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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **MOWA COMPLETES PLANNING FOR WOMEN IN 24 MINISTRIES**

*The Ministry of Women's Affairs has completed the planning workshops for women in 24 ministries. These workshops developed the action plans for women of each ministry which will then be compiled and included in the National Action Plan for the Women of Afghanistan (NAPWA).*

**Kabul, September 28, 2005** – The Ministry of Women's Affairs (MOWA) finished today the 24<sup>th</sup> ministry level workshop which was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The only remaining ministries are the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Ministry of Counter Narcotics, which are both expected to hold their respective planning workshop in the first week of October.

MOWA is developing a National Plan of Action for the Women of Afghanistan with the support of UNIFEM. The process started in March 2005, following the recommendations of the Afghan delegation to the CSW 49: Beijing Plus Ten. NAPWA is a ten-year plan of the government which aims to promote the advancement of women in an organized, systematic and sustainable manner.

Once the ministry plans are completed, consultations will be conducted with donors, NGOs and other stakeholders to solicit their views and inputs to the plans. Sectoral consultations will also be conducted in priority areas of the Beijing Platform for Action to develop inter-ministerial action plans, particularly with respect to: women and poverty, women in education and training, violence against women, women and human rights, women and health, women and politics and decision making.

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