

Response

Introduction:

MSFC Ireland is an intercollegiate assembly of medical students and we strongly support the explicit inclusion of the promotion of **sexual and reproductive health and rights** with the revision of the White Paper.

Key Issues & Ways of Working:

Sexual and reproductive health and rights are a fundamental component of global health, as reflected by the Millennium Development Goal 5: the improvement of maternal health by reducing maternal mortality and achieving universal access to reproductive health.

The current White Paper's identifies challenges in international human rights and gender equality. This area **must** be expanded to explicitly include:

- Addressing the unmet need for contraception and STI screening/treatment
- Improving sexual and reproductive health education
- Fostering safe and ready access to crisis pregnancy counselling
- Minimizing the prevalence of unsafe abortion, while improving post-abortion care
- Funding NGOs involved with sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Reporting of Irish Aid outputs relating to sexual and reproductive health and rights

The explicit inclusion of the above points will help ensure the long-term viability and effectiveness of Irish Aid.

Other Comments:

Irish Aid may contact me at any time in regards to this issue to further the discussion.