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Urgent:

Date: 5 June 2003

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Subject: Regional UNFPA HIV/AIDS Workshop 25-29 August 2003 - Advance Information

Total Pages:

Dear Colleagues,

UNFPA HIV/AIDS Branch in collaboration with APD and CST Kathmandu is organising a Regional HIV/AIDS Workshop for UNFPA country offices in South and West Asia to strengthen our organisational response to HIV/AIDS prevention programming at Kathmandu between 25-30 August 2003. The workshop proposes to discuss UNFPA's Global Strategic Directions on HIV/AIDS, its regional context and relevance, what UNFPA is supporting on HIV/AIDS in each country in SAWA, the constraints and limitations in programming HIV prevention; steps to position UNFPA in programming the funds from the GFATM or supporting countries to access these and other sources of funds, lessons learnt/shared on ways to improve programming and implementation. The recommendations of the recent UNFPA thematic evaluation on HIV/AIDS clearly point to the need for us to be more strategic and effective at country level and more visible in our programming efforts.

**FAXED**

This memo is just to provide advance information to our colleagues on the dates of the workshop to facilitate blocking your time and for nominations. Each SAWA country [ Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal, SriLanka, Iran ] is proposed to be represented as a team of three persons- UNFPA Representative, HIV/AIDS focal point from the country office and an appropriate counterpart from the government [as you feel appropriate]. For Afghanistan, Maldives and Bhutan two participants each are envisaged. We will be sharing with you the draft agenda and logistics and other details. Meanwhile we would like to suggest that each field office team may like to prepare a draft operational plan on what they have programmed or propose to programme in the current/forthcoming cycle on HIV/AIDS for discussion at the workshop.

We request your confirmation of receipt of this mail and names of the country team participants at your earliest convenience. We also welcome your suggestions and inputs for the proposed workshop.

Best regards.