

EDITORIAL

The Imperative of Safe Motherhood in our communities' production and reproduction. In most communities, the birth of child is celebrated and a cause of joyous occasions when mother and child are safe and sound.

In sub-Saharan Africa, it is a cause for mourning and concern due to the death of the mother, child or both. That maternal health is directly linked to child health is not gainsaying. The 4th and 5th Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are relevant; that is, "reduce child mortality" and "improve maternal health". The late Professor of Pediatrics, Olikoye Ransome- Kuti did say in his inaugural lecture "that our children will not die".

Conception and safe delivery is crucial to every health care provider. Maternal and child health are good indicators of societal development. Pregnant mother(s) must be cared for professionally at the defining moment of their lives. Maternal morbidity and mortality are twin scourges that should not be encouraged. About 800 women out of every

100,000 die from preventable causes. There are about 4,400 maternal deaths per month in Nigeria. Other sub-regional countries have their unacceptable maternal and child mortality statistics. The woman has been likened to the

The editorial is akin to this that our mothers should not die in delivery and that our babies should be delivered safely in conducive environment (s).

The Editor, in this first editorial, pays due homage to the immediate past Editor in Chief, Mrs. Valerie Nylander, who mentored many generations of nurses including

my humble self. She is a mother of mothers and an inimitable nursing colossus. Readers are warmly welcome to the journal. It is our Journal. We must treasure it.

Dr. F. A. Badru

Editor-in-Chief