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PRESS RELEASE

Contraceptive Technology Update In Kazakhstan Evidence-Based Expert Meeting

Almaty, June 9, 2008 - The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and its implementing partners - the USAID Europe and Eurasia Regional Activity Program and the USAID ZdravPlus Project in collaboration with the Scientific Center of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Perinatology in Almaty (MCH Center) are holding a meeting "Contraceptive Technology: Evidence-Based Facts."

Key health care providers, medical professors and faculty, family planning trainers, and other stakeholders are gathering to obtain the latest evidence-based recommendations on the safe and effective use of modern contraceptive methods. Experts in the field of contraceptive technology—including the first author of the World Health Organization's and Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs' book, *Family Planning: A Global Handbook for Providers*, and the deputy medical director of an internationally recognized contraceptive service provision research organization, Family Health International—will present the latest scientific evidence on modern contraceptive use. This meeting is one of the next steps in helping improve the quality of family planning services offered to women and men throughout Kazakhstan.

The Contraceptive Technology Update Meeting supported by USAID will assist the MOH of Kazakhstan and the MCH Center to increase the theoretical knowledge and clinical skills of providers regarding modern contraceptive methods, so that they can safely provide a wide array of methods to couples to plan for healthy families.

The Europe and Eurasia Regional Family Planning Activity, funded by the USAID Europe and Eurasia Regional Bureau is a regional effort to enhance and complement family planning programs and create supportive policy environment for acceleration of existing and new family planning programs. The Activity is implemented by John Snow, Inc. and the Private Sector-One Partnership project. Website: www.jsi.com

The ZdravPlus Project is one of the many assistance projects made possible by the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Since 1992, the American people through USAID have provided more than \$500 million in programs that support Kazakhstan's democratic institutions, social sector, and economic growth. The project is implemented by Abt Associates, Inc. Website: www.abtassociates.com;

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