

Dated: Jan 10, 2011

**Transparency is the hallmark of BISP; Programme bringing about a positive socio-economic change in the society; Says Madame Farzana Raja**

**Scale of BISP's Social Safety Net is unprecedented, Says Secretary General Afro-Asian Rural Development Organization**

**ISLAMABAD:** The provision of basic necessities of life to people is a fundamental responsibility of state. Thus, the present democratic government is striving to achieve this objective through Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP). In the short span of three year after its inception, BISP has introduced numerous revolutionary steps to bring about a socio-economic change in the society and to eliminate poverty from the country on long term basis. Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP Madame Farzana Raja said this while talking to Eng. Wassfi Hassan El Sreihin, Secretary General Afro-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) during a meeting with former here at BISP Secretariat Tuesday.



Islamabad: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja talking to Eng. Wassfi Hassan El Sreihin, Secretary General Afro-Asian Rural Development Organization who called on her here at BISP Secretariat. (Dated: Jan 10, 2011)

Madame Farzana Raja informed the honorable guest that more than 99% of the poverty survey being done by BISP is completed while best international practices have been adopted during the survey to identify deserving families to get financial assistance from BISP. She explained the various initiatives of BISP i.e. Waseela-e-Haq, Waseela-e-

Sahat, Waseela-e-Rozgar as well as Waseela-e-Taleem which are designed to uplift the living standards of poor and to enable them to achieve financial self-sustainability.

Chairperson BISP said that transparency is the hallmark of the programme at every level. She said that the recent USAID report has acknowledged the same fact and confirmed that 98.6 % of BISP disbursements have been received by recipients in a transparent manner. She highlighted the importance of Waseela-e-Taleem scheme in a bid to educate 65% children of beneficiary families who are not going to schools at present.



**Islamabad: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja giving a souvenir to Eng. Wassfi Hassan El Sreihin, Secretary General Afro-Asian Rural Development Organization. Secretary BISP Mr. Sher Khan along with others also present on the occasion (Dated: Jan 10, 2011)**

Madame Farzana Raja informed Mr. Wassfi about technology based mechanism employed by BISP including Mobile Phone Banking and Benazir Smart Cards. Eng. Wassfi Hassan El Sreihin appreciated the transparency as well as various effective pro-poor initiatives of BISP including nationwide poverty survey and said that the scale of this survey is unprecedented. He said that other countries may learn from the experiences of BISP and replicate similar programme to benefit their people as well.