Honourable Speakers, Honourable Delegates,

I am honored to address this Assembly on behalf of PMNCH, the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.

Good governance is not measured by what institutions promise. It is measured by what people actually experience in their lives.

For women, children and adolescents, that means one simple test: Can a woman give birth safely? Does a newborn get receive the right care in time? Can a child survive to become an adolescent with a future of their own?

We focus on women, children and adolescents because they are, at once, among the most vulnerable in every society and the very foundation on which every society is built. Together, they are more than half of humanity. How we treat them today determines the strength of our families, our economies, and our nations tomorrow.

Today, that test is failing too often. Sixty countries will miss their target for child survival. More than 700 maternal deaths occur daily from causes we know how to prevent. And as aid budgets shrink, the pressure on health systems is only growing.

This is exactly why this Assembly's theme matters — inclusivity, trust, and opportunity are not abstract ideas. They are what determine whether a mother lives, whether a child grows up healthy, and whether an adolescent gets a real chance at their future.

Parliaments are uniquely placed to change this. Not through one function, but through four you already hold.

First, legislate. Remove the laws that keep people especially the most vulnerable, which includes, women, children and adolescents, from essential health services, and make sure no one is excluded because of where they live, who they are or what they can afford.

Second, budget. Protect funding for women's, children's and adolescents' health even when times are hard. A budget is where values become real.

Third, hold institutions accountable. Ask where the money goes. Follow up when services fail. Empower institutions with the mandate to follow through on promises and facilitate corrective action. Trust is earned through results, not promises.

Fourth, represent your people. Bring women, young people, and communities into the room not as observers, but as partners who help shape the decisions that affect them.

Honourable colleagues, PMNCH stands ready to support you in this work — through our partners, our data, and our networks, including the Parliamentary Network for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health, chaired by Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly of South Africa, the Global Leaders of Network chaired by H.E. President Ramaphosa to ensure that political leadership prioritizes these critical issues in national development plans and that commitments translate to action – a hallmark of good governance.

But the leadership must come from you, in this chamber, and in your own parliaments when you return home.

A healthy woman builds her family and her community. A healthy child learns. A healthy adolescent shapes tomorrow.

Let us leave Arusha having chosen results for every woman, every child, and every adolescent.

Thank you.