

**Subject:** PRESS RELEASE: Tomorrow, 28 September, is International Safe Abortion Day, which will be celebrated around the world

**INTERNATIONAL  
CAMPAIGN  
FOR WOMEN'S  
RIGHT TO SAFE  
ABORTION**

**PRESS RELEASE, 27 September 2019**

Tomorrow, 28 September, is International Safe Abortion Day, which will be celebrated around the world by a wide range of women's health and rights groups and health professionals, policymakers and parliamentarians committed to women's health and well-being, working not only at the grassroots and national level in their countries but also at the regional and international levels – including in the United Nations and its agencies and human rights bodies.

The theme for this year's celebrations is "Abortion is Healthcare", #MyAbortionMyHealth, My Right to Decide.

We urge you to find out what activities are taking place in your country and region and report them.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. A letter we wrote this week to the heads of UN agencies, urging them to give public support to the right of women and girls to safe abortion, in light of the major international conferences on health and development taking place this month and in November. We invite you to contact key leaders, especially national leaders, ask them if they will be making such a statement and report their responses.
2. A newsletter we sent out today spotlighting 28 leading abortion service providers who are committed to ensuring that girls and women can access a safe abortion if they need it.

**QUOTE**

"International Safe Abortion Day has become a major event in the annual international women's rights calendar. We are calling on the United Nations to make it an official UN Day. Why? Because one in four pregnancies globally ends in an induced abortion, legally or otherwise. Abortion is necessary healthcare for girls and women because unwanted pregnancy is a reality of our lives. It is crucial that there is universal access to safe abortion as part of women's right to life and health. Motherhood must be voluntary if women are to be in charge of their own lives. Gender equality and safe motherhood will not be achieved without this critical healthcare service." Marge Berer

### **CONTACT US AND SEND YOUR REPORTS**

As in previous years, we will be collecting all the media reports we can find and publishing a list of them. Please send us any reports and visuals you publish (with a link) to:

[press@safeabortionwomensright.org](mailto:press@safeabortionwomensright.org)

### **NOTE**

The International Campaign for Women's Right to Safe Abortion is a membership network of some 1,400 groups and individuals in 126 countries working at international, regional and national levels for universal access to safe abortion. Our network is growing daily and is part of a larger international movement supporting all aspects of health and human rights.

With thanks for your attention, Marge Berer