



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Finance
Office of the Deputy Minister for Policy

Heads of Agencies Meeting

Ministry of Finance, Khyber Hall
Tuesday, February 21, 2016

H.E. Nasrin Oryakil, Minister of Labour briefed the participants on the National Priority Program, Women Economic Empowerment Program, which will be formally launched on 8 March, 2017. Her slide presentation is attached.

Concerns/questions raised by the participants included:

- Whether the “missing parts” of legislation such as rules against early child marriage will be addressed as the part of the woman empowerment NPPs (Canada);
- Identifying clearly how this NPP contribute to the SDGs nationalization program being developed by the Ministry of Economy (EU);
- Include a plan for national awareness campaign that targets men as much as women
- Address issues of different actions at national, provincial, district and village administrative levels (Germany)
- Identify which are the start-up provinces (Germany).

The Minister of Labour noted that the anti-harassment laws, regulations banning violence against women, prohibitions against child marriage, and equal access for business certificates for women already exist on paper, but their implementation still needs a great deal of improvement.

Deputy Minister Habibi noted that through the Council, there will be a window that allows international partners to become part of the program’s implementation.

The second substantive agenda item reviewed progress towards achieving the SMAF benchmarks.