

7. Women committed to promoting women's reproductive health and rights, and linked to the women to be served, must be included as policy makers and program implementors in all aspects of decision-making including definition of ethical standards, technology development and distribution, services, and information dissemination.

To assure the centrality of women's well-being, population policies and programs need to honor these principles at national and international levels.

## **MINIMUM PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

In the design and implementation of population policies and programs, policy makers in international and national agencies should:

1. **Seek to reduce and eliminate pervasive inequalities in all aspects of sexual, social and economic life by:**
  - providing universal access to information, education and discussion on sexuality, gender roles, reproduction and birth control, in school and outside;
  - changing sex-role and gender stereotypes in mass media and other public communications to support more egalitarian and respectful relationships;
  - enacting and enforcing laws that protect women from sexual and gender-based violence, abuse or coercion;
  - implementing policies that encourage and support parenting and household maintenance by men;
  - prioritizing women's education, job training, paid employment, access to credit, and the right to own land and other property in social and economic policies, and through equal rights legislation;
  - prioritizing investment in basic health services, sanitation, and clean water.
2. **Support women's organizations that are committed to women's reproductive health and rights and linked to the women to be served, especially women disadvantaged by class, race, ethnicity or other factors, to:**
  - participate in designing, implementing and monitoring policies and programs for comprehensive reproductive health and rights;
  - work with communities on service delivery, education and advocacy.