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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Contraceptive Technology: Evidence-Based Facts**

**Bishkek, June 5, 2008** - Key health care providers, medical professors and faculty, family planning trainers, and other stakeholders met in Bishkek on June 5 to learn the latest recommendations on the use of modern contraceptive methods. A seminar, *Contraceptive Technology: Evidence-Base Facts*, was organized by the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), its ZdravPlus Project and Europe and Eurasia Regional Family Planning project, as well as UNFPA.

This meeting is one of the first steps in helping improve the quality of family planning services for women and men throughout Kyrgyzstan. Experts in the field of contraceptive technology presented the latest scientific evidence on safe and effective modern contraceptive use. Among the presenters were Emory University professor and the author of the *Contraceptive Technology* textbook, the author of the book *Family Planning: A Global Handbook for Providers*, issued by the World Health Organization and Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs, and the Deputy Director of Family Health International, an internationally-recognized contraceptive service provision research organization.

The USAID-supported Europe and Eurasia Regional Family Planning project, led by John Snow, Inc aims to improve the provision of modern contraceptive services. The project will assist the Kyrgyz Ministry of Health to increase the theoretical knowledge and clinical skills of providers regarding modern contraceptive methods, so that medical professionals can counsel couples and safely provide advice on available family planning methods.

The USAID-supported Europe and Eurasia Regional Family Planning project works to enhance family planning programs and create supportive policy environment for them.

This project is one of many assistance projects implemented in the Kyrgyz Republic by USAID on behalf of the American people. Since 1993 the American people through USAID have provided about \$400 million in assistance programs that support economic growth, democratic institutions, health care, and education systems in Kyrgyzstan.