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**ADB and BISP to Join Hands for Socio-economic Uplift Projects;
BISP instrumental in the Cause of Women Empowerment and Poverty Alleviation, Says
Madame Farzana Raja**

Islamabad: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja has said that by imparting vocational & technical training to millions of youth belonging to deprived segments of society, BISP is playing a pivotal role in eradication of poverty as well as socio-economic uplift of these families. She said that BISP intends to achieve economic self-sustainability for these segments of society through its Waseela-e-Haq and Waselea-e-Rozgar initiatives. She said this while talking to a high level mission of Asian Development Bank (ADB) led by Mr. Michiel van der Auwera that met her at BISP Secretariat Thursday.

Madame Farzana Raja, on the occasion said that BISP has also contributed heavily for the women empowerment as record shows that more than 15 million women have obtained their National Identity Cards during last three years to avail the benefits being



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja talking to Mr. Michiel van der Auwera, Financial Sector Specialist of Asian Development Bank (ADB) who called on her here at BISP Secretariat. (Dated: December 15, 2011)

offered by the programme. She briefed the mission about the Vocational and Technical Training programme of BISP for its beneficiary families and said that after successful launch of the programme, it is being extended to all over Pakistan.

While describing Co-responsibility Cash Transfer (CCT) in the context of BISP's initiative in Pakistan, Madame Farzana raja informed the members of the mission that Waseela-e-Taleem initiative is all set to be launched across Pakistan and more than one million children of beneficiary families would be enrolled in schools in the first phase of the scheme.

The mission on the occasion assured Chairperson BISP for the continuous support of Asian Development Bank (ADB) for various components of BISP and acknowledged the progress of the programme to achieve the stated objectives in efficient manner. Mr. Michiel van der Auwera said that ADB is seriously considering collaboration and cooperation with BISP in the coming years.