



PRESS RELEASE

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New Strategy Launched to Improve Health for Afghans

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN | AUGUST 8, 2011 — The Ministry of Public Health of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan organized a launching ceremony of the National Strategy for Improving Quality in Health Care. The goal of the strategy is to improve health services and health outcomes, ultimately improving the overall health and wellbeing of the Afghan population.

The Ministry developed the strategy with support from USAID, and other donor and non-governmental organization partners. The strategy will serve as a framework for coordinating all health care quality-related activities at the national level.

“We expect the strategy to help synchronize efforts to measure and assess progress and help improve the coordination of quality initiatives,” said USAID Mission Director Dr. S. Ken Yamashita. “This strategy is the culmination of the efforts of many who worked tirelessly and with great passion and dedication.”

Today’s event plays a pivotal role in opening doors for the participation of government, particularly the Ministry of Public Health, civil-society organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders in a substantive dialogue about health-related issues.

Deputy Minister of Public Health Dr. Nadira Hayat Burhani said, “With the development of the National Strategy for Improving Quality in Health Care, we are embarking on a very important step toward a long term vision of quality health care system in Afghanistan. I believe this ceremony provides the opening step in the full implementation of this strategy in Afghanistan.”

By organizing this launching ceremony, the Ministry of Public Health has taken an important step toward more positive health outcomes for the Afghan population, and urges all its technical partners, including donor agencies, to support the ongoing implementation phase of the new strategy.

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