



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)

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UN calls for action plan on Sport for Development and Peace – The General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution on 3 November to build on the momentum generated by IYSPE 2005 by strengthening activities that use sport to promote development and peace. It requests the Secretary-General to elaborate an action plan to expand and strengthen partnerships with governments, sport-related organizations and the private sector; boost advocacy and communications; and distribute the Business Plan of the UNCG Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace. The measure also invites Member States and sports organizations to further promote sport and physical education to help achieve the MDGs, provide voluntary contributions for activities of the UN Office of Sport for Development and Peace, and help poor countries develop sports programs. Tunisia introduced the resolution and co-sponsors included the Group of Friends among UN missions, co-chaired by Switzerland and Tunisia and including Austria, Chile, Greece, Italy, Mali, Norway, the Russian Federation, Thailand, and the UK. Contact Richard Leonard: richard.leonard@undp.org or Michael Kleiner: mkleiner@unog.ch

General Assembly endorses Olympic Truce – The UN General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution at its 3 November meeting urging all countries to observe the Olympic Truce for the Olympic Winter Games in Turin, Italy in February 2006 and the Paralympic Winter Games in Turin in March. It calls on countries to use the truce to promote peace through sport-related development projects. Visit <http://www.un.org/sport2005/newsroom/gapressrelease.pdf>

UNESCO adopts International Convention against doping in sport – The Convention aims to harmonize anti-doping efforts worldwide and provide a legal framework for government actions to remove doping from sport, complementary to those by sports organizations. It was adopted unanimously by the UNESCO General Conference on 25 October. Contact Paul Marriott-Lloyd: p.marriott-lloyd@unesco.org

Bangkok conference highlights sport's contribution to education -- Thailand hosted the International Conference on Sport and Education for IYSPE 2005 in Bangkok from October 30 to November 2. It focused on sport and physical education, sport for education and education for sport, education and sport media, the cultural role of sport and education, and reform of sport and physical education in schools. Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra told participants that sport must be recognized as an integral part of quality education. Participants agreed on the Bangkok Agenda for Actions on Physical Education and Sport in School, which underlined the significance of sport in human and national development and the need to ensure sport facilities are available for all. Adolf Ogi, the Secretary General's Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace, visited the Tham Nin refugee camp after the event to see first hand the key role of sports activities organized by UNHCR and Right to Play for the 8,000 people there. Contact Michael Kleiner: mkleiner@unog.ch

Women's leadership in sport for social change spotlighted at Atlanta Summit – Women sport leaders from around the world participated in the International Summit: Effecting Social Change through Women's Leadership in Sport in Atlanta, Georgia on 20-22 October to reflect on how women's participation in sport can bolster development in communities, combat HIV/AIDS and extreme poverty, and help redress gender inequity. The event was held for IYSPE 2005 and hosted by Kennesaw State University in association with the US Olympic Committee and the International Labour Organization Universitas program. Contact Nadia Samadani: nadia.samadani@undp.org; visit www.kennesaw.edu/sport2005

Sports events in Argentina support campaigns against poverty and soccer violence – More than 2,500 participants ran a marathon in Buenos Aires organized by UNDP and the Israeli-Argentine Mutual Association to mark IYSPE 2005 and the

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on 17 October. UNDP also helped organize an exhibition match by the Bats, the national blind soccer team, to kick off a campaign against discrimination and violence in soccer during half time of a game between the River and Boca teams. Contact Pablo Basz: Pablo.basz@undp.org

Olympian targets hunger and poverty in El Salvador – Olympic target shooter Patricia Rivas, UN Ambassador for the MDGs in El Salvador, joined with youth from Social Watch to publicize the need for action against hunger and poverty at World Food Day ceremonies at the National Palace in San Salvador on 17 October. She and other athletes are working with UNDP and the El Salvador Olympic Committee to promote the MDGs. Contact Miguel Huevo: miguel.huevo@undp.org

England-Argentina soccer match commemorates IYSPE 2005 – More than 30,000 spectators watched the friendly contest in Geneva on 12 November, which reached television viewers in over 80 countries, making it the most widely watched soccer game of the year. UN Special Adviser Adolf Ogi called the match a key example of the potential of sport as a tool to peacefully expand cultural dialogue and foster reconciliation. Contact Michael Kleiner: mkleiner@unog.ch

More than 700 run for MDGs in Zambia – The 2nd annual event in Lusaka on 1 October aimed to create awareness about the MDGs and foster partnerships for their achievement. Participants wore different t-shirts for each Goal and chose between 12 km and 1 km races. Schools, NGOs and companies sponsored relay races for children. The UN joined with the Ministry of Sport and the Zambian Amateur Athletic Association to organize the event. Contact Veera Virmasalo: veera.virmasalo@undp.org

Austrian soccer players unite against poverty -- The Austrian first division football club Wacker Tirol held a match against the Sturm Graz team in Innsbruck Tivoli Stadium on 1 October to mark IYSPE 2005, raise awareness about the fight against poverty and support the MDGs. Some 500 refugees and migrants were invited, and spectators received a newspaper focusing on sport and development. Visit: www.vidc.org/fairplay/news/content.asp?news=0525

UPCOMING EVENTS

Soccer match to aid Pakistan earthquake and hurricane Katrina survivors – The UN Soccer Club is joining with the UN New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace and the UN Staff Relief Committee in organizing the benefit match on 19 November. To make donations and purchase tickets contact Nadia Samadani: nadia.samadani@undp.org

South American Street Football pre-Festival 05 – The event in Buenos Aires on 20-28 November brings together teams from across the continent; it will mark IYSPE 2005 and include a seminar on social transformation. The event is a milestone on the road to the Street Football World Festival in 2006. Contact Pablo Basz: pablo.basz@undp.org

2nd Magglingen Conference on Development Through Sport: Moving to the Next Stage – The culminating event of IYSPE 2005, the conference in Magglingen, Switzerland, on 4-6 December will take stock of achievements, share lessons learned on sport as a tool for achieving the MDGs, and define an agenda for further action. Visit www.magglingen2005.org

Sport a major theme at World Economic Forum 2006 – Professor Klaus Schwab, the Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum, has announced that Sport for Development will be an important theme of the forum in Davos, Switzerland, in January 2006. This will provide a platform to further mobilize support from the governments and the private sector, and help advance the agenda for action agreed on at the 2nd Magglingen Conference. Visit www.weforum.org

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