

PRESS RELEASE

United Nations Development Programme



UNDP HANDOVER OF GFATM HIV PROGRAM CONSTRUCTION SITES TO FMOH AT NEW CENTRAL WAREHOUSE IN KHARTOUM

Khartoum, 24 May 2011 – The Undersecretary of the Federal Ministry of Health, Dr. Isamaldine Mohammed Abdalla received a commemorative key from UNDP Acting Deputy Country Director, Yakub Beris, to mark the successful delivery of more than 60 health facilities constructed through the Global Fund grant for combating HIV/AIDS in Sudan, at the handover ceremony held this morning in the new central warehouse for storage of drugs, in Khartoum North.



Mr. Yakub Beris, spoke about the key achievements in the development of the national partner's capacity to fight the 3 diseases, such as efforts, spearheaded by the Ministry of Health and Sudanese National AIDS Programme (SNAP) that have resulted in the construction of much needed new health facilities nationwide.

“As Principal Recipient, UNDP applauds the Sudanese National AIDS Programme (SNAP) and the Ministry of Health in proposing this huge construction component. It is a result of their strong commitment and broad perspective, the scope of which reaches beyond their programmes needs, to the development of the capacity of Sudan's health system,” said Mr. Beris in his speech.

Since 2003 the Global Fund has disbursed more than USD 150 million to fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria in Sudan of which USD 10.6 million has been allocated for the construction of 80 sites. The 80 sites include blood banks, HIV/AIDS resource centers in universities, TB/HIV service provision points, Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission centers in hospitals, and Voluntary Confidential Counseling and Testing (VCCT) centers. Additionally 8 central and state warehouses have been constructed and 20 store rooms in an equal number of hospitals have been refurbished as part of the HIV grant.

Mr. Beris also gave special thanks to the construction and supervision agencies contracted for this large project, for their successful management and delivery of the sites. The contractors received mounted posters with photos of the newly

constructed buildings when they were called upon to stand for a round of applause from the attendees.

Dr. Eihab Ali Hassan Director of SNAP was present among UNDP partners from the national health programs such as the General Directorate of Pharmacy, National Blood Transfusion Services, Central Medical Stores. UN partner agencies such as UNICEF and UNHCR were also present.

Since 2003, UNDP partnered with Global Fund, an international financing institution that invests in public health, to manage their grants in 26 countries around the world, with special conditions such as having recently come out of conflict, to safe guard their investments. One of the main goals of this partnership is to develop the capacity of governments in the countries where UNDP is the initially identified Principal Recipient of Global Fund Grants, so that they can manage future grants directly. The Global fund, established in 2002 has become the world's largest multilateral funder of health related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

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