

All Parties Conference (APC)

On

‘Education for All in Pakistan’

FACT SHEET

1. Date: Tuesday; February 5, 2008

2. Venue: Serena Hotel, Islamabad

3. Organised By:

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization –
UNESCO

and

Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development And Transparency –
PILDAT

4. Background:

Basic education remains the fundamental instrument of poverty alleviation and development in any given society. Pakistan lags behind its regional compatriots as well as global partners in basic education indicators. There are some serious issues facing the Primary Education and literacy in Pakistan such as inadequate access, poor quality, gender disparity, inadequate financing of the education sector as well as existing parallel systems of education to name a few predicaments. Sustained political will and continuity of the right policies is required to resolve these issues.

At this time when Pakistan is poised to elect political leadership for the next five years or so, it is considered appropriate to raise these and other issues facing ‘Education For All’ efforts with the leadership of major political parties of Pakistan. It is in this context that Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development - PILDAT, and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Islamabad Office, have joined hands to organize an All Parties Conference (APC) on ‘Education For All (EFA)’.

5. Objectives:

The objective of the APC is to brief the political leadership of the country on the state of ‘Education For All’, facilitate a dialogue

and reach a broad consensus on national targets and the means to achieve them in these key sectors.

6. **Expected Outcome:**

A **Joint Declaration** indicating agreement on Objectives and Targets relating to 'Education For All' is expected to be signed by the Political Parties and issued at the end of the Conference.

7. **Invited Political Parties:**

18 political parties of Pakistan which were represented in the immediately past National and one of the Provincial Assemblies have been invited to the APC. The list of the parties is attached.

8. **Background Papers:**

Two Background Papers on 'Education For All in Pakistan: Key Issues' are under preparation; one for the political leadership and the other for the media. These papers will be available shortly and will be shared with the political parties and the media in advance

List of Political Parties invited

- 1. Awami National Party (ANP)**
- 2. Balochistan National Party-Awami (BNP-A)**
- 3. Balochistan National Party-Mengal (BNP-M)**
- 4. Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan (JIP)**
- 5. Jamhoori Watan Party (JWP)**
- 6. Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-F (JUI-F)**
- 7. Jamiat Ulema-i-Pakistan-Noorani (JUP-N)**
- 8. Markazi Jamiat-e-Ahla Hadees (M-JAH)**
- 9. Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM)**
- 10. National Party (NP)**
- 11. National Party-Awami (NP-A)**
- 12. Pakhtoonkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP)**
- 13. Pakistan Muslim League-(Functional)**
- 14. Pakistan Muslim League-(PML-Nawaz)**
- 15. Pakistan Muslim League-(PML-Q)**
- 16. Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP)**
- 17. Pakistan Peoples Party-Sherpao (PPP-S)**
- 18. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)**