Upcoming business of interest and opportunities to raise Global Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)

Wednesday 11 September: Room P, Portcullis House. APPG on Global SRHR Inaugural Meeting 4:00-4:15pm, followed by committee/briefing meeting 4:15-5:00pm – please email kjaerbym@parliament.uk if you can attend.

9 September: 4:00 - 6:00pm, Jubilee Room, House of Commons. 'International Development Freshers Fair' – APPG on PDRH on Global SRHR will be in attendance. RSVP to vinny.wooding@results.org.uk

UPCOMING BUSINESS

Please note that the schedule and locations of events are subject to change. See the parliamentary <u>calendar</u> for up-to-date information.

House of Commons

Tuesday 10 September

Westminster Hall, sitting at 9:30am
UK Priorities for COP29 – Deirdre Costigan MP

Main chamber, sitting at 11:30am

Oral Questions – Justive

What steps her Department is taking to support victims of rape and sexual violence – Alison Hume MP, Jayne Kirkham MP, Dan Aldridge MP, Marie Tidball MP, Anna Dixon MP, Liz Twist MP What support her Department is providing to victims of domestic abuse – Rebecca Smith MP What steps she is taking to ensure adequate funding for support for victims of sexual violence after 31 March 2025 – Rachael Maskell MP

House of Lords

Wednesday 11 September

Main Chamber, sitting at 3:00pm

Oral question – Number of people with diagnosed HIV in England who are not accessing HIV care – Lord Black of Brentwood



UPCOMING EVENTS

9 September: 10:30 - 11:30am, Lords Committee Room 2A. 'APPG on UN Global Goals Joint briefing with the UN APPG'. On Monday 9th September, FCDO Minister Lord Collins will brief Parliamentarians from the UN APPG, and the APPG for the UN Global Goals, ahead of the UN General Assembly, and the Summit of the Future, both taking place later in September. RSVP to mcconnelli@parliament.uk to register your attendance

9 September: 4:00 - 6:00pm, Jubilee Room, House of Commons. 'International Development Freshers Fair'. The room will be divided into thematic areas, representing the breadth of the UK NGO sector, with NGOs at each table who are working on Global Health, Education, Nutrition, Child Health, the SDGS, WASH, SRHR and Conflict. These organisations will be sharing information about their work, and happy to answer any questions you have, and to discuss ways in which MPs can support their organisations, and the broader aims of the UK international development sector, through their work in Parliament. APPG on PDRH will be present to answer questions at the fair. RSVP to vinny.wooding@results.org.uk

10 September: 12:30-2:00pm. Brook present **'Exploring the Links Between Sexual and Mental Health'** as part of <u>Sexual Health Week</u>. A panel discussion, chaired by Brook's Designated Wellbeing and Mental Health Lead, Helen Corteen, that will explore the links and discuss what service providers can do to ensure holistic approaches that keep people healthy and happy. <u>Register here</u>

10-30 September: UN General Assembly (UNGA79)

12 September: 1:00pm. USAID MOMENTUM Country and Global Leadership and MOMENTUM Private Health Care Delivery present 'Demystifying the Complexities of Private Sector Engagement in Public Purchasing Programs for the Provision of FP Services'. This webinar will present synthesised insights and high-level learnings from a global MOMENTUM landscape analysis on how to engage family planning (FP) private providers in public purchasing, alongside the discussion of important country stakeholder experiences to contextualise these insights. Register here

18 September: 3:00pm. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); the Universal Access Project at the United Nations Foundation and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) present 'Building Transnational Solidarity and Targeted Action for Equity in Health: Bridging The Gap On Maternal Health For Women And Girls Of African Descent'. Register here

21 September: 3:00pm. FIGO with PAHO and the Latin American Center 'Contraception in Adolescence'. Register here

22-23 September: UN Summit of the Future — Ahead of the Summit of the Future, Member States will participate in negotiations to agree the content of the Pact of the Future. The Pact will contain five chapters: (1) Sustainable Development & Financing for Development, (2) International Peace and Security, (3) Science, Technology and Innovation and Digital Cooperation, (4) Youth and Future Generations, (5) Transforming Global Governance. Anyone interested in joining a monthly drop-in call or deep-dive sessions on particular topics should contact charlotte.capstick@fcdo.gov.uk to express interest

23-29 September: Black Maternal Mental Health Week UK

26 September: 7:00pm. Population Connection and Fight4Her present **'#Fight4Her2024: Defending Reproductive Freedom in a Critical Year'**. A virtual event for World Contraception Day about organising and fighting for reproductive rights on the ground in key states and districts across the USA. Register here

28 October: 6:30-8:30pm. 'Championing Reproductive Rights and Gender Equality' – a joint APPG on Global SRHR, IPPF, UK SRHR Network and UNFPA evening reception. Minister Anneliese Dodds has been invited to speak.

6 November: 09:00 - 12:30, Attlee Suite, House of Commons. **'SDGs and Business Conference'.** RSVP to mcconnellj@parliament.uk to register your interest. More information will follow in due course.

3-6 November 2025: 2025 International Conference on Family Planning - Bogata, Columbia – email kjaerbym@parliament.uk to register interest

NEWS

'Unitaid and the UK Government' Briefing - A useful new <u>briefing document</u> from Unitaid provides key messages and results from their collaboration with the UK to provide high-impact, value-formoney health investments, helping achieve the SDGs. See also attached document.

USA – New research published in the 'American Journal of Public Health' finds that states with abortion bans are the states that help families, women and children the least. The authors write that "the degree to which these states fail to support their most disadvantaged populations warrants immediate attention and action.". The study from researchers at Northwestern Medicine in Chicago compared state abortion laws with the public programs that help families (like paid parental leave and social services like WIC and TANF). They found that states with abortion bans had lower enrolment in state-funded assistance programs, were less likely to implement leave policies and were less likely to have policies allowing pharmacists to prescribe birth control.

In the wake of *Dobbs*, many federal and state policymakers in the United States realized that the threat to abortion could extend to contraception. A new <u>fact sheet</u> from Guttmacher's policy experts lays out the key efforts, at the federal and state level, to respond to such threats and to enshrine the right to contraception. The Right to Contraception Act would protect and ensure the right to have access to all methods of contraception. This legislation has failed to move forward in Congress since first being introduced in 2022. Meanwhile, most states that have enshrined the right to contraception did so after the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. In total, 14 states and Washington DC protect the right to contraception either through statutory or constitutional protections.

Donald Trump has said that he would vote against an amendment to Florida's state constitution guaranteeing abortion rights, having previously avoided taking a stance on the proposed amendment. The Financial Times reports.

Iraq - Iraq's parliament is considering controversial legal changes that would give religious authorities more power over family law matters, a move that rights groups and opponents warn could open the door to the marriage of girls as young as nine. The proposed amendments would allow Iraqis to turn to religious courts on issues of family law, including marriage, which currently are the sole domain of civil courts. <u>ABC News</u> and <u>The National</u> report.

Malaria vaccine for pregnancy - A possible new malaria vaccine has shown encouraging results, offering long-lasting protection for women of childbearing age, including during pregnancy. In a Phase 2 trial conducted in Mali, women who received Sanaria's PfSPZ vaccine were safeguarded from malaria for at least two years without the need for booster shots. The vaccine also proved effective and safe for those who became pregnant after vaccination, benefiting both mothers and their newborns. Devex and AllAfrica report.