

Newspaper Cuttings from daily "The News"  
Dated April 27, 2011

# Expediting HIV response from gender perspective

NACP inks agreement with UN Women

**Our correspondent**  
Islamabad

The National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) on Tuesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (UN Women) to enhance strategic coordination and collaboration on gender and HIV and AIDS.

Amir Maqbool, acting programme manager of NACP, and Alice Shackelford, country programme director of UN Women, signed the MoU, the purpose of which is to maximise cooperation to ensure implementation of national commitments on gender equality and women's right.

The MoU aims to formalise the ongoing cooperative relationship between NACP and UN Women in order to expedite the HIV response from a gender perspective, and to facilitate technical assistance, cooperation, consultation, and effective communication between NACP and UN

Women.

Alice Shackelford hoped that the collaboration will produce productive results through institutionalisation and mainstreaming of HIV response in Pakistan among women ministries and line ministries. She also appreciated the strong supportive and advocacy role of UNAIDS towards gender equality and women empowerment and the fact that this partnership is really a tripartite one.

Dr. Samia Hashim, senior national programme officer, UNAIDS, was also present on the occasion. She appreciated the efforts of UN Women and NACP to strengthen and support an expanded national AIDS response from the gender lens.

The representatives of both the partner organisations nominated Nayab Azizi, gender and advisor from NACP and Fahmida Iqbal, programme officer Gender, VAW and HIV and AIDS from UN Women, to coordinate activities under this joint partnership.

BCC Section, NACP:-