



# MEDIA RELEASE

ATTENTION: NEWS EDITOR

9 December 2006

## UNDP study highlights endorsing Anti-corruption Convention would raise the image of Bangladesh

### Two-year long Integrity and Anti-corruption Advocacy Campaign launched

**Dhaka:** A six month long study among various Bangladeshi target audiences conducted by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) highlighted that endorsing the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) would accelerate Bangladesh's fight against corruption. Already 148 countries have endorsed the Convention since 2003 including all South Asian nations except Bangladesh and Maldives.

The study, which is the backbone of the two-year long "*Integrity and Anti-corruption Advocacy Campaign*" included politicians, public servants, business community, opinion leaders, mass media, donors and youth as target audiences. The campaign is funded by the Government of Denmark.

"Bangladesh has lots of potential to accelerate its move towards development and to strengthen this move, we will advocate for endorsing the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) through this campaign," UNDP Country Director, Manoj Basnyat said.

The UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) mainly highlights the prevention of corruption, international cooperation, criminalization of a wide range of acts of corruption, asset recovery and an implementation mechanism to facilitate activities like training and technical assistance and economic development.

The "*Integrity and Anti-corruption Advocacy Campaign*" is focused on changing the mindset of individuals by raising integrity as a means of nurturing good governance and it will advocate for Members of Parliament, public servants and other citizens of Bangladesh to voice their opinion and put forward doable actions to make a difference and add value in reducing corruption.

**ENDS**

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## **Note to Editor**

### **Highlights from the study**

#### **Election finance campaign**

- Educate people on the value of voting
- MP and public servants should make periodic statements about their assets and liabilities
- Competing with money for election nomination is the start of corruption

#### **Changes in the administrative setup**

- Removal of political influence on public servants
- Public servants can only sit for parliament after 5 years of retirement
- E-governance
- Promote citizens charters
- Promote codes of conduct

#### **Changes in the mindset of individuals and groups**

- Compliance to law
- Education system should emphasize the development of certain values
- Promote real storylines of people with integrity

#### **Strengthen Institutions**

- Through working with ACC
- Parliament committee
- Election Commission

#### **Legislation**

- Signing and acceding UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)
- Official Secrecy Act
- Right to Know Act/Freedom of Information Act
- Separation of Judiciary from Legislation