## Mission Statement

### Our vision
Women and girls are respected and esteemed in all spheres of life. Sexual and reproductive health is guaranteed through the self-determination of women as well as the provision of safe and competently accompanied pregnancies and childbirths. Maternal mortality throughout the world is at the low level of industrialised countries. Obstetric injuries are eliminated.

### How we see ourselves
We are an international aid organisation based in Switzerland.
We are committed to the improvement of sexual and reproductive health in Africa and Asia.
We are an independent Christian organisation with an ecumenical orientation.
We are a learning organisation that sets high standards in all its activities.
We see ourselves as part of national and international networks pursuing the same goals.
We are a trustworthy and reliable organisation – in communications with stakeholders, in dealings with staff and in the use of the money entrusted to us.

### Our values
We act on the basis of human rights, guided by Christian ethics.
Our action is driven by respect for life and standing up for the socially disadvantaged.
We are especially committed to social justice and equal rights for women and men.
We support people irrespective of age, origin, language, religion, culture and political conviction.

### Our mission
We support and assist women and girls during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period. This includes their access to antenatal care at maternity clinics, and if necessary to emergency obstetrics.
We are active in the identification, treatment, rehabilitation and reintegration of women and girls with obstetric injuries.
We encourage and strengthen women and girls in their social status and enable their independence and self-determination, especially regarding their sexual and reproductive health and rights, both on the grassroots and on the policy level.

### How we work
We pursue our mission in a professionally competent, effective and efficient manner.
We focus on a small number of selected countries in Africa and Asia that have a high rate of maternal mortality.
We cooperate with actors in both civil society and government.
We work in partnership on the basis of common goals, strengthen our partners in their autonomy and self-responsibility, and foster an open exchange with them.
We accompany and support our partners over the long term, helping them achieve a high level of professional competence.

Our programmes are innovative and sustainable. Where possible they are coordinated with the respective national health system.

We cultivate active and open communications both internally and externally.

We advocate responsible use of natural resources.

**The means for our work**

We procure and manage our means in line with the ethical guidelines applicable for organisations of public utility.

We utilise the means in compliance with the organisation’s purpose and handle them in an economical manner. We accept no corruption.

**Our staff**

We rely on professional and motivated staff with social skills, who identify themselves with the mission statement.

Our staff are characterised by a high level of personal commitment.

Autonomy, flexibility, a sense of responsibility and ongoing personal development are key qualities for us.

An attractive working environment characterised by respectful behaviour and mutual confidence is important to us.

**Organisation and management**

We adopt practical management structures and processes that facilitate target-oriented, efficient and effective work.

We ensure the quality and effectiveness of our work, check it regularly, and develop and refine it on an ongoing basis.

We adhere to the relevant recognised norms and standards of the countries in which we are active.

We are committed to transparency and accountability vis-à-vis our stakeholders.

Approved by the General Meeting on 22 Nov. 2013