



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Session title	The challenge of women's empowerment and positioning family planning: what do leaders think?	Room name	Plenary room
Session length	60 minutes		
Background and Rationale	<p>"Women's Empowerment and the Contraceptive Revolution" is the theme of the 6th OP annual meeting. It includes several dimensions. First, improving women's health, because FP contributes to 30% of the reduction of maternal mortality. Next, the opportunity and freedom to choose not only the contraceptive method to use, but also to decide the number of children wanted and when to have them. Finally, empowerment through building up women's power and economic and social status as an asset for the countries' development. This last challenge has significantly united and mobilized resources and energy in recent years among OP countries. This is why the Ouagadougou Partnership, in its acceleration phase, recommends implementing multi-sector actions and strategies aiming to achieve the demographic dividend.</p>		
Expected results	<p>Universal access to contraception is recognized as an important lever for achieving the contraceptive revolution, and is constantly reiterated by RH/FP youth ambassadors in the sub-region.</p> <p>In this panel, the panelists will share opinions on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The capacity of West African countries to reach mCPR objectives that would be qualified as "contraceptive revolutions."• The role that their respective institutions could play in this revolution.		
Equipment and materials needed	Equipment at the podium: microphones and water at the podium		
Other needs to consider	Simultaneous interpretation		

PROPOSED FORMAT:

Time	Leader	Activities/Components	Description
5 min	Moderator: Mr. Cheikh Ibrahima Diong , CEO ACT	Welcome and introduction	Introduction of panelists, presentation of the context and challenge, description of format and session instructions
5 min	Dr. Laurent Assogba , WAHO DDG	Question for each panelist to answer	Why is West Africa still considered far from a contraceptive revolution? What explains this delay?
5 min	Dr. Abdourahmane Diallo , Republic of Guinea Minister of Health		Is Guinea close to a contraceptive revolution? If so, how? If not, why?
5 min	Ms. Mariam Sylla , Minister of Social Action, Advancement of Women, and Childhood		FP's contribution to women's empowerment is the central theme of this meeting. How is this concept incorporated into your department's strategies?
5 min	Mr. Mabingue Ngom , UNFPA/WCARO Regional Director		You are recognized as a pioneer in harnessing the demographic dividend in our countries. FP is one of the three pillars for this, yet our countries do not invest much into these programs. What role is UNFPA playing to



			remedy this situation?
5 min	Mme Monika Vadeboncoeur , Director and Head of Cooperation for the Senegal Program		Your recent membership in the OP generated a lot of hope for technical and financial investments that you could bring to fill CIP gaps, thereby accelerating interventions. How do you plan to support countries for the contraceptive revolution?
15 min	Mr. Cheikh Ibrahima Diong	Q&A with the audience	Discussion with the audience and answering questions.
5 min	Mr. Cheikh Ibrahima Diong	1 minute for each panelist to conclude	
5 min	Mr. Cheikh Ibrahima Diong	Conclusion	Summarize discussions, identify key lessons and recommendations, and conclude the session.