



## 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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**2<sup>nd</sup> World Summit on Physical Education pledges support for MDGs** – More than 150 decision-makers and researchers from 40 countries attended the Summit in Magglingen, Switzerland, on 2-3 December, to review the role of physical education in education and its potential for contributing to achievement of the MDGs and the objectives of IYSPE 2005. They agreed to support activities to improve physical education and gain wider recognition of its value for physical, personal and social development and public health. The International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education and the Swiss Federal Office of Sport were the lead organizers, and patrons included UNESCO, the IOC, and the General Association of International Sports Federations, with the support of WHO. Visit [www.icsspe.org](http://www.icsspe.org)

**European Parliament backs budget for sport and development** – A resolution adopted on 1 December calls on the European Commission to consider supporting sport-based development programs through a special budget; to study the results of projects of this sort, the potential of new policies and the role of the EU, member states and NGOs; and to create programs to assist physical education teachers in development through sport. It also urges member states to include sport and development in poverty reduction policies, calls on sports organizations to implement partnerships and projects to help achieve the MDGs, and endorses an Olympic Truce for the 2006 Turin Winter Olympics. Visit [www.euractiv.com/EN/sports](http://www.euractiv.com/EN/sports)

**Mozambique looks to sport to boost youth opportunities** – First Lady Mrs. Maria da Luz Guebuza pointed to sport's potential for fighting poverty by expanding opportunities for youth as she chaired the opening session of a National Workshop on sport for youth integration in Maputo on 23 November. Participants discussed sport as an engine of economic development and a way to steer youth away from risks such as HIV/AIDS. An example is the Olympiafrica Sports Center in Boane, where with help from the IOC, ILO, the Mozambican Olympic Committee and other partners, a cooperative trains women to manufacture school uniforms and 1,000 children receive sports training. The IOC also pays school fees for more than 600 school children. Contact Giovanni di Cola: [dicola@ilo.org](mailto:dicola@ilo.org) , or Mayisha Mangureira: [mayisha.mangureira@undp.org](mailto:mayisha.mangureira@undp.org)

**Pakistan Association for Women Sport marks IYSPE 2005** – The organization held a two-day seminar in collaboration with the Government College of Physical Education in Karachi on 8-9 December to highlight the importance of sport and physical education and their key role in promoting health, education, unity, peace and better understanding among people. The seminar aimed to raise awareness and generate support for including sport and physical education activities as a part of youth and women daily lives. Contact: [Pak\\_sport@yahoo.com](mailto:Pak_sport@yahoo.com)

**UN supports Beirut International Marathon and targets poverty** – The largest sporting event in the region, the marathon on 13 November had the theme “Run 4 Social Development” and attracted more than 17,000 runners from 71 countries. The event included a 10 km Run for Fun and a Mini-Marathon, and NGOs used the occasion to raise funds for development projects. The UN country team supported the marathon and UN Resident Coordinator Mona Hammam launched a Run Out Poverty initiative to raise funds for development in Akkar, a poor area in the north. UN Volunteers mobilized volunteers to assist the marathon and forged links with the Rome Marathon. Contact Filippo Busconi: [filippo.busconi@undp.org](mailto:filippo.busconi@undp.org)

**Athletes at Francophone Games learn about Sport for Development and Peace** – Two delegates from the Pan-African Youth Leadership Summit network spearheaded organization of a meeting on Sport as a Way to Promote Development and Peace for athletes at the 5<sup>th</sup> Jeux de la Francophonie in Niamey, Niger, on 6-11 December, which brought together 7,000 participants from around the world. Maman Ousmane and Salamatou Kountche attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pan-African Youth

Leadership Summit in Ifrane, Morocco, in August, and aided the International Network of Youth Volunteers of Côte d'Ivoire and the Niger Association for the Promotion of Youth with the event. Contact: Maman Ousmane: [oussou@cooperation.net](mailto:oussou@cooperation.net)

**Top soccer teams in Colombia say “No” to violence against women** – Teams from Barranquilla, Bogotá, Cali, and Cartagena supported White Ribbon Day, the International Day against Violence Against Women, celebrated this year on 25 November, by displaying placards in their stadiums for the campaign before their championship matches. Contact Ingrid Zamora: [ingrid.zamora@undp.org](mailto:ingrid.zamora@undp.org)

**Mali marks IYSPE 2005 with races and other activities** – The Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Education joined the national Olympic Committee, the Malian Athletics Federation, UN agencies, and civil society groups in organizing a 10 km race with 56 high-level runners in Bamako on 27 November. The organizers also held a 4 km race for youth, women and seniors. The National Committee for IYSPE 2005 also held a televised discussion and distributed print materials to raise awareness about sport's contribution to development. Contact: Mahamadou Coulibaly: [mahamadou.coulibaly@undp.org](mailto:mahamadou.coulibaly@undp.org)

**Northeastern University launches Athletes for Human Rights initiative** – The initiative by the Boston, USA, university's Center for the Study of Sport and Society will carry out research, education and advocacy on human rights in and through sport, focusing on the role of athletes and sport to impact social change locally, nationally and globally. It will be a vehicle for empowering, valuing and respecting the role of athletes in the promotion of human rights and social change, said Peter Roby, the center's director. Contact Jarrod Chin: [j.chin@ney.edu](mailto:j.chin@ney.edu); visit [www.sportinsociety.org](http://www.sportinsociety.org)

**Salvadoran Olympians promote MDGs at youth camp** – Three Olympic athletes discussed the importance of attaining the MDGs with more than 200 teens at the Youth Camp of the Chalatenango Refuge Recreation Center in the northern mountains on 23 November. They included Patricia Rivas, medalist in target shooting; Cristóbal Melos, an archer; and Juan Salmerón, who gave a demonstration of karate-do. The event was part of a joint program by the UN, the Salvadoran Olympic Committee and the Ministry of Education to raise awareness about the MDGs. Contact Miguel Huezco: [miguel.huezco@undp.org](mailto:miguel.huezco@undp.org)

**Ride for Peace in northern Ghana** – Fifty-five bicyclists rode in the 15 km race on 1 December from Adibo to Yendi, the traditional capital of the Dagbon kingdom, organized by the Foundation for Security and Development in Africa (Fosda), with assistance from UNICEF and Coca-Cola. The ride aimed to promote dialogue among youth from different backgrounds on the challenges of development and security in an area of unrest. Contact: Napoleon Abdulai: [napoleon.abdulai@undp.org](mailto:napoleon.abdulai@undp.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**International Conference in on Sport and Development in South Africa** – The event at the University of the Western Cape on 10-13 April grows out of Dynamics of Building a Better Society, a joint program with the Flemish Inter-University Council of Belgium, and will focus on “Unlocking the Potential of Sport for Youth Wellness and Development,” including HIV/AIDS prevention. Other organizers include the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and Ghent University. The conference follows up on a UNICEF workshop on monitoring and evaluation of sport-based programs. Visit [www.uct-cmc.co.za](http://www.uct-cmc.co.za)

**Cuba hosts 2<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Physical Education** – The event in Havana on 11-13 April has the theme “Physical Activity, Nutrition and Health”. Organizers include the Pan-American Health Organization, the Caribbean Community (CAICOM), INDER Cuba, and among the sponsors are: Cubadeportes S.A., UNICEF and FAO. Contact Dr. Gladys Bequer Días: [convencion@inder.co.cu](mailto:convencion@inder.co.cu)

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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](mailto:djibril.diallo@undp.org)); Richard Leonard, Bulletin Editor ([richard.leonard@undp.org](mailto:richard.leonard@undp.org)); Michael Kleiner, Head of the Office for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 ([mkleiner@unog.ch](mailto:mkleiner@unog.ch)). Visit IYSPE 2005 at [www.un.org/sport2005](http://www.un.org/sport2005)