

Media Release

Four bilateral donors sign MOU with TIB

Dhaka, Sunday, 5 April, 2009. Four leading bilateral development organizations – DFID of the UK, SIDA of Sweden, SDC of Switzerland and the Danish Embassy today signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) to support TIB's new initiative titled *Paribartan – Driving Change*.

Consistent with the PRSP, and implemented with the approval of the Government of Bangladesh, the goal of the project is to achieve positive changes in policies and practices conducive to accountable



and transparent governance in Bangladesh. The specific objectives include strengthening the National Integrity System, reducing costs of corruption and improving citizens' access to entitlements through a strengthened and sustained social movement against corruption. Working through an intensified national level advocacy and an up-scaled local level citizens'

engagement the project will strive to achieve better enforcement of policies, laws and rules at both national and local level.

The total budget of the project is \$19.6 million (Taka 135 crores) which will cover programmatic and operational expenses of TIB and its 45 local offices all over the country called Committee of Concerned Citizens for five years from April 2009-March 2014.

The MoU was signed by Mr. Chris Austin Country, Representative of DFID; Ms. Britt F Hagström, the Swedish Ambassador; Ms. Dora Rapold, the Swiss Ambassador; Mr. Einar Hebogaard Jensen, the Danish Ambassador; and Dr. Iftekharuzzaman, Executive Director of TIB. Prof Muzafer Ahmad, Chairman, Board of Trustees of TIB, and two other Trustees Prof Khan Sarwar Murshid and Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed were present. Other senior officials of TIB and donor organizations were also present.

The representatives of donors reaffirmed their continued commitment to support the anti-corruption movement in Bangladesh through TIB. Chairman of TIB, other board members and Executive Director thanked the donors for their valuable contribution towards strengthening of the anti-corruption social movement in Bangladesh.

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