## International Foundation for Sustainable Development in Africa and Asia



## Afrikanisch-Asiatische Studienförderung e.V. African Asian Studies Promotion Association



International Webinar on Women and Neonatal Health Speech of Dr. Kahsai Wolde-Giorgis 08.04.2022

On behalf of my Association and myself I'm sending you my greetings to America India Australia from a small town in Germany called Göttingen. Associated to our association we run a student hostel and by the name of Mahatma Gandhi. Our association was founded towards the end of the fifties exactly in 1959 during the cold. At present where we are experiencing war in the Ukraine and the name Mahatma Gandhi obliges us to create awareness and work for peace. We already know what coronavirus has inflicted on human beings and on the global economy. And here we are confronted with a much dangerous crisis which we deeply hope can be solved. Since we established the International foundation for sustainable development in Africa and Asia in 2007 we have organized several international conferences in different countries like Hungary Poland India and of course India. We are lucky to have (Prof.) Rishi Behl who is a member of our Association and the coordinator for our global network. His contribution to the success of the international foundation for sustainable development in Africa and Asia cannot be enumerated. Thank you for your engagement and services.

Beyond climate change and global peace there are various topics which are directly related to the well-being of man and woman kind. Such is the topic of today being held on woman's day, a topicwhich specifically affects women giving birth and those being born. This topic is not purely medical but has multifaceted aspects. Moreover, coming from an East African country Ethiopia and having in mind the comparison between Germany and my country I can see and feel the importance of this topic in creating awareness towards mothers and providing tools for politicians and for policy makers. And in the invitation to this webinar it has been indicated that 23% preterm birth occurred in India and I guess that this situation is similar proportionately to their population number. It becomes obvious that studying pregnancy becomes important in understanding per-term birth and all problems revolving around pregnancy.

I hope and I'm sure that this webinar held on women's day will open our eyes towards the topic dealing with birth giving mothers and their exposures to various risks during their pregnancy.

Finally allowed me to say a few words on our association. Beginning March 20, 12 days from now depending on actual developments on the Corona front many restrictions would be falling putting us in a position to organize international conferences in Göttingen. Fortunately, Corona had forced us to make use of zoom giving us more opportunities for frequent webinars which will continue besides organizing international conferences.

Having said that I wish this webinar success

Thank you for your attention.

Kahsai Wolde-Giorgis