

## Pope Francis “gratified” by UN goals that demand “universal access to sexual and reproductive health”

([Voice of the Family](#)) – Pope Francis has said that he is “gratified” by UN goals that call on member states to “ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health” by 2030. The term “sexual and reproductive health”, as generally defined, includes access to contraception, including abortifacient methods, and, often, other forms of abortion. In a message entitled [“For the celebration of the world day of prayer for the care of creation”](#) Pope Francis stated that he was “gratified that in September 2015 the nations of the world adopted the Sustainable Development Goals, and that, in December 2015, they approved the Paris Agreement on climate change”.

The United Nation’s [Sustainable Development Goals](#), agreed by nation states in September 2015, consist of 17 goals and 169 targets, which will determine the direction of international aid and action until 2030. These goals were endorsed by the [Paris Agreement on climate change](#).

The Sustainable Development Goals call on member states to:

“ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programs” (Goal 7 Target 3)

The term “sexual and reproductive health care services” is defined by United Nation bodies as including contraception, including forms that have an abortifacient mode of effect. The [United Nations Population Fund](#) states that “sexual and reproductive health” includes access for all to “the safe, effective, affordable and acceptable contraception method of their choice”. Furthermore it is used by many international governments, including that of [the United States](#), and by agencies such as [Planned Parenthood](#), to include other forms of abortion...

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