



**ASIA & OCEANIA FEDERATION
OF OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY**

**ASIA OCEANIA FEDERATION OF OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY (AOFOG)
STATEMENT ON THE CONFLICT IN UKRAINE**

We are profoundly saddened to hear of the strife in Ukraine and the resulting deleterious effects on the health of the Ukrainian people and in particular, their women and girls. There has been great disruption to everyday life and severe curtailment in healthcare provision. We hear of hospitals and healthcare facilities being targeted and women forced to deliver their babies in underground shelters. With close to 1.5 million people being displaced, we are on the cusp of a humanitarian crisis not seen in continental Europe since the Second World War.

Although this conflict is not within the Asia Oceania region, we in AOFOG share the same values as all citizens of the world when it comes to prioritising the safety and health of women and girls, and abhor situations that have a negative impact on women's health, both physical and mental. The potential for physical and sexual abuse arising from such conflict is also something we should all guard against and condemn.

We stand in solidarity with our colleagues from across the world, in calling for an expeditious resolution to this conflict and in the interim, to facilitate safe corridors for civilians seeking refuge in other countries. We appeal to all parties involved, to jealously protect and rigorously uphold the rights of women and girls, in ensuring the provision of safe and adequate healthcare.
