS services and impact on relevant current policy environment in country.

### **Objectives:**

1. To ensure strong cooperation and interface of national stakeholder and the National Assembly of Mauritius;
2. To share outcomes of the Baseline Survey conducted on SRHR and HIV/AIDS and Parliaments and identify priority areas and strategies for sustained policy advocacy at the national level;
3. To provide an opportunity for the primary stakeholders to give feedback on the SRHR, HIV/AIDS and Governance Project monitoring framework; and
4. To provide a platform for in-depth learning and transfer of knowledge on existing collaborations with parliament and strengthen the delivery of the project,

### **Outcomes:**

1. National Road map for the Implementation of the national SRHR and HIV interventions; and
2. Agreed reporting Monitoring and Evaluation tools

It is expected that the orientation workshop will give stakeholders an opportunity to point out key issues and priorities related to SRHR, HIV&AIDS Governance issues as well as to be involved in planning strategies going forward.

29 October 2015