

Good Life TB DOT project appreciated by WHO

Dr knut Lonnroth of " Stop TB Department at WHO Head office in Geneva has not only encouraged but also appreciated the efforts and achievements of Greenstar- Good Life TB project Phase I" and recognized it as the Pakistan fastest private Health sector, making progress in just one and half year of actual implementation of TB project in the field , 2006.

The main objective of the Nation TB control Programme is to reduce the morbidity and mortality on account of tuberculosis by expanding the TB-DOTS strategy through the private sector and involvement of communities.

Good Life TB DOT project is implemented by Greenstar Social Marketing Pakistan in partnership with NTP and Ministry of Health (MOH) through a franchised network of private practitioners.

The Pilot Intervention encompasses training of private providers, recruitment and training of field staff and treatment of



supporters, development and implementation of targeted BCC strategy and DOTS through social franchising and referral networking and monitoring and evaluation of the strategy and effectiveness.

Piloting of this intervention was carried out initially in two cities and subsequently increased to five due to the unbelievable achievements.

Dr. Abdul Khaliq Ghauri informed that almost 17992 cases were registered -90% of the cumulative target for this period; more than 62% (11182) are New Sputum Smear Positive cases- the target was 45% of the total registered cases, 933 Clinics have been franchised in 5 cities, 987 private practitioners have been trained on TB DOTS, around 18,00 non prescribing service delivers including Treatment

Supporters, volunteers, paramedics and project staff were trained in suspect identification , case referrals/ case holding /treatment compliance follow up, contact screening , IPC and other community mobilization activities etc, while total target was 1,000, so far 5224 patients have successfully completed their treatment with more than 86% Treatment Success Rate; including 4354 New Sputum Positive Cases with more than 87% Treatment Success Rate.

The potential and effectiveness of the project interventions have also been duly endorsed by the External Review Mission comprised of national & international evaluators including the consultants.

After complete success of TB project Phase I Global fund has not only appreciated the efforts of Greenstar Social Marketing Pakistan but also signed Phase II for the TB project worth \$2.1m. The project will come to end in December 2008.-PR