



Position Statement, 2016 World Health Assembly

Child Survival

International Pediatric Association

May 2016

The International Pediatric Association in partnership with the International Society for Social Pediatrics and Child Health take this opportunity to again focus on the role of the governments to help reduce child health inequities and to provide the best possible health and development for every child in their communities.

Social injustice is a matter of life and death. Inequities kill Babies. Governments can and must promote a strong future by:

- Reducing structural inequities in family income particularly emphasizing families with children
- Implementing a comprehensive approach to early child development and protection spanning infancy to adolescence
- Investing in health, education and family support services
- Ensuring all essential services are accessible and affordable even for the poorest families
- Implementing the UN Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescent's Health. Empowering all family members, especially women is essential
- Collecting data which facilitate planning and action to promote equity. Policy and program must be evidence based

All countries must promote actions providing families access to basic needs such as clean water and sanitation.

Such recommendations coupled with national policy and budget are part of good governance, promote equity and are efficient and cost effective means to a stronger, more peaceful and sustainable society.

The International Pediatric Association (IPA) is a non-governmental organization with a membership of 144 National Pediatric Societies from 139 countries, 10 Regional Pediatric Societies representing all areas of the world, and 13 International Pediatric Specialty Societies. The IPA works collaboratively with member societies to mobilize networks of pediatricians for advocacy and programs in child health, working whenever possible with UN agencies. IPA works in close partnership with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) on global vaccine priorities, and with AAP and the Albert B Sabin Vaccine Institute (SVI) on the Measles and Rubella Initiative.

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