

PRESS RELEASE

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has agreed to provide a grant assistance of US\$ 68,214,000 (equivalent to about Rs. 4358 Million) to the Government of Nepal. A Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) to this effect was signed between the Government of Nepal and the UNICEF at Kathmandu today.

Under the CPAP, UNICEF will provide US\$ 20,214,000 from its Regular Resources and US\$ 48,000,000 from Other Resources. The duration of this CPAP is 3 years (2008-2010). The overall goal of the Country Programme is the realization of the rights of all children and women through support to the interlinked objectives of peace, reconciliation, and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MGDs). Some of the results expected from the programme are: (a) a community based IMCI package with new neonatal interventions developed, and a multiyear national implementation plan prepared and implemented in at least three pilot districts, (b) an increase of 10 % of households in marginalised communities in 10 districts using a household drinking water treatment method, (c) half of the bottom 20% lowest performing primary schools in 15 districts are child-friendly, (d) the national legislative framework for protection of children from violence, exploitation and abuse is aligned with international legal instruments, (e) awareness, knowledge and skills of national government and civil society organizations are strengthened to promote the participation of children and young people and reflect their voices in national policy and so on.

Of the total assistance of US\$ 68,214,000, the programme components by funds are: (a) US\$28,434,000 for Decentralised Action for Children and Women, (b) US\$1,900,000 for Social Policy, (c) US\$4,100,000 for Child Protection, (d) US\$ 10,300,000 for Education, (e) US\$ 10,950,000 for Health and Nutrition, (f) US\$ 4,250,000 for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, and (g) US\$ 4,250,000 for HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Krishna Gyawali, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Ms. Gillian Mellsop, Representative, UNICEF signed the CPAP on behalf of the Government of Nepal and UNICEF, respectively.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the UNICEF for the assistance and continued support in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance
Singhdurbar, Kathmandu
February 25, 2008
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