



UNITED NATIONS SPORT BULLETIN



Updates on UN sport-related initiatives supporting the MDGs and activities for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 (IYSPE 2005)

Number 8, 27 September 2005 / www.un.org/sport2005

UN World Summit underlines role of sport in peace and development -- The Summit's final document, endorsed by more than 170 Heads of States and Government meeting at the UN in New York on 14-16 September, also encourages consideration of a Sport and Development Plan of Action. "It is significant that during IYSPE 2005 world leaders gave a strong endorsement of sport's contribution to the international development agenda and peace-building," said Adolf Ogi, the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace. "We look forward to discussions in the General Assembly on proposals for a Sport and Development Plan of Action." Contact Richard Leonard: richard.leonard@undp.org

Top-ranked tennis star Roger Federer supports IYSPE 2005 -- Roger Federer, Spokesperson for IYSPE 2005, reviewed commemoration of the Year with UN Special Adviser Adolf Ogi at the UN Office at Geneva on 21 September. "The objective of the Year is clear," said Mr. Ogi. "Sport can help us achieve the MDGs... The power of sport for development and peace must be recognized." Mr. Federer and Mr. Ogi also viewed a photo exhibit for the IYSPE 2005 at the UN's Palais des Nations and recorded announcements in support of the upcoming UN 60th Anniversary Concert "Youssou N'Dour & Friends: United Against Malaria." Underlining the link between sport and health, Mr. Federer joined former US President Bill Clinton in supporting the World Heart Federation's World Heart Day (25 September) campaign for "healthy weight and healthy shape, beginning in childhood." Contact Michael Kleiner: mkleiner@unog.ch

French sports stars help UNESCO mark 40th International Literacy Day in Madagascar -- Supporting UNESCO's "Hope and Solidarity through Ballgames" program, soccer champion Emmanuel Petit, track and field champion Stephane Diagana, and rugby champion Laurent Cabannes participated in sports activities in poor communities on 8 September and helped raise awareness about the importance of reading and writing skills. They also visited training centers that promote basic education for all established by a joint Government – UN program. The centers use intensive teaching methods to enable children and adults to learn to read in only one month. The athletes also distributed IYSPE 2005 balls to children. Contact Marie José Lallart: MJ.Lallart@unesco.org

Polish Olympic champion promotes local sports activities -- Robert Korzeniowski, four-time Olympic race walking champion and the president of the Polish National Committee for IYSPE 2005, participated in the first nationwide Athletics Meeting organized in Miekisz Stary on 6 September. Local authorities and community organizations were among the organizers, and members of the Students Korzeniowski Sport Club competed in running and race walking. The Olympic champion congratulated local participants on their practical steps to bring sports to the community: "Very recently there was no sport here, and then you established the club, built the track, and set up a race walk route." Contact Wojciech Lewandowski: lewandowski@sobermind.org

UNEP signs Green Goal pact for eco-friendly 2006 FIFA World Cup -- Through the agreement signed with the World Cup organizers and the German Government on 6 September, UNEP will provide support to help integrate environmental considerations and projects with preparations for the football tournament and the event itself. "This is the first time that the world's leading sports event – the FIFA World Cup – has incorporated environmental considerations in the preparation and staging of its games," said UNEP Executive Director Klaus Toepfer. "There is an increasing realization by organizers of major sports events that they must seriously integrate the impact of their events on the environment." Contact Nick Nutall: nick.nutall@unep.org, and visit www.unep.org/sport_env/

UNICEF supports summer camps for landmine survivors in Azerbaijan: Two week-long camps held in Goranboy in July and September brought recreational and play activities to some 120 boys and girls who are landmine survivors or from mine-survivor families. UNICEF Representative Hanaa Singer reports that the camps aimed to provide opportunities for the

children “to play, to have fun, to express themselves, their fears, hopes, and dreams in a supportive and safe environment and thus heal some of their psychological wounds.” Contact Ayna Mollazade: amollazade@unicef.org

UN-HABITAT helps Kibera Soccer Dreams get underway in Nairobi, Kenya – To foster development and peace for youth in Nairobi’s impoverished Kibera Settlement the initiative has formed two boys teams and one girls team, with used equipment donated from the Calgary, Canada soccer community. The program is a result of collaboration between Kibera Settlement Executive Committee, the Real Soweto United Soccer Club, the Kenya Slum Upgrading Program of UN-HABITAT, the Calgary Blizzard Soccer Club, Soccer Dreams, and other youth and development organizations. Contact Juma Assiago: juma.assiago@unhabitat.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Conference on Sport and Peace -- The main theme of the IYSPE 2005 event in Moscow, Russia, 2-5 October, hosted by the Federal Agency for Physical Culture and Sport, is sport’s role in strengthening of mutual understanding between peoples. Participants will include members of the Russian Federation Government and Moscow Government, sports men and women, Olympic champions, and sport researchers. Visit www.rossport.ru

International Conference on Sport and Education – Thailand’s Ministry of Tourism and Sport is hosting this event for IYSPE 2005 in Bangkok on 30 October – 2 November. It will examine sport and physical education in schools, including examples of reforms in Thailand and Zambia; sport’s contributions to education vice versa; the cultural role of sport in education, elite athletes contributing to education, and the educational role of sport journalists. Visit www.sportsandedu.com

International Summit: Effecting Social Change Through Women’s Leadership in Sport – Topics for the summit for IYSPE 2005 in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, on 20-22 October include women’s leadership perspective on fostering socio-economic improvement, Middle Eastern approach and programs, El Salvador’s national development model, media’s role in shaping perception of women, facilitating women’s entry to leadership positions, and sport and social change in Africa. Kennesaw State University’s WellStar College of Health and Human Services hosts the event in association with the US Olympic Committee, and the International Labour Organization/Universitas. Visit www.kennesaw.edu/sport2005

Governance in Sport: 4th International Communication World Conference on Sport and Society – Play the Game hosts the conference in Copenhagen, 6-10 November, with the theme “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly,” looking at issues such as doping, corruption, economic exploitation, and political use and abuse of sport, as well as positive stories about the role of sport in culture, health and development. Visit www.playthegame.org

International Conference on Sport and Urban Development – The municipality of Rotterdam is hosting the conference on 9-11 November and among its themes are: the impact of major sports events on cities, sport and social cohesion, education through sport, sport and urban planning, and sport in deprived and regenerated areas. www.sportconference.nl

6th World Conference on Sport and Environment – Organized by the International Olympic Committee in cooperation with the UN Environment Programme in Nairobi, Kenya, 9-11 November, the event will explicitly link environmental sustainability and peace, and the role that sport can play in promoting the two necessary conditions for sustainable development. Contact nairobiconference@olympic.org and visit http://multimedia.olympic.org/pdf/en_report_933.pdf

The United Nations Communications Group (UNCG) Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace includes participants from: FAO, ILO, UNAIDS, UN/DESA, UNDP, UN/DPI, UNESCO, UNEP, UNFIP, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UN Millennium Development Goals Campaign, UN Millennium Project, UNODC, UN Office for IYSPE 2005, UNOHR-LLS, UNOPS, UN Volunteers, WFP, WHO, and the World Bank. Contacts: Djibril Diallo, Director, UN New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace (djibril.diallo@undp.org); Richard Leonard, Bulletin Editor (richard.leonard@undp.org); Michael Kleiner, Head of the Office for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 (mkleiner@unog.ch). Visit IYSPE 2005 at www.un.org/sport2005