

# Media Update

24 August 2017

## UN Women

Press Release

### UN Women baseline study identifies gaps in services, justice delivery to women

ISLAMABAD, August 24, 2017 - Women's access to justice, services, and safe spaces requires long-term advocacy, evidence-based provincial strategies on zero tolerance for Violence against Women (VAW), strengthened service delivery mechanisms, and capacity building of law enforcement agencies.

These recommendations were released on August 24 by UN Women as part of a baseline study and the initial phase of a project - 'Prevention and Protection of Women from Violence through Access to Justice, Services and Safe Public Places' – funded by the United States Department of State.

UN Women studied five districts with high rates of VAW in Balochistan (Quetta), Punjab (Rawalpindi), and Sindh (Karachi, Dadu, and Khairpur). Through interventions in these districts, the project aims to train and build capacity of some 2,000 male and female police, prosecutors, judges, and lawyers who comprise the law enforcement and service providers dealing with VAW.

With U.S. assistance, UN Women will establish four Women Protection Units, where women can access legal information and referral services. Protocols and referral mechanisms will help each district coordinate between law enforcement and other members of the justice sector.

Speaking at the event on Thursday, the U.S. Embassy's Gregory Schiffer said "The United States shares with UN Women a vision of a criminal justice system that is accessible to and supportive of women; and of Pakistani women and girls who have confidence that the system is in place to protect



them and that services are available to support them.” He added, “No country is immune from discrimination; and it is our obligation as an international community to work to eliminate it.”

In his welcome remarks, Country Representative for UN Women Jamshed Kazi stated that the right of women and girls to live free of violence depends not just on the laws protecting their human rights but also in the efficacy of its implementation. Whilst the legal framework to tackle violence against women has been considerably strengthened in recent years by the Government of Pakistan, the judicial response to violence must be immediate, coordinated and effective so that crimes are punished and justice is secured. He stressed that more must be done where women are informed of their legal rights and supported to navigate the complexities legal system as well as changing patriarchal mindsets, including through deeper engagement of male champions of gender equality within law enforcement and local communities.

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## UNODC

### Press Release

## UNODC Upgrades the Anti Narcotics Force Police Station in Gwadar

24 August 2017, Gwadar - Cesar Guedes Country Representative UNODC Pakistan today inaugurated Police Station ANF Gwadar. The Police Station has been constructed with the support and friendship of the Government of Canada.

Speaking on the occasion, Representative UNODC Mr. Guedes said “The project will directly impact many existing and emerging challenges posed by drugs in the country and the region. The ANF Police Station in Gwadar complements deployment of the ANF at Dalbandin and Hub. Such strategic initiatives would enhance ANF’s capacity to detect, interdict and investigate illicit drug trafficking”. He also highlighted that the project contributes to the vision of creating “A safer community, free from the threats posed by illicit narcotics trafficking and transnational organized crime. Through this capacity-building initiative, we envisage enhancing the ANF's operational capacities



astride the main trade route culminating at Gwadar. With its close proximity to the drug trafficking routes emanating from Afghanistan and crossing into Pakistan, we look forward to continuing our close technical support to the ANF and other Pakistani law enforcement agencies through provision of specialized training and equipment".

Force Commander ANF Balochistan Brig Bilal Javed thanked UNODC and the Government of Canada for the support to augment ANF's capacity to combat drug trafficking. "The police stations constructed at Hub, Dalbandin and Gwadar would positively impact efforts by ANF to fight the scourge of drug trafficking effectively".

Addressing counter-narcotics through an inter-agency approach, the new ANF operational facilities in Gwadar, Hub and Dalbandin will enhance the larger inter-agency communication network between the ANF and other law enforcement agencies including the Frontier Corps, Pakistan Customs, Federal Investigation Agency and civil administration. The Police Station Gwadar includes offices, an operations room, an e-Learning training facility and living accommodation. Necessary power backup has been provided through installation of 6.5 KVA solar panels.

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