



TV

# UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

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Week of 21 March 2005

Programme No. 949

Length: 3'33"

## IMMUNIZATION MEANS A HEALTHY FUTURE FOR PHILIPPINE CHILDREN

### VIDEO

PAYATAS GARBAGE DUMP

INTRO

MARITA ON-CAMERA (11")

### AUDIO

#### NARRATION

The Payatas garbage dump in Manila in the Philippines has always been a place for scavengers (5.5")

...a magnet for the poor searching for anything to sell to recyclers. (4")

But it is also, remarkably, a place that tens of thousands call home. (5")

Families, desperate to make a living, settle here in houses made of tin, cardboard and anything else found in the mounds of garbage just feet away. (10")

Marita Navila lives here with her ten children. (3")

#### MARITA: (TAGALOG)

"We've been here for twelve years scavenging. When we came here the dumpsite was like this, now it's like a mountain" (9")

#### NARRATION

DR. MELCHOR GABAGAT AT  
PAYATAS

But with this livelihood comes tremendous risk.  
(3.5")

It's a place rife with infection and disease and  
virtually no access to healthcare or vaccinations.  
(6.5")

Dr. Gabagat knows this all too well, he's the only  
doctor for the thirty thousand families here. (6")

GABAGAT ON-CAMERA

GABAGAT: (ENGLISH)

"We deal with acute respiratory tract infection,  
and parasitism, and of course, skin diseases."  
(8")

NARRATION

He also deals with a disease most developed  
nations consider a rite of passage --measles. (6")  
But in the Philippines, it can be deadly. (2.5")

SOBEL ON-CAMERA

SOBEL: (ENGLISH)

"This is a preventable disease" (1.5")

INTRO

NARRATION

Dr. Sobel is an immunologist with the World  
Health Organization, WHO. (5")

SOBEL ON-CAMERA

SOBEL: (ENGLISH)

"Of children who get the measles about half will  
get complications from it. They will get  
pneumonia, they will get diarrhea. They will be  
malnourished for months. And of them, one in ten  
will die from this disease". (12")

NARRATION

And Payatas is just one of forty-two thousand poor areas spread out over the city of Manila alone. Unsanitary conditions and little access to healthcare puts millions of children at risk throughout the country. (14.5")

The only way to get to these people... is by going to them, directly. And that's exactly what these women are about to do...(8")

Teams of health care workers hit the streets, knocking on doors. (4")

W/S SHACKS & SHANTYTOWN

In tow – fully stocked refrigerated medical kits (4") containing measles vaccines and vitamin supplements.(4")

Once done, workers mark the house...and record the names of the children they've treated. (6")

HEALTH WORKERS IN PAYATAS

Experts estimate that by going door-to-door they've reached an additional three million children and prevented tens of thousands from dying. (9")

HOSPITAL EXTERIOR

One measure of their success - this local hospital's measles ward used to teem with patients just last year. Today...it's empty. (10")

ALMA TEAM GOING DOOR TO DOOR

What's more, the program's initial success led WHO to expand its efforts to treat other deadly diseases. (8")

NARRATION

Now open – tuberculosis clinics. (3”)

Patients, once ostracized and stigmatized, are now able to receive treatment in an open atmosphere. (7”)

REVISIT MARITA & KIDS AT  
DUMP

But no matter the efforts, experts agree that until the poor around the globe have a less hazardous way to earn a living -- tens of millions will continue to die needlessly from preventable disease. (13”)

LOGO

This report was prepared by Richard Sydenham for the United Nations (4”)