

## Pakistan Delegation Study Visit to BKKBN

Indonesia is considered a country that successfully implement family planning. One of the significant factors contributing the successful of family planning is the role of religious leaders, particularly muslims and their institutions. Muslims who count the biggest number of Indonesian population, about 87 percents, plays big role in family planning program through giving positive opinion, fatwa, IEC, and services to community. Using the language of religion, Indonesia is able to transform the value from big to small family norm and introduce modern contraceptives to regulate fertility. Even though thye majority of Indonesian population are Muslims and Muslims play big role in the development, but Indonesia does not put Islam as the state constitutions. This Indonesian experience become a magnet of developing countries particularly who have big number of Muslims such as Pakistan to observe directly to the development of family planning.

The delegation of Pakistan consists of six officials spent two days , 26-27 February 2009 in Jakarta to study family planning program particularly the role of Islam . There are Nayyar Agha ( Secretary ministry of Population Welfare, Saleem Khan ( Ministry for Population welfare North west Frontier province), Moulana Assad Ubaid ( religious scholar of Lahore), Allama Al Ahmad ( religious scholar Kaothir), Aminah Khan ( Senior Manager Operations Green star social marketing),and Shereen Sukhan ( District Population welfare officer Rawalpindi). To have the general idea on how BKKBN invigorating muslim leaders and institutions, the delegation had courtesy call to the chairperson of BKKBN, Dr.Sugiri Syarief,MPA, briefed on the family planning program by the head of Center of International Training and Collaboration, Drs.Eddy Hasmi,M.Sc., had dialogues with representatives from Indonesia Council of Ulama, Drs.Kholil Nafis,from Nahdhatul Ulama, KH.Abdullah Hasyim, and visited Director General of Health Community, Indonesia Planned Parenthood Association (PKBI), Jakarta Islamic Hospital (RSIJ), and Bappenas. During courtesy call, the chairperson of BKKBN said that family planning does not limit but regulate the fertility. Now BKKBN is being revitalizing family planning program to make it fashionable for everyone. From the visit, the delegation admire to the direct involvement of Ulama to family planning program.

Religious leaders can translate Al-Quran to solve the modern community such as population problems. Muslim leaders not only go to the mosques but directly get involved in the society to share idea, guide, serve, and serve community to fulfill the need.

Jakarta, 2 March 2009.