

**The FIGO Initiative on
Prevention of Unsafe Abortion
How providers are making a
difference**

FIAPAC Congress

Lisbon, 13th-16th October, 2016

Mahmoud Fathalla statement

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- **Unsafe abortion is a very serious women's health problem and we are a very important part of the problem.**

The FIGO Initiative on Prevention of Unsafe abortion

It was created in 2007 under the leadership of Dorothy Shaw, with the purpose of reducing the burden of unsafe abortion for women, particularly in countries with restrictive abortion laws. .

How to reduce unsafe abortion and its consequences

- **Primary Prevention:** Less unintended pregnancies and abortions

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- **Secondary Prevention:** Non preventable abortions should be safe

How to reduce unsafe abortion and its consequences

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- **Tertiary Prevention:** Unsafe abortions do not complicate and kill the woman
- **Quaternary Prevention:** Post-abortion counseling and services to prevent repeated abortions

Secondary Prevention: Can be achieved by

- **Providing access to safe abortion services to women who fulfill with the legal conditions**

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- **Broadening the conditions on which abortion is legally allowed**

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- Without restriction as to reason**

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In 2016

Four of five (but El Salvador) included advocacy for the approval of more liberal abortion laws in their plans of action.

To save the woman's life

- **In 2008**
- **Out of 14 countries, only Bangladesh included increased access to Menstrual Regulation (MR) in its plan of action**

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In 2016

Five of the 14 countries included the provision of safe abortion services in their plans of action .

To preserve woman's health

- **In 2008**

- **Out of 14 countries, only Ethiopia and Mozambique mentioned, the provision of safe legal abortion services**

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In 2016

Continue the expansion of safe abortion services in Zambia, emphasis on second trimester abortion in India.

Without restriction as to reason

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- There were 9 countries, in these group, all providing safe abortion services

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In 2016

One additional country reformed the abortion law to be allowed to women request (Uruguay)

Providers role in the FIGO Initiative on Prevention of Unsafe Abortion

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- The example of the most progressive countries at the Regional workshops**

Progress achieved by the FIGO Initiative on Prevention of Unsafe Abortion

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 - 1. Unsafe abortion exists, causes great damage to woman and actions should be taken to prevent it.**

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 - 1. Unsafe abortion exists, causes great damage to woman and actions should be taken to prevent it**
 - 2. Restrictive abortion laws and lack of access to safe abortion do not reduce the number of abortions**
 - 3. Provision of safe abortion services within the limits of the law is a women's right and providers obligation**

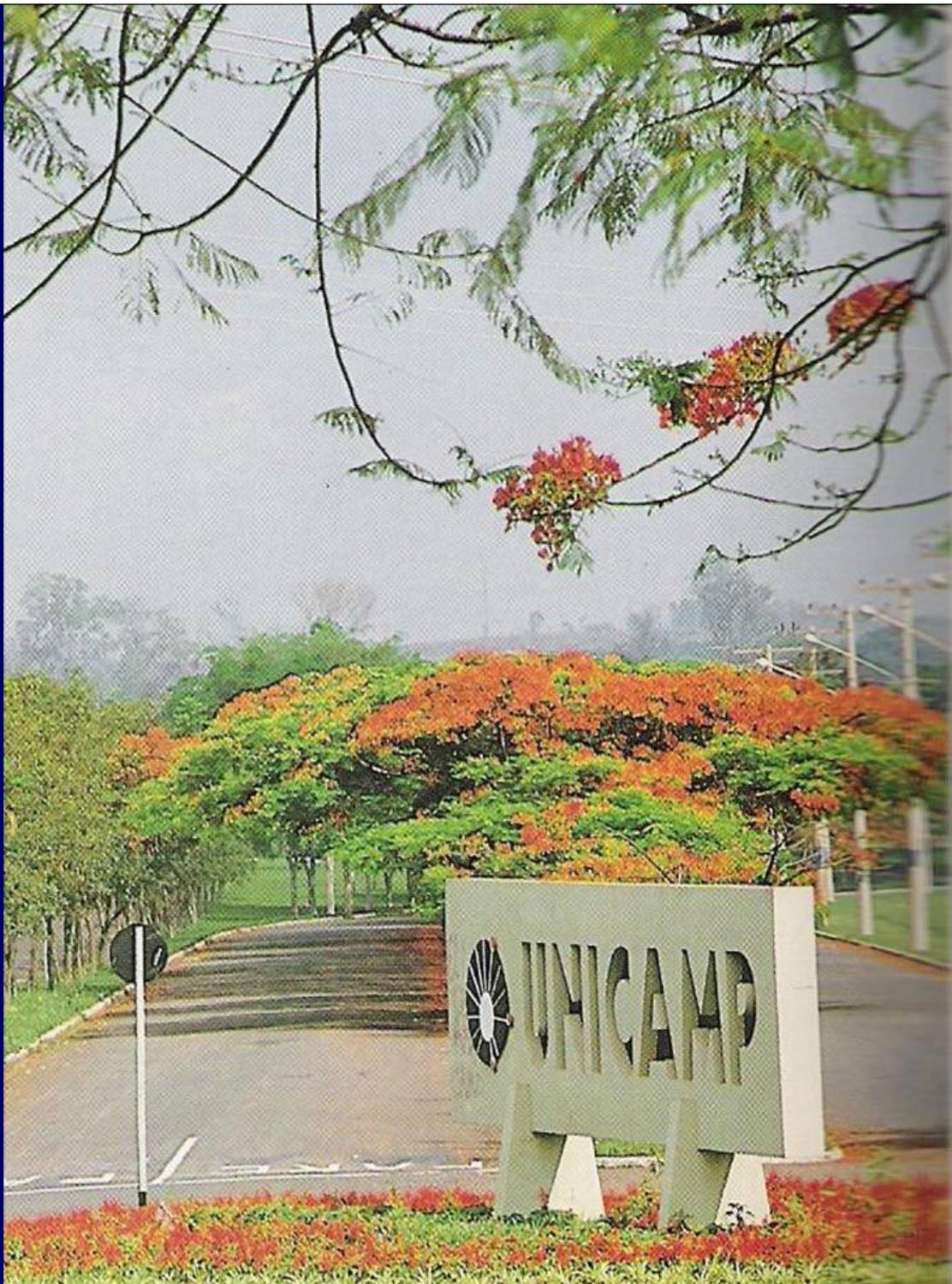
Future of the FIGO Initiative on Prevention of Unsafe Abortion

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**More colleagues want to become
"part of the solution"**



**MUITO
OBRIGADO**