

Ms. Anupama Rao Singh
Regional Director, UNICEF East Asia and Pacific



Ms. Singh assumed her position as UNICEF Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific on 1 November 2004.

Prior to her appointment, Ms. Singh served as Deputy Director, Programme Division, UNICEF Headquarters in New York, a position she held from January 2001. In this capacity she was responsible for the oversight of UNICEF's engagement in and contribution to the UN reform and the global strategic programme support to regional and country offices. In addition, Ms. Singh has undertaken a number of special assignments for the UN system, including the co-ordination of the needs assessment for reconstruction in Iraq and Deputy Humanitarian Co-ordinator *ad interim* for the Darfur crisis in Sudan.

Ms. Singh joined UNICEF in November 1980 as an Assistant Programme Officer in New Delhi, India, where she provided technical support in planning, development and monitoring of UNICEF-assisted programmes on programme communication and child protection to both governmental and non-governmental organizations. In December 1985, she transferred to the Jaipur Office as Programme Officer where she was responsible for advocacy, overall planning, management, and execution of UNICEF's programmes of cooperation for the State of Rajasthan.

In May, 1993, Ms. Singh transferred to Khartoum, Sudan, as Chief of Planning. In this role, she was accountable for technical assistance in the preparation and review of the Government of Sudan – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, as well as for project formulation, planning, allocation, monitoring of utilization and reporting of programme funds.

In April 1996, Ms. Singh was appointed as Senior Project Officer (Education) in Kampala, Uganda, where she was in charge of the development, designing, planning, implementation and management of the Basic Education, Child Care and Adolescent Development (BECCAD) programme, within the Uganda country programme. She contributed significantly to the reinforcement of programmes for vulnerable children and rights-based programming. In addition, she was the driving force behind the finalization of the Children's Statute in Uganda, one of the most comprehensive pieces of legislation for children in Africa.

In January 1999, Ms. Singh was appointed UNICEF Representative in Iraq. In this capacity, she was responsible for advocacy on children's issues and the overall planning, co-ordination and implementation of the UNICEF programmes to improve the lives of women and children Iraq. Her advocacy work on the situation of children and women in Iraq deserves special mention. She held this position until her assignment in New York Headquarters.

Ms. Singh is a national of India. She attended the Lady Irwin College in New Delhi, India, where she obtained her Bachelor's degree in Home Economics in 1970. She also obtained a Bachelor's degree in Education in 1971 and a Master's degree in Child Development in 1973 with academic distinction.