



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)

Published by the UN New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace on behalf of the United Nations Communications Group (UNCG) Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace

Number 6, 27 July 2005 / www.un.org/sport2005

Basketball without Borders' HIV/AIDS outreach in Argentina with UNICEF -- The initiative on 30 June – 4 July by the US National Basketball Association and the International Federation of Basketball Associations included a youth camp with NBA players and coaches, launch of a Reading and Learning Center, a Basketball and Books Clinic, and two hospital visits to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. Camp participants attended daily life skills seminars led by UNICEF with a focus on HIV/AIDS education and awareness led by UNICEF. A number of NBA stars participated, including UNDP Goodwill Ambassador Dikembe Mutombo and Argentines Emanuel Ginóbili, Carlos Delfino and Andres Nocini. Visit www.nba.com/bwb/americas2005_report ; contact Mark Connolly: mconnolly@unicef.org

UNDP Goodwill Ambassadors Ronaldo and Zidane donate funds for Haiti -- Soccer stars Ronaldo de Lima and Zinedine Zidane partnered with UNDP to organize an exhibition match in Madrid last December that raised funds for humanitarian projects, and \$120,000 will go for education, health care and sanitation in Cité Soleil, an impoverished seaside district of Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince. Contact Aziyadé Poltier-Mutal: aziyade.poltier@undp.org

Sport for Development Toolkit available online -- The toolkit, launched at the second Next Step conference in Livingstone, Zambia on 10-13 June, highlights practical, cost-effective ways to use sport in development programmes and includes a large collection of background material. Support came from the Netherlands National Commission for International Cooperation and Sustainable Development; the Netherlands Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport; and the Netherlands National Olympic Committee and Sport Confederation. Visit www.toolkitsportdevelopment.org

Homeless World Cup 2005 boosts social inclusion -- Homeless people from 27 countries participated in the street football competition in Edinburgh, Scotland, on 20-24 July, with the Italian team winning the trophy. The International Network of Street Papers organized the event with the Union of European Football Associations and the UN Fund for International Partnerships. Sponsors included Nike and other private sector partners. The Cup “offers a new frame for the empowerment of young adults on the edge of society,” said Adolf Ogi, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General for Sport for Development and Peace. Sadly, five African teams (Burundi, Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria and Zambia) were unable to participate due to visa difficulties. Visit www.streetsoccer.org

Cricket World Cup 2007 mascot wears HIV/AIDS campaign ribbon -- The International Cricket Council (ICC) Cricket World Cup West Indies 2007 logo and Mello, the mascot, were unveiled at a launch this month in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. Mello, a friendly character with a big smile, wears the red HIV/AIDS awareness ribbon, showing support for the global ICC/UNAIDS initiative on HIV/AIDS. Since 2003, the ICC and UNAIDS have joined in a number of activities to help increase the level of understanding and awareness about the deadly pandemic. Visit www.icc-cricket.com/un aids/

UNDP joins with El Salvador Olympic Committee and sport stars to advance MDGs -- Vice President Ana Vilma de Escobar helped launch the initiative last month to promote participation in sport and physical education and raise public awareness about the MDGs, particularly links between sport, health and education, and promote progress towards the MDGs. The partners will use sport to draw youth away from violence and self-destructive activities, build self-esteem and community spirit, and bridge social, religious and cultural divides. Five members of the national Olympic team are serving as Sports Ambassadors for the MDGs to support the initiative. Contact Miguel Huezo: miguel.huezo@undp.org

Secretary-General salutes Beijing 2008 Olympics Volunteers -- “Volunteers have become as indispensable to the Olympics as they have long been to the United Nations,” said UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in a greeting sent to the launch of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Volunteer Programme on 5 June. The Programme plans for 100,000 volunteers for the Games and 30,000 volunteers for the Paralympics. At the launch, UN Volunteers Executive Coordinator Ad de Raad linked the spirit of the Olympics to that of volunteerism. Contact Edward Mishaud: edward.mishaud@unvolunteers.org

Mozambique seminar marks National Day for Sports and Physical Education -- Organized by the Ministry of Youth and Sports in collaboration with the National Olympic Committee and the UN country team, the seminar in Maputo on 9 June included participants from government, civil society – including the private sector – and the international community. Working groups examined ways to use sport to promote community development; the fight against HIV/AIDS; improved health; gender equality; and education, culture and peace. First Lady Maria da Luz Guebuza, National Ambassador for the initiative, opened the seminar. Contact Elsa Noura: elsa.noura@undp.org

Kuwait commemorates IYSPE 2005 -- The Directorate of Physical Education in cooperation with the Kuwait National Commission for UNESCO has held several activities to mark IYSPE 2005, including a Sport and Health festival for students and teachers, a 5 km marathon for people with disabilities organized by the School of Special Needs, a seminar on Physical Education and the Challenges of the Century, and a field study to assess fitness among youth and teachers. Contact Abdulaziz Al-Jarallah: knc@kwnatcom.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pan-African Youth Leadership Summit II to highlight Sport for Development and Peace -- Young delegates from more than 50 countries will gather at Al Akhawayn University, Ifrane, Morocco on 18-23 August to discuss action to spur progress toward the MDGs, including using sport as an entry point. The event will be hosted by the Kingdom of Morocco and is organized by the UN New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace in partnership with UNDP and the Global Peace Initiative of Women. Contact Karima Zerrou: karima.zerrou@undp.org

International Paralympic Day -- The International Paralympic Committee marks IPD on 27 August in Bonn, Germany, under the theme “World-Class in Bonn” will showcase Paralympic sports, offer opportunities to meet the athletes, as well as see how sport unites people and what opportunities exist for people with a disability. The German Federal Ministry of Interior is providing support, as is Visa International, the first sponsor of IPD 2005. Visit www.paralympic.org

Iran to host Fourth Women’s Islamic Games --The Islamic Federation of Women’s Sport will hold the games on 22-28 September in Tehran and have endorsed IYSPE 2005. So far 27 countries have confirmed participation, and the athletes will compete in archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, futsal, golf, gymnastics, judo, karate, shooting, squash, swimming, taekwondo, table tennis, tennis and volleyball. With the games, the federation is organizing an Athletics Congress to discuss sport and issues such as peace, human rights, tourism, marketing, sociology, and media reporting on women’s sports. Contact Sunil Narula: snarula@unic.org.ir

Vienna-Budapest Supermarathon endorses IYSPE 2005 – Organizers of the 16th edition of the 352 km event between the two capitals on 19-23 October announced their endorsement last month at a panel discussion sponsored by the UN Information Service Vienna. Along the run for top athletes and teams, there are events for people of all ages and levels, as well as cyclists and roller skaters, to encourage healthy lifestyles. Visit www.szupermarathon.hu

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