TOBACCO USE
90% of adult smokers begin before 18 years of age. Globally, between 80,000 and 100,000 young people start smoking every day. In some countries, adolescent smoking is more common now than ever before, with more young girls starting to smoke than boys.

Mental Health Disorders
Globally, between 10-20% of children and adolescents experience a mental health issue. By age 20, one in four young people will have suffered from at least one. Suicide is the leading cause of death for adolescent girls aged 15 to 19.

Key risk factors include barriers to health care access, discrimination, trauma, abuse, violence, relationship conflict, and social isolation. Improved understanding of adolescents’ psychosocial development can decrease the stigma associated with mental health issues.
Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) – including cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and mental and neurological conditions – are the leading causes of death and disability among women in developing and developed countries. Tackling NCDs is central to achieving our global development goals and targets, and to ensuring gender equity, socio-economic well-being and healthy lives for all.

WE CALL for the INTEGRATION OF NCD prevention, treatment and control into existing health programmes and services for HIV/AIDS and along the entire RMNCAH continuum.

WE ADVOCATE for UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE (UHC), along with comprehensive programmes to address the social determinants of health, to ensure improved health and development outcomes for women and girls of all ages.

WE ADVOCATE for a GENDER-BASED APPROACH to NCD prevention and control, to ensure health programmes, policies and systems are refined and strengthened to be gender-responsive.

Sustainable Development Goal target 3.4
By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from NCDs through prevention and treatment, and promote mental health and well-being.