



Promoting global health and wholeness from a Christian perspective

June 5, 2015

Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition
Rue Marie-Thérèse 21,
1000 Brussels, Belgium

Dear Members of the Executive Committee of the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition:

Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH) pledges to stand alongside the RHSC and play an active role in resolving stockouts as a participant in the *Take Stock* campaign. We know that reproductive health programs empower women and men, reduce pregnancy-related health risks, and create positive impacts on many issues related to development. *The Economist* reported 24 January 2015 that ensuring access to contraceptives is one of the best investments in development, rendering \$120 in benefits for every dollar spent. But countries and their citizens are only able to reap such benefits when there is access to the supplies. Too many women and men in underserved countries arrive at health clinics only to find empty shelves. Stockouts limit choice, put women and their families at risk, and disempower health workers and supply chain operators.

CCIH is a global health faith-based membership organization based in Washington, D.C. The organization's mission is to promote health and wholeness from a Christian perspective. Currently, the membership of CCIH includes 165 Christian organizations and institutions and 28 affiliates as well as over 350 individual members. CCIH's work in this area began years before, but was solidified when we conducted an FP-focused survey of 67 members in 2008. The survey confirmed CCIH's sense that, overall, its members were positive toward family planning and expressed a desire to strengthen contraceptive security.

CCIH has been an active member of the RHSC since 2012. We fully support the *Take Stock* campaign, and its ambitious effort to mobilize our community to speak with one voice about resolving stockouts. To demonstrate our support for *Take Stock*, CCIH has committed to the following:

- Conducting research on faith-based organization supply chains for reproductive health, and identifying key characteristics that lead to stockouts.
- Educating our members on contraceptive security and findings from our research.
- Implementing an intervention to address supply barriers at faith-based facilities in order to reduce reproductive health supply stockouts.

Successful achievement of our commitment will have a significant impact on the lives and well being of women and families in the developing world.

We applaud the Coalition for the *Take Stock* campaign, and its effort to rally the reproductive health community to resolve stockouts. We look forward to working with our Coalition partners to make reproductive health supplies available to those in need across the globe.

Sincerely,



Garrett Grigsby
Executive Director