### Highlights of Women’s Health Disparities by Region of the World

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Heart Diseases</th>
<th>HIV/AIDS</th>
<th>Infectious &amp; Parasitic Diseases</th>
<th>Reproductive Health</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S. &amp; Canada</strong></td>
<td>- Leading cause of death for non-Hispanic white and black women in the U.S.</td>
<td>- In 2007, North America had the lowest percent of HIV+ adult women (21%).</td>
<td>- The Americas have the third lowest number of deaths by these diseases.</td>
<td>- Contraception use: 73%</td>
<td>- Canada does not have a significant difference in the rate of obesity between women and men.</td>
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<td><strong>Europe</strong></td>
<td>- Highest % of women’s deaths by cardiovascular diseases.</td>
<td>- In 2007, Western &amp; Central Europe tied with East Asia for the second lowest percent of women (27%) among HIV+ adults.</td>
<td>- Lowest percent of deaths due to infectious and parasitic diseases.</td>
<td>- Contraception use: 71%</td>
<td>- Cancer is the second leading cause of death for women and men.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Central America, South America, &amp; the Caribbean</strong></td>
<td>- Circulatory diseases are 3 times more likely to be the cause of death for both sexes than all communicable diseases combined.</td>
<td>- In Central America &amp; the Caribbean, women ages 15-24 know more about HIV than men of this age.</td>
<td>- The Americas have the third lowest number of deaths by these diseases.</td>
<td>- Contraception use: 72%</td>
<td>- Central America &amp; the Caribbean have the highest sex gap in diabetes; prevalence in women is 11% over men.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Africa &amp; Middle East</strong></td>
<td>- Africa has the lowest rate of deaths by cardiovascular diseases. However, the rate is still higher for women than for men.</td>
<td>- Most HIV+ adults are women.</td>
<td>- Africa has the highest % of deaths by infectious and parasitic diseases: these are the leading cause of death.</td>
<td>- In 2005, the highest number of maternal deaths was in Sub-Saharan Africa, with more than double the global maternal mortality ratio (MMR).</td>
<td>- In Africa, the second leading cause of death is respiratory infections.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Asia &amp; Oceania</strong></td>
<td>- In 2010, 35% of all deaths in Australia and 38% in China were due to cardiovascular diseases.</td>
<td>- 77% of HIV/AIDS orphan children live in Africa.</td>
<td>- In South-Eastern Asia, less women (16%) than men (19%) die of these diseases.</td>
<td>- Contraception use: 67% for Asia and 59% for Oceania</td>
<td>- Asia has the largest gender gap between smokers, with women smoking significantly less than men.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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6 Source: Data on contraceptive use as estimated in 2007 for all women in heterosexual marriage or unions by the UN Statistics Division for The World’s Women 2010: Trends and Statistics report.

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