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BISP signs an agreement of £ 300 million with DFID to support enrolment of 3 million children in primary schools in accordance with the MDGs of Universal Primary Education

Islamabad, November 02, 2012: Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) and UK Department for International Development (DFID) signed an agreement on UK's contribution of £ 300 million in support of the largest social protection programme in Pakistan. The funding is primarily allocated for the national cash transfer program and Waseela-e-Taleem initiative of BISP under which 3 million children of BISP beneficiary families would be enrolled in primary schools over a span of four years. This is the first ever largest initiative for promotion of primary education in Pakistan.



Islamabad: Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP, Madame Farzana Raja, Head of UK Department for Internal Development (DFID) Pakistan Mr. W. George Turnkington and Joint Secretary EAD Mr. Afzal Latif can be seen at Agreement Signing Ceremony between BISP and DFID (Dated: Nov 02, 2012)

Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP, Madame Farzana Raja, Mr. W. George Turnkington, Head of UK Department for Internal Development, Pakistan, Mr. Afzal Latif, Joint Secretary, EAD and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

Reiterating DFID's commitment to development in Pakistan, Mr. W George Turkington said "The programme will provide an incentive to the poorest families in Pakistan to retain and educate young children in schools. I am happy that we have had a successful partnership of over four years with BISP." He appreciated the remarkable use of the latest technologies in the design

and implementation of BISP Programmes and lauded the efforts of the Federal Minister and Chairperson, BISP in making it a success.

On behalf of the Government, Madame Farzana Raja thanked the Government of UK for its continuing support for development in Pakistan. Talking on the occasion she said “it’s a matter of pride for BISP to work for the promotion of primary education in Pakistan which will also help achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of universal primary education. We are thankful for the contribution of DFID and World Bank being torch bearers in this initiative of Waseela-e-Taleem programme while supporting BISP to write a new page in the development history of Pakistan.” She further appreciated the role of Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs Division.

Madame Farzana Raja welcomed the response of the provincial governments towards this initiative and ensured that through Waseela-e-Taleem, BISP will be extending a helping hand to all stakeholders including provincial governments to strengthen the primary education systems in the country.