

INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY AT THE UN

21 FEBRUARY 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

International Mother Language Day was proclaimed by UNESCO's General Conference in November 1999. The International Day has been observed every year since February 2000 to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.

MORE INFO

Learn more about International Mother Language Day:
bit.ly/UNIMLD

Visit UNESCO's webpage about International Mother Language Day:
bit.ly/UNESCOIMLD

UNHQ

20 Feb.

Launch of a staff survey on multilingualism and language skills

Survey aimed at better capturing the UN Secretariat staff's language diversity, its perceptions about multilingualism and its language learning experience, presented by the UN Secretariat-wide Coordinator for Multilingualism, with the collaboration of the Office of Human Resources of the Department for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance.

Languages: English and French

Participate: bit.ly/MultilingualismSurvey
(login required)

21 Feb.

UN stamps on world languages

Release of a new series of UN stamps in 41 languages, presented by the UN Postal Administration.

Info: unstamps.org

Do you have a favorite proverb in your mother tongue?

Call for submissions by the UN Ombudsman and Mediation Services (UNOMS), aimed at identifying world proverbs that best embody the mandate and mission of UNOMS.

Access: Open to all at bit.ly/2tpUvQ8

17:00-19:30

Observance of International Mother Language Day

Event by the Mission of Bangladesh, along with the Missions of Guatemala, Mozambique, Nigeria and Papua New Guinea, and in collaboration with the UN Secretariat-wide Coordinator for Multilingualism, the Department for Global Communications, the UN Postal Administration, and the UNESCO Office in New York.

Remarks to be delivered by senior officials, followed by cultural performances.

Venue: UNHQ, Conference Room 2

Access: Open to all with UN Grounds Pass

27 Feb.

Reception

Presented by the Documentation Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management.

Access: By invitation only



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UNOG

21 Feb.

09:00-10:30

Mother languages café

Participants will discover a language, learn the basics and practice over coffee with UNOG language teachers and language staff. 12 languages, including all UN official languages, will be offered.

Venue: Palais des Nations, Serpent Bar

09:30-10:30

Idioms quiz

Venue: Palais des Nations, Serpent Bar

12:30-14:00

Library talk: Preserving language diversity in the digital era

A discussion with UN and civil society experts on language preservation, to be followed by a Q&A session.

Venue: Palais des Nations, Library Events Room

Languages: English and French

Info: bit.ly/UNOG-IMLD-register

All events are presented by the UNOG Centre for Learning and Multilingualism, the Division of Conference Management and the UNOG Library and are open to all with UNOG grounds pass.

UNOV

22 Feb.

11:30-15:00

International Mother Language Day celebration

Remarks and speeches by senior officials, wreath-laying ceremony, tasting of traditional delicacies, and cultural activities, presented by the Embassy & Permanent Mission of Bangladesh, in cooperation with the United Nations Information Service in Vienna and with the participation of various language groups.

Venue: Vienna International Center, Rotunda (C building)

Access: Open to all with UNOV Grounds Pass

ESCWA

21 Feb.

10:00-11:00

International Mother Language Day celebration

"Polyglot Competition" award ceremony, screening of a short film featuring ESCWA staff members speaking in their mother tongues, followed by a book, painting and music swap, presented by the ESCWA Conference Services Section.

Venue: UN-House, F201 (Library)

Access: Open to all ESCWA staff members

Info: bit.ly/IMLDESCWA



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