



# Women's Federation for World Peace International

United Nations Office Newsletter

Fall 2003

## 56<sup>th</sup> Annual DPI/NGO Conference Human Security and Dignity: Fulfilling the Promise of the United Nations

September 8-10, 2003 - UN HQ, New York

By Bonnie Berry

The annual DPI/NGO conference is the premier event for NGOs to gather at the UN Headquarters. This year, a record number of attendees, over 2000 from more than 100 nations were present. Eight hundred representatives came from developing nations, more than double the number who attended from developing nations last year. Significantly, more and more NGOs are appreciating the value of and taking the opportunity for interacting with the United Nations. Meanwhile, the UN Secretariat and member States are recognizing the power and impact that NGOs have to implement real progress toward fulfillment of UN mandates and goals.



Ms. Sadako Ogata, Co-Chair of UN Commission on Human Security and WFWPI Vice President Ms. Motoko Sugiyama

In her opening remarks, Deputy Secretary General, Louise Frechette welcomed the NGO representatives as “good friends of the UN”. She thanked the organizing committee for dedicating the conference to the victims of the terrorist attack on the UN Office in Baghdad. She asked us all to reaffirm our commitment to multilateral cooperation, development and tolerance. Ms. Frechette proclaimed the theme as most timely, and that its fulfillment was the collective responsibility of ALL PEOPLE. She encouraged us to shape globalization for all people to benefit, so that all people have access to clean water, food, shelter, health care, education, protection from violence and government by popular consent under law. Ms. Frechette cited the Secretary

General’s initiative in forming the new panel of Imminent Persons for UN and Civil Society Relations as proof of the Secretary General’s understanding of the power of NGOs and civil society to bring about progress and development, as well as the importance of the relationships between the UN and Civil Society.

This year’s theme, “Human Security and Dignity: Fulfilling the Promise of the United Nations” also marked a shift in awareness. A focus on human security and dignity turns the spotlight on individual and community security, and away from issues of state security. This reflects a change in understanding about the current threats to security. According to Ms. Sadako Ogata, former UN High Commissioner for Refugees and current Co-Chair of the United Nations Commission on Human Security, in the past, security threats often came from sources external to the state. In current times, sources of security threats are often internal to the state, or from the state itself. Ms. Ogata, in her closing remarks to the conference, stated that threats to human security now include (but are not limited to) environmental pollution, infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and SARS, transnational

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### Real Care for Real Lives

#### An NGO Experience in Health and Education

Yumi Tamura, Associate Professor,  
Kobe University School of Medicine, Japan

Human security and dignity are essential to the daily lives of

people everywhere. However, in reality, as we look around us, we can immediately observe infringements upon our safety and dignity. What is needed now is sustained



international cooperation to create human security and dignity for all people. NGOs bear a responsibility for achieving this goal for humankind. I would like to share some personal lessons from my experiences and reflections from an academic perspective. I must stress the importance of focusing on comprehensive education that includes developing the students’ ability to care for others. Exposing students to real life

Real Care, continued on pg. 11



## Statement of Purpose

The Women's Federation for World Peace International (WFWPI) supports a network of National WFWP Chapters worldwide. WFWP Chapters adhere to the principle that women, working together, taking initiative and empowering one another across traditional lines of race, culture and religion to create healthy families, are resolving the complex problems of our societies and world.

Ultimately "solutions" come as *true* partnerships between men and women are established in all levels of society. The beginning point is within society's most elemental level—the family. Peace then expands into our communities, nation and world.

Therefore, WFWP works to provide women worldwide with: *the knowledge, tools and support needed to create peace at home, peace in our communities, our nations and our world.*

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## At the UN in New York...

Reports of NGO Briefings

### Preparations for the Tenth Anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004.

May 15, 2003 - Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium UN HQ, New York

By *Motoko Sugiyama*

A panel discussion was held for the purpose of "Preparation for the Tenth Anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004".

Proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 47/237 on September 20, 1993, this annual observance reflects the importance that the international community attaches to families as a basic unit of society as well as its concern regarding the situation of families around the world.

According to information from the Program on Family by the Division for Social Policy and Development, DESA (Department of Economic and Social Affairs), the International Day of Families provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families as well as to promote appropriate action. The day can become a powerful mobilizing factor on behalf of families in all countries and a way to demonstrate support for addressing family issues appropriate to each society.

Mr. Paul Hoeffel, Chief of NGO Section, DPI moderated this panel.

Mr. Robert Venne from the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD), DESA, gave an overview of preparations. He stated that he would like to see the tenth anniversary events in 2004 take place on three levels; international, national and local levels. He also informed us that there will be a celebration of this 10th anniversary in one of the sessions of the 59th General Assembly in 2004.

Ms. Nicole Elisha, First Counselor of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Benin to the UN, stated that family is not only a basic social unit, but also an economic unit which gives protection and reconstruction to family members.

Mr. Maxwell Hyward, NGO Unit for DSPD of DESA spoke about the importance of NGOs' initiatives for the International Year for Families (IYF). Because NGOs play an important role in facing family issues and can influence policy in government and the

*IYF 10th Anniversary, continued on pg. 4*

### The UN Peacekeeper Experience

May 22, 2003 - Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium UN HQ, New York

By *Merly Barete-Barlaan*

United Nations Peacekeeping is a means by which the international community encourages the establishment of sustainable peace in situations where conflict threatens or has been recently subdued. Under the UN charter, the UN Security Council has the power to take collective action to maintain international peace and security. The first peacekeeping operation was established in 1948 and is still active today. Since that time there have been 56 UN Peacekeeping operations. Of these, 43 have been established since 1988 and 14 are ongoing.

Mr. Paul Hoeffel, Chief of the DPI/NGO Section, began with a special Message from the Secretary General. The Sec. General Kofi Annan paid tribute to all the Peacekeepers whose job it is to reconcile warring parties. He emphasized that the mission of peace soldiers is to counter peace with tolerance and might with

moderation. As civil wars and national wars are increasing, the duties and responsibilities of peacekeepers are growing. There are 40,000 UN Peacekeepers from 89 countries. Their sacrifices have made the world a safer place.

David Harland, Chief, Peacekeeping Best Practices Unit, Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) pointed out problems that peacekeepers encounter, and important things to do to improve the success of peacekeepers. According to him, Peacekeepers must be given a clear sense of mission. There is a big gap between the mandate given by the Secretary General and implementation in the field. This gap is most evident when Peacekeepers are already in the field, caught in the confusion between warring parties. The Peacekeepers must be given a clearer understanding of how to conduct their operations. They need

*UN Peacekeepers, continued on pg. 10*

## Millennium Development Goals: Mobilizing National Resources

April 3, 2003 - Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium, New York

By Merly Barete-Barlan

On September 8, 2000 the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 55/2, the *United Nations Millennium Declaration*, reaffirming the faith in the Organization and its Charter as indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world. The world leaders agreed to a set of time-bound and measurable goals and targets for combating poverty, hunger disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and

discrimination against women. The focal point of the global agenda is now called the *Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*.

The briefing was focused on keeping civil society informed on the current developments as well as challenges to accomplishing the MDGs and mobilizing national resources.

*Millennium Goals, continued on pg. 12*

## Special High-level Meeting of the ECOSOC with the Bretton Woods Institutions and the World Trade Organization

By Hannah Alexander, Youth Representative to UN

Junior at Mt. Holy Oak College, Majoring in International Relations & Economics

On April 14, 2003, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) held its special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods Institutions (of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) at UN HQ, NY. The theme of the one-day event was "Increased coherence, coordination

and cooperation for the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>1</sup> at all levels one year after the Conference" (ECOSOC Decision 2003/209).

### Opening Remarks

Mr. Gert Rosenthal, President of ECOSOC, commenced the meeting by stating that the

*Bretton Woods, continued on pg. 6*

## Introducing the United Nations and NGOs to Inner-City Youth

On August 2, 2003, Hannah Alexander, the United Nations Youth Representative for Women's Federation for World Peace, International (WFWPI) had the opportunity to speak about the United Nations and NGOs to more than one-hundred and fifty inner-city youth at the Fresh Air Fund's<sup>1</sup> Camp Mariah (named after singer/songwriter Mariah Carey). Ms. Alexander began her presentation by introducing the students to the UN system and to current issues on the United Nations agenda, such as providing youth in developing countries with greater access to education. After providing a brief synopsis of the United Nations, she spoke about the relationship of NGOs with offices and agencies of the UN. She further explained the difference between Department of Public Information (DPI) NGOs and Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) NGOs. Hannah pointed out that NGOs affiliated with DPI are primarily charged with disseminating information about the UN in order to build knowledge of and support for the UN at the grassroots level. ECOSOC NGOs have programs that work toward fulfillment of UN goals, and also act as technical advisers and consultants to governments and the UN. For NGOs, these affiliations provide the opportunity to help create and implement UN policies and programs. Many NGOs, including

WFWPI are affiliated with both DPI and ECOSOC.

Hannah presented an overview of WFWP and its activities. To provide the students with a visual idea of WFWP activities throughout the world, Ms. Alexander played "Living as a Member of the Global Family: An Introduction to International Service Projects," a video about WFWP's international humanitarian projects. The video captivated the children as they watched WFWP volunteers work towards building more peaceful communities in countries scourged by war, disease, and poverty. Ms. Alexander concluded her presentation by introducing the "Peace Pal Program," a pilot pen pal program that partners American youth with students of similar age attending WFWP



*Hannah Alexander presenting at Camp Mariah of the Fresh Air Fund*

## Issues on the Agenda of ECOSOC

June 5, 2003 - Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium, New York


By Merly Barete-Barlan

The briefing focused on the issues to be discussed at the ECOSOC High-Level Segment Substantive Session of 2003 "Promoting an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries for poverty eradication and sustainable development" from 30 June to 2 July, United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland.


The three key dimensions of the theme are: An integrated Approach, Sustainability, and Poverty eradication in the rural context. In order to encompass all these dimensions, the theme will be approached from a perspective based on implementing of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). The objectives of the ECOSOC High -Level Segment are to advance the understanding of, and to explore different approaches for implementing rural development.

The Division for ECOSOC Support and Coordination (DESC) held preparatory activities that contributed to the ECOSOC High -Level Segment 2003 in the following ways:

1. Clarify the conceptual underpinnings of an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries.
2. Provide an opportunity to identify the approaches to rural development that have been successful.
3. Inventory the policy implementation and evaluation tools that are available at various levels.
4. Highlight the role of actors from the international to the local level.
5. Demonstrate a clear need for political commitments to promoting policies and programs that will enhance the livelihoods of rural people in a sustainable manner.

On July 1 & 2, a total of 12 Ministerial Roundtable Breakfasts were hosted by UN Agencies, funds and programs to allow representative of Member States, UN System and civil Society to explore more in-depth issues related to the theme "Promoting an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries for poverty eradication and sustainable development." 

schools in various regions of the world. Many of the students were eager to sign up. One student best encapsulated what a lot of the students felt after the presentation: "I really want to write to other children, I really want to learn more about the United Nations and your organization!"

<sup>1</sup> The Fresh Air Fund is an independent nonprofit agency that provides camping experiences for inner-city children from the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut metropolitan areas. To learn more about the Fresh Air Fund, visit their website at: [www.freshair.org](http://www.freshair.org) 



# Preparatory Meetings for the High Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council

Council met June 30 to July 2, 2003 in Geneva

By *Motoko Sugiyama*

This year's theme for the High Level Segment is "Promoting an Integrated Approach to Rural Development in the Developing Countries for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development."

The Council plans to adopt a Ministerial Declaration, provide policy guidance and recommendations for action. In preparation for the session, the Council held two meetings at the UN HQ, New York.

On March 24, 2003 from 10:00AM to 6:00 PM in the ECOSOC Chamber, two dialogue sessions were held which attempted to identify the major policy issues related to integrated approaches to rural development and to analyze goals established and commitments made in this arena.

On April 30, 2003, a one-day meeting was held on "The role of rural development in the achievement and implementation of internationally agreed upon development goals including those contained in the UN Millennium Declaration".

The meeting brought together Ministers, ECOSOC Ambassadors, agencies and organizations of the UN System, representatives of civil society, NGOs, the private sector, academia and others. The purpose was to discuss measures for promoting an integrated and multi-sector approach to rural development within the context of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development as recognized at the UN Global Conference.

The first plenary session was held in the morning at the ECOSOC Chamber. H.E. Mr. Gert Rosenthal, President of ECOSOC was introduced. He stressed in his speech that rural development is crucial because 75% of poverty is in rural areas. A key issue in eliminating poverty is coordinating strategies and efforts of affected nations with international efforts including those of ECOSOC and IFAD (International Food and Agricultural Development).

Next, a panel discussion by the Chief Executive Board for Coordination of High Level Committee on Programs with ECOSOC chaired by Mr. Lennat Bage, President of IFAD was held. Mr. Bage stated that in the 19th century, agricultural development began first in Europe and

Japan. He emphasized that rural development begins with agricultural development. ODA has a very important role to play in the development of rural areas. Mr. Bage also stressed the importance of empowering the poor in these four areas:

1. Secure access to assets (ex. Water and land)
2. Efficient marketing
3. Productive and sustainable technology
4. Supportive institutions for strengthening ownership

In addition, Mr. Bage noted that the tragic consequences of the HIV/AIDS pandemic have been to substantially reduce food and agricultural capacity, especially in Southern and Eastern Africa. This diminished capacity will eventually lead to famine. Mr. Bage concluded by saying that the scale of the challenge of achieving the Millennium Summit Goals requires the full and coherent partnership of national institutions, bilateral and multilateral development agencies, as well as civil society and the private sector.

Mr. Jacques Diouf, Director-General, FAO stated strongly that if we continue as we are now, the Millennium Development Goals for the year 2015 will not be accomplished but will be extended even to the year 2050. We should not just "give fishes" to farmers but we should help farmers "to learn to fish" by themselves and ECOSOC should speed up the process of implementing the goals.

Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General and Special Advisor to the United Nations Secretary-General in Africa and Mr. Patrizio Ciuli, Assistant Secretary-General of UN DESA followed the presentation of the UN System coordination for rural development until 11:15AM.

Ministerial Roundtables, with the participation of Ministers, Heads of Delegations, Executive Heads of Agencies and Members of civil society on the following themes took place from 11:15 am to 1:30 pm and from 3:00PM -5:00PM. The closing session, which presented reports back from the roundtables and the closing statement by the President of ECOSOC took place from 5:00PM - 6:00PM.

**Themes of the Ministerial Roundtables are:**

1. Primary Education and Girls Education in Rural areas hosted by UNICEF.
2. Economics and Rights: Interconnection in the context of HIV/AIDS and feminized poverty hosted by UNIFEM.
3. Population and Reproductive Health in the Rural Context as critical determinants in the achievement of MDG (Millennium Development Goals) targets hosted by UNFPA.
4. Increasing productivity of rural work hosted by ILO.
5. Role of agriculture and rural development in the eradication of hunger and poverty hosted by FAO, IFAD, and World Bank.
6. Rural development and rural energy development hosted by UNIDO.

The program was very informative. It was presented by experts from Government (Missions), UN Systems and civil society including heads of NGOs with expertise and endeavors relevant to the theme of this year's High Level Segment of ECOSOC.

Participants in this program hoped for the best outcome for the council in Geneva for June 30 - July 2 this year. (More information on the outcome of the High Level Segment 2003 is available at: <http://www.UN.org/esa/coordination/ecosoc.>)



*IYF 10th Anniversary, continued from pg. 2*

UN, involvement in IYF observances is an important opportunity for NGOs to promote this process of celebrating and strengthening families. According to Mr. Hyward, NGOs have the opportunity to come together to raise awareness of the important role of families in a strong and healthy society.

Ms. Mary Power, Bahai International Community, representing civil society, spoke about the importance of "thinking globally, acting locally" and vice versa, "thinking locally, acting globally".

## At the UN in Geneva ...

Activities for Culture of Peace  
by the Working Group of Peace  
Committee Members:

### Working Group on Peace

- ❖ Statement at Commission on Human Rights (CHR) on SCR1325 and Education for Peace (2002)
- ❖ Seminar on 'Women, War, Peace' at World Civil Society Forum (WCSF) (2002)
- ❖ Organized Panel with ICRC at CHR on SC1325 (2003)

### FASNGO

- ❖ Mano River Women's Peace Network (MARWOPNET)
- ❖ Inter-Congolese Dialogue, South Africa February- April 2002
- ❖ Nairobi Declaration and Plan of Action Contributed to the establishment of the African Women Committee on Peace and Development (AWCPD)

### Soroptimist

- ❖ Convention (quadrennial) on "Globalisation/Poverty and Conflict Resolution/Peace".
- ❖ Workshop Series on "Peace, Let It Begin with Me", "Women, Peace and Security" and "Confronting Conflict".

### Women's Federation for World Peace, Int'l-

- ❖ UN Forum on "2000 International Year for the Culture of Peace" November, 1999
- ❖ International Symposium on the Eradication of Poverty for a Culture of Peace-Tokyo 2000
- ❖ UN Conferences on Poverty Eradication-N.Y., 2000, 2002
- ❖ 'Bridge of Peace'- paper presented to the 10<sup>th</sup> UN Conference on Crime Prevention- Vienna
- ❖ Statements to CHR on Culture of Peace/Education for Peace-2000, 2001, (oral) 2003 (written)
- ❖ Middle East Women's Conference Series (1997-2003) themes twice on 'Women and Culture of Peace'

### WILPF

- ❖ [www.peacewomen.org](http://www.peacewomen.org), a very active website promoting women's contribution to peace.

*the list of activities is not exhaustive.*



## Letter to the Secretary General of the UN



### CSW-NGO Working Group on Peace

Secretary General of the United Nations

**H.E. Mr. Kofi Annan**

United Nations Plaza  
New York, N.Y. 10017  
U.S.A.

Re: International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010)

Mr. Secretary-General,

As we approach the Midterm Review of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010), we are deeply concerned about the proliferation of violence and abuse that continues into this millennium – without any end in sight. We all know these fruits of a culture of intolerance and retaliation. But we have also seen the strength and commitment of women and men who work together to secure peace at times when their own lives might be threatened.

Although we represent 42 international NGOs in consultative status with very diverse activities, we hold a common mandate to further the work of peace and justice and prosperity for all. We see that solidarity, dialogue, understanding and reconciliation contribute to a peaceful environment that in turn encourages development. They are some of the components for building a culture of peace.

The United Nations has issued various documents and has taken various actions to strengthen a culture of peace. The International Decade provides a tremendous opportunity to change our ways of responding to and eventually preventing conflict and violence – by educating for peace. With your leadership, the Decade will be a success.

The ongoing and commendable work of UNESCO to fulfill its mandate concerning the Culture of Peace Program has set a precedent which must not be allowed to die out as we confront the less noble obstacles and the inertia in its daily applications. The Women and the Culture of Peace Program at UNESCO is now reduced to a website, and while a very popular one, it is in our view not enough to keep the issue alive. We believe in your help and influence for the re-instatement of the Program.

The Declaration and Program of Action on a Culture of Peace highlights the norms and objectives for the implementation of a global culture of peace to which we have contributed many of our own activities within our Working Group on Peace. It clearly identifies the broad-based and interactive involvement of governments, civil society leaders and parents that would be necessary for its success. It is a document that deserves to stand as a legacy for future generations. But this document will serve its purpose only when it is "alive", i.e. when it prevents conflict at all levels of society through education.

It is obvious that it will require an extremely strong determination and solidarity among all actors to succeed in transforming the values, attitudes, behaviors and institutions that have been based on violence and inequality. As women, we want to be involved as equal partners in policy-making and implementation of conflict prevention strategies and post-conflict culture building within our nation, our communities and in our homes.

Since its inception, the United Nations is the only vehicle to change and reinforce our solidarity as global citizens. We must return to the organization's original mandate "to save the succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and this would restore full respect for the United Nations Charter and for international law as the foundation for building a sustainable culture of peace.

Sincerely,

**CSW-NGO Working Group on Peace**

**The United Nations stands in the center of the global effort to bring nations, cultures, and religions together with the ultimate goal of building a world society that will live in peace, based on the shared principles of justice, human rights and mutual toleration. Let this noble goal stay in our prayers today."**

GA Declaration and Program of Action on a Culture of Peace

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## At the UN in Geneva ...

NGO Committee on the Status of Women Forum in Geneva

### Towards Full Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action

Palais des Nations Geneva, July 21-22, 2003

By Elisabeth Riedl, UN Representative of Austria

The Geneva NGO Committee on the Status of Women, **celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of UN advocacy, holding a 2-day Forum evaluating the implementation of the Beijing PFA and its integration within the Millennium Development Goals.

**Ms. Angela E.V. King, Assistant Secretary General, Special Advisor on Gender Mainstreaming and the Advancement of Women** gave the **Opening Address** congratulating the Forum. She urged the participants to have continuous vigilance. It is her viewpoint that Civil Society, in particular NGOs, have an important role to play in helping to review and assess progress made by governments in delivering on their commitments to women. Ms. King encouraged action in the following arenas:

a. **Organize a coordinating committee** to brainstorm on the contributions from NGO's to the Beijing +10 review (planned for 2005), and the Millennium Declaration, to close remaining gaps and identify best practices.

b. Use the opportunity of Beijing+10 to **further dialogue with your governments** and contribute to the review and appraisal at the national and regional levels, starting with filling out the DAW questionnaire.

c. **Produce your own 'shadow' reports** on governments' delivery of BPA and Beijing+5. Create and distribute a document entitled, for example, 'Toward the full implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action: Dialogue with Civil Society' that communicates progress and suggests action steps.

d. **Have online conferences** on the critical areas of BP and B+5.


e. **Strengthen partnerships with international organizations** to see how progress in the advancement of women can be accelerated.

f. **Provide us with your ideas on new issues and trends.**

g. **Reach out to all women and mobilize them to sustain the political will,** at the

national level, to achieve gender equality goals **Progress has been made** in certain areas: women's life expectancy increased; world-wide illiteracy was cut nearly in half to 25%; health care improved; non-discriminatory legislation was enacted and the recognition of women's rights and their essential role in economic and social development and peace building have vastly increased, as has acknowledgment that where women achieve equality, the society as a whole benefits.

**In 2005, the Fourth World Conference on Women will be celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.** As at the 47<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW); the question of the format for the 10-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and PFA, discussions on whether to hold a 5<sup>th</sup> World Conference and whether this would be within or outside the UN were held. The proposal of holding a 5<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Women between 2007 and 2010 was agreed upon.

The International Agenda has been greatly influenced by women through lobbying governments and bringing their concerns and ideas to the UN. 

*Bretton Woods, continued from pg. 3*

aim of the convention was to develop plans to create international financial monetary committees that would help advance the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and help achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

Ms. Louise Frechette, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, delivered the statement of Secretary-General Kofi Annan. Annan expressed concern about the current state of the international economy, including weak recovery from the slowdown of 2001, as well as rising unemployment around the world. Annan stressed that multilateral monetary, financial, trade and development institutions should work more closely with each other to help the world realize its development goals and rebuild global confidence.

Inter-governmental representatives including Mr. Jan Kavan, President of the 57<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly; Mr. Trevor Manuel, Chairperson of the Development Committee, Minister of Finance of South Africa; Ms. Heidemarie

Wieczorek-Zeul, Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany; Ms. Mary Whelan, Chairperson of the Trade Policy Review Body of the WTO; and Mr. Fouad Siniora, Chairperson of the Group of 24 (G-24), Minister of Finance of Lebanon gave presentations.

Mr. Trevor Manuel urged all countries to create policies that would help produce greater economic growth. He went on to say that developing countries should enhance the environment for investment and private sector activity, and that they should also increase human capital by providing more effective delivery of social services to the poor.

Ms. Mary Whelan noted that multilateral institutions now have a better and more complete understanding of how trade affects development. She stated that while institutions no longer view fast trade liberalization across all sectors as advantageous, they have a greater awareness of the costs associated with high levels of protectionism.

Mr. Fouad Siniora pointed out that the economic, social and political problems of

the least developed countries had deteriorated, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, plagued with HIV/Aids, poverty, drought and political/economic instability. He called on developing nations to open their markets and eliminate trade barriers against developing countries.

Presentations by representatives from the IMF, World Bank, and WTO followed presentations by inter-governmental representatives. Mr. Eduardo Aninat, Deputy Managing Director of the IMF, stressed the need for progress towards multilateral trade liberalization, which would not only spur economic growth and reduce poverty, but would allow developing countries to reap the benefits of globalization.

The morning plenary session was followed by four roundtable discussions. Roundtable I focused primarily on the issues of policy coherence; im-plementation of agreements reached at the Monterrey Conference; and strengthening the voice of the UN. Roundtable II discussed ways to increase and disburse official development

*Bretton Woods, continued on pg. 10*



# Activities In Africa

## Ethiopia

In the face of Ethiopia's serious problem of poverty and illiteracy, WFWP Ethiopia initiated informal education programs and foster care services for 210 children in Addis Ababa who are at risk of being separated from their families due to extreme poverty. WFWP has worked closely with local kebele officials to identify the neediest, and to assist in monitoring the distribution of aid such as clothing, medical costs and school fees for the foster children.

This project was initiated in 2001 and is slated to continue until 2005. This program is designed to be continuous in order to obtain sustainable development within the target community.

Counseling and job training is being provided for the purpose of creating skilled, self-employed and self-reliant young adults.

## Ivory Coast

Campaign against AIDS- WFWP Ivory Coast continues its fight against AIDS, kicked off in 2001 by WFWP Ivory Coast President Mrs. Likane Paulette and representative of the Ivory Coast Ministry in charge of AIDS, Mrs. Depri. WFWP is educating people that strong moral and family values are key to preventing the spread of AIDS.



## Guinea Bissau

**Ongoing Projects Since 1996:** Basic Literacy and Dressmaking Course for Women, Support for Titina Sira, a government run orphanage- includes donations



of mattresses, medicines and school supplies Foster Parents system for war orphans since 2000. In 2003, WFWP G-B is in the process of doubling the number of women served by the Literacy and Dressmaking Course.

Construction began in June 2002 on an elementary school to serve 150 children grades 1 through 6. The school has opened and begun classes, recently completing the first semester.



## Democratic Republic of Congo

**DR Congo** WFWP is one of the NGOs most consulted by the Family and Social Affairs Ministry.

WFWP and 21 women's NGOs participated in a campaign on sensitization and support for peace



in Congo. The motto of the campaign was "Peace is not just a word, but a lifestyle". During the closing ceremony, WFWP President, Ms. Huguette Lutondo gave an address to 82 participants on the topic "The role of NGOs in the renewal of peace in DR Congo". (01 February, 03)

## March 07-08, 2003

WFWP representatives attended the celebration of International Women's Day, hosted by Ms. Jeanne Ebamba from the Family and Social Affairs Ministry. The event was attended by a diverse group of women. There was a ceremony and prayer for

the women of the world, especially those women of Congo who have suffered in the recent war. Also, women held an exposition to display their many products used to support themselves in overcoming poverty.

WFWP members, including President Huguette Lutondo, gave a presentation on how to stop AIDS expansion through character education.



WFWP members also displayed some of their products like 'caramel' (peanuts with sugar), fruit juice, pastry etc.

Ms. Jeanne Ebamba congratulated WFWP members for the results of their activities.

## Nigeria



HIV/AIDS Prevention Activities at Lagos State University



Japanese Volunteers serving Handicapped Youth



HIV/AIDS Prevention Activities at Ikotun HS

## April 12, 2003

11<sup>th</sup> WFWP International Anniversary celebration was held at "Restaurant Palmier d'Or", Kinshasa, DR Congo. 62 NGO representatives attended plus more than 10 officials of the republic including Family and Social Affairs Ministry Secretary General and General Faustin Munene, Chancellor of the Republic. WFWP President Huguette Lutondo delivered a talk entitled "Women, Peace and the Culture of Heart".

## Ongoing Projects

After the workshop held in 2002 (July 29 - August 7) attended by 72 ladies from National Service, the Headmaster of National Service invited us to provide character education to their young people every Friday. WFWP has developed curriculum manuals to support this commitment.



# Activities In Asia

## Afghanistan

The main focus of WFWP Afghanistan has been work with Afghan refugees in Delhi, India since 1996.

**Sayed Jamalludin Afghan School** is WFWP's afternoon school serving 70 children. Subjects are Dari (Afghan language), Morals and Geography. There is also an Afghan culture class and sports activities (after school) as well as character and relationship education. The Culture Class and a dance troupe of Afghan youth trained by SJAS staff performed at a summer Culture Festival "Afghanistan: The Lost Paradise" which was organized by U.N.E.P.'s Global Program. WFWP was recommended by the Afghan Ambassador to India as one of the NGO's in India most helpful to the Afghan community and best able to support the festival.

**Scholarship Program** sponsors 13 children by paying school fees, expenses, books, transportation, uniforms, school supplies, tuition. Scholarship students are encouraged to excel. Last year the top student in the school was a scholarship recipient.



## Bangladesh

July 25, 2002- Celebration of the 7<sup>th</sup> Parent's Day, at WVA auditorium in Dhaka "Ethics of True Love in the Family" was the theme of the event and the keynote speaker, Dr. Shamsheer Ali, Vice Chancellor of South East University. Honored Guest, Prof. Jahanara Begum, Educational Advisor to the Honorable Prime Minister also emphasized the connection between healthy loving families and healthy society.

**Freedom and Responsibility Micro-Credit Projects** (ongoing, in cooperation with CAAP since October 2002)

Many women in Nurur Chie and Bara Beraid areas of Dhaka City have utilized the loans to start businesses such as tailor shop, restaurant, grocery store, poultry farm and more.

**Handicraft Training Center** (ongoing)

Four months of free training for poor women. Twenty nine students graduated from the program in 2002.

**Scholarship Project**

Scholarships are given to university women who are dedicated to the betterment of society. Twenty three women received scholarships in 2002.

**Supplementary Nutrition Project**

Funded by WFWP at Majed Sarder Community Center in old Dhaka. Forty children benefit from regularly receiving high calorie nutritional foods.

**Winter Clothes Distribution**

130 shawls were distributed to the 35 poorest families in the villages of Jaigeer and Utter Bakchar in Manikganj district. Chocolates and biscuits were also distributed to the school children of these villages.

## Philippines

**Fundraisers**

February 12, 2002-Pre-Valentine's Day Charity Bazaar Fundraiser.

August 31, 02 - Bingo Fundraiser held to support WFWP's medical/dental missions.

**Medical/Dental Missions:**

- Jovellar, Albay - 300 patients treated by volunteer doctors and nurses.

- La Trinidad Province- 738 patients treated and given free medicine.

- Minalin, Pampanga

- Cogeo, Antipolo

- Cagayan Valley

- San Juan, Metro Manila

In addition, WFWP members distributed food and clothing to Barangay Tatalon fire victims.

**WFWP Philippines representatives attended the UN 46<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women** March 12-16, 2002.

**Leadership Seminar**, "Harmonizing Physical, Emotional and Spiritual Strength Towards Effective Leadership" was held in Baguio City. 50 local officials, government, business and NGO leaders attended the forum.



## Nepal

**Study Tour** from Japan Dec 2002

Included visits to Project Sites and a Bridge of Peace Ceremony with Japanese and Nepalese women. The



Minister of Women, Children and Social Welfare was the keynote speaker.

**Projects**

Support of Shree Wedhay Khalka School;

Free Health Check Clinic;

Donation of clothes and school supplies to Child Haven Nepal, Mt. Green English School;

Sewing training program;

Ground breaking and construction began on a new vocational training center;

Prayer for Peace program, held the first Tuesday of each month;

## Thailand

Feb 2002- Seminar "Woman Leaders' Role in Youth Development" was presented at UN Conference Ctr., Bangkok. 220 participants attended, from government, media and youth.



March 2002 - Participated in UN World Water Day and International Women's Day

May 15, 2002 - Participated in International Family Day at UN

July 2002 - Yearly Review of Foster Parent Program, supporting expenses of underprivileged youth.

August 11, 2002 - Five WFWP representatives attend Her Majesty the Queen's birthday celebration, which is also Thailand's Mother's Day

August 24, 2002 - Pitsanulok Province Seminar on Character Education for Youth; 70 education administrators and educators attended the forum.

September 20, 2002 - 6 WFWP representatives participated in UN observance of International Day of Peace.

## Myanmar

**School Health Program**

- Constructed six latrines at Tharketa State Primary School, Yangon.

- Reconstructed School and constructed 3 Latrines and installed a water tank at Thitsu Village State Primary School, Yangon.

- Distributed soy milk for 120 kindergartners, twice a week at Tharketa State Primary School.

**Nutrition Program** since 1998

Distribution of nutritious food to children under 5, twice a week in three locations in Khauk Tan Township, Yangon. Approx. 80 children benefit from the program.

**Scholarship Program**

In 2002: 170 school children received scholarships for various school supplies.

Machine Knitting Course: 3 month training course for women started in October 2002

**Study Tour**

About 30 Japanese people visited WFWP project sites Oct. 21-25, 2002



# Activities In South America

## Argentina

### THE AWAKING OF A COSMIC CONSCIENCE

**March 27, 2003** WFWP Argentina held an event consisting of a talk given by a guest speaker, an introduction to WFWP and a Video about the work of WFWP International. Thirty guests were present.

“**ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT, THE AWAKING OF A COSMIC CONSCIENCE**” was the topic addressed by Elena Faggionato (Social Worker and researcher on Cosmic Sciences and Metaphysics). The lecture showed the ecological disasters caused by human beings, but ended with an invitation to change our attitudes and create a new world that is in a state of unity between the spiritual and physical world through awakening to spirituality and love. (Note: Mrs. Faggionato is the niece of the last Argentinian Constitutional President, Dr. Arturo Frondizi 1958-1962.)

This talk opened the way for Mrs. Rosetta Castellón to speak about the vision of WFWP. Then, Roswitha Giuliano, President of the WFWP in Argentina gave a short message about the urgency to educate people in Argentina on values and asked for a serious commitment to join the Values Education Campaign entitled “Towards a true revolution of sexuality, promoting lasting values”, which started in the beginning of the year 2002.

Finally, Gloria Dantas invited all guests to contribute to the 1% Sharing the Love Campaign.

Next Month’s program: prestigious journalist Georgette Grayeb will speak on “Women’s participation in political changes through poetry”.

**June 26, 2003** WFWP Argentina held their monthly lecture program. 50 guests including the Consul of Congo attended.

The program started with wonderful songs of Argentina and Indonesia and an introductory video about WFWP.

Our guest speaker was Lic. Hilda Ferrer, well respected for her knowledge of Politics and Public Relations. She spoke on “Women as a Bridge of Friendship between Cultures”.

A talk by Prof. Rosetta Castellon on Values Education followed.

Roswitha Giuliano explained the history and meaning of the Bridge of Peace Ceremony. The highlight of the evening was a small but powerful Bridge of Peace Ceremony with 6 pairs of women representing many races and nations: Argentina, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, Afro-Argentina and Afro-Brazil.

After the program we shared a host of international refreshments brought by WFWP members and friends.

## Peru

### WFWP Lima, Peru 2003 Report

#### Speaker Series

May 19, 2002- Mrs. Ana Maria Infantes, Sociologist for Peru Gov’t spoke to an audience of 80 women on “Women’s Role in Our Society”

June 23, 2002-Dr. Jose Luis Perez Albele, distinguished and prominent M.D. spoke to an audience of 60 women on “Natural Medicine”

July 21, 2002-A panel of 4 educators spoke to an audience of 60 on “Pure Love is my Pride and Happiness”

August 18, 2002- Multicultural Sisterhood / Bridge of Peace Ceremony 60 women participants



September 22, 2002-Mrs. Arminda Espinoza, policewoman and winner of Gold Medal for her work for peace in Peru, spoke to an audience of 50 on “The Development of True Family Values for Women”.



Oct. 20, 2002 – Ms. Magda Caycho, President and Founder of En Hacore, Drug Rehabilitation NGO spoke to 60 women on “Drugs-Consequences and Prevention”.



November 24, 2002-Dr. Juan Jose Fajardo, recognized doctor of natural medicine spoke to 45 on “Natural Remedies for Common Illnesses”.



### Vocational Training

October thru November 2002 classes were held once a week to teach the art of making chocolates and cold ceramics. Graduates are able to sell these products as a starting point for small business.



### Leadership Workshop August 2002

25 Women were trained in public speaking to prepare them to speak and lead in their communities.



# Activities In Europe

## WFPW Netherlands

### MOSLEM-CHRISTIAN Bridge of Peace Ceremony June 21, 2003

The 5th International "Sisterhood Ceremony" for World Peace in Netherlands was held in Hotel van der Valk in Breukelen.

The afternoon started with the President of the International Women's Federation for World Peace, Dutch chapter, addressing 'The challenge for women in this time to create peace in their families through motherly love'.

**Mr. F. Dales, mayor of Breukelen, gave opening remarks**, welcoming our activities. He talked about the international spirit in his community.

Our first speaker was the well-known **Imam Mr. H. Zeid Kailani**. Born in Palestine, he has lived 30 years in Holland and works as spiritual leader for Moslems in the prisons. **He talked about the value of women, as woman and mother**. In Islam the value of the woman is equal to that of the man. Because of wars the woman has to work harder than the man. It is important to teach children about peace. In dialogue between Christians and Moslems, the Christians have to do more because they are stronger and in the majority. His closing words were **"God bless the women and give them power to fulfill their task"**.

Second speaker was **Mrs. Madzy van der Kooij**. She works for the improvement of the relationships between Jewish, Christian and Moslem women.

A total of 36 Moslem-Christian pairs were formed, of which 33 were women and 3 were men.

## WFPW United Kingdom

### Activities January – June 2003

#### *Sisters of Peace Ceremony*

Middle Eastern & Western Women – Lancaster Gate - June 7, 2003

#### *Education towards a Culture of Peace*

- **Women's Peace Meetings** – Held mainly monthly in Birmingham, Bromley, West Country, Manchester and East London. Up to 80 people are attending regularly.
- **Meetings with Talks and Discussion** Held regularly in South, North, Central London, Bromley and other cities  
Topics included: 'Exploring Womanhood', 'Children of the Secret State - North Korean Women & Children', 'Montessori Education', 'How to Create a Caring Community', 'The Good Women of China';
- **Character Development, Family and Youth Education** presented to ladies in the branches.
- **Sisters of Peace follow up Meetings 'Christian & Muslim Women'** – North and South Branches

#### *Service*

- **Hyderabad Orphanage Project** – India. Many fund-raising Events to support this project have been held around the country: Birmingham, South London and West Country
- **Tapestry for Peace Project** – Birmingham
- **Community Craft Project** – Edinburgh, Bromley
- **Teaching Refugees English** – West Country
- **Bazaar in aid to 1% Love Sharing Project** – Central Branch

## WFPW Ireland

### Activity Report - May 2003

- Collecting for 1% Love Sharing Fund.
- Donation of sports equipment to schools in disadvantaged area.
- Distribution of Peace literature to libraries.
- Presented award to Mary Catney, member of the Women's Coalition Party and The Corrymeela Community for her peace work in Northern Ireland.



#### *WFPW UK, continued*

- **Distributed collection boxes - 1% Love Sharing Project** – West Country, Central Branch
- **Networking** with other groups, organizations and the local branch of World Federation of United Nations Associations, **assisting in projects and providing service.**

### *UN Peacekeepers, continued from pg. 2*

adequate training and a well-defined handbook.

Mr. Anatolii Kononenko, First Secretary, Deputy Military Advisor, Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the UN and a former Peacekeeper shared his experiences as a soldier and a peacekeeper. Mr. Kononenko asserted that the role of a peacekeeper is very important and honorable, but the personal experience of a peacekeeper is quite complicated. They need to be flexible and ready for drastic changes in circumstance. He mentioned the importance of peacekeepers adjusting their mindset from professional fighter to peacekeeper. The best use of armed forces is to protect the peace. This experience is great for military people, civilians, men or women. Peacekeepers are placed in a position where they can see the good points of both sides and encourage the peaceful way of negotiations. However, there is no simple way to stop a war.

Ms. Cora Weiss, President of Hague Appeal for Peace emphasized that NGOs can play a role in monitoring the performance of peacekeepers. This is especially true for preventing peacekeepers from engaging in problematic behaviors. She strongly emphasized that involving women in peacekeeping operations is critical to achieving peace and reconciliation. Women must be part of planning and decision-making. Women can enhance the role of non-violent, non-military interventions. Women have the motherly heart and can be good mediators. She also added that there should be better training of Peacekeepers for the protection of women and girls. Ms. Weiss holds the view that without women-peacekeepers, there can be no peace. Ms. Weiss insisted that civilians, especially women civilians are needed in peacekeeping efforts. Ms. Weiss agreed that peacekeepers need more education as well as strategies for facing post-conflict situations.

### *Bretton Woods, continued from pg. 6*

assistance (ODA) to developing countries. The third roundtable conferred about policy coherence in terms of trade and investment. Participants of Roundtable IV focused on the need for developing countries, especially African countries, to balance their struggle against corruption with improvements in their investment environment.

After the roundtable discussions, a number of governmental representatives addressed ways government could provide more development assistance to developing countries.

Mr. Adamantios Vassilakis of Greece, who spoke on behalf of the European Union (EU), affirmed the EU's pledge to provide trade-related assistance to African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. He further stated that EU members aimed to disburse approximately 3.9% of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to ODA by 2006.

*NGO Conference, continued from pg. 1*



crime, terrorism, and movement of people (refugees). These are all problems and issues that affect people across national boundaries and call for solutions that are multilateral in nature. Ms. Ogata informed us that the Commission on Human Security had identified a framework based on protection and empowerment of people. If manifested by governments, it would be recognizable by the following characteristics: It shields people from critical and pervasive threats, operates by rule of law, has accountable and transparent institutions, and has a democratic government structure. This would be an environment where political priorities would be balanced by civil priorities, where human rights and human development are honored and fostered. Protection and empowerment of people would be mutually reinforced. In such an environment, human security and state security would complement each other. Echoing many panelists, Ms. Ogata insisted that the engagement of Civil Society in the

process of achieving human security is crucial to success. She encouraged us all to organize in our communities, lobby governments to reorder priorities, change policies and take action in creating human security and dignity for all people.

Although it is impossible to list and cite all the distinguished panelists and many speakers, for the first time ever, all plenary sessions were video taped and archived and can be accessed at: [www.ngodpiexecom.org](http://www.ngodpiexecom.org).



*Ms. Sadako Ogata, Co-Chair of UN Commission on Human Security and former UN High Commissioner for Refugees addressing the Conference*



*WFP International Representatives attending the DPI/NGO Conference at the General Assembly Hall.*

*more Bretton Woods ...*

Ms. Linnet Deily, the Deputy United States Trade Representative and ambassador to the WTO, averred that the US was focusing on providing assistance to countries with strong policy performance. She pointed out that President Bush's Millennium Challenge Account was requesting more than \$1.3 billion from Congress for development assistance and that President Bush has also requested \$15 billion from Congress to fight the global HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Mr. Gert Rosenthal, said in his concluding remarks that the meeting involved three key elements. First countries must speed up progress to want realizing the Millennium Development Goals. Second, cooperation between the four multilateral institutional stakeholders is a key element of advancing the achievement of the MDGs. The third element of the meeting was its role as a follow-up to the Monterrey Conference. Mr. Rosenthal stressed the need to focus on more specific development issues at future meetings.

<sup>1</sup> To learn more about the Monterrey Conference, visit: [www.un.org/esa/ffd](http://www.un.org/esa/ffd).

*Real Care, continued from pg. 1*

experiences will nurture their social knowledge and develop trusting hearts. My experiences: Two Red Cross missions in Pakistan (1990-1991): sub-acute emergency care for Mghan war victims, and in Armenia (1991-1992) to train Armenian nurses in a rehabilitation center. WFPW tour in Kenya: Inspection and observation of a junior high school, free health checks and a health survey in the areas of Eldoret and Kisumu in Kenya in 1999.

Things learned from these experiences:

1. Examine the need and the potential for a comprehensive approach to health care in crisis situations. I question whether health care activities can have lasting impact without considering and addressing other related issues, such as poverty and compromised human rights. Also, in my experience, the integration of basic health care knowledge into the general educational curriculum is crucial for lasting impact of health related aid projects. From a scholarly point of view, both education and health are applied sciences, however modern-day education seems ill equipped to foster caring attitudes in students. Therefore, I submit that the inclusion of basic character and ethics education must

be instituted as a part of comprehensive education of students.

2. Adopt the outlook of respect for the lives of diverse people. We must learn to acknowledge each other's socio-cultural backgrounds as a basis for common understanding and respect. In spite of my critique of modern education, I do think that academics have qualitative data gathering tools that are invaluable to creating such shared understanding.

3. Multiple dimensions of education should foster caring skills. But this cannot be achieved through textbooks and classroom study. Fostering caring attitudes involves students experiencing the real world and the perspectives of other people. There are many practical ways in which students can be exposed to real world experiences, gain social knowledge and at the same time, face their own prejudices, tendency toward discrimination and feelings of superiority.

**Conclusion: A step-by-step endeavor to educate students worldwide in genuine and comprehensive caring skills will bring societies closer together and create societies shaped by people who possess social knowledge and trusting hearts.**

Submitted to NGO Midday Workshop at DPI/NGO Conference.





# MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

TO BE ACHIEVED BY 2015



**Goal 6** - By 2015, to have halted and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS. HIV prevalence rates are still increasing for men and women in the developing world. The rate is seven times higher in developing countries than developed countries for women, and almost three times higher for men.

**Goal 7** - Reverse the loss of environmental resources, Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. Worldwide emissions of CO2 — the largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions from human activities - hardly changed on a per capita basis.

**Goal 8** - Address the special needs of the least developed countries *Net official development assistance, as a percentage of donor countries' gross national income (GNI) has decreased over the last decade and is at an all-time low, and net ODA to least developed countries has decreased even more.*

After the presentations, there was a Question and Answer session. Comments from the audience pointed out that money spent on conflict is not available to aid development, referring to the powerful countries investing so much of their money in developing destructive weapons of war rather than providing more aid for poorer, developing countries.



## 1 HALVE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

1.2 billion people still live on less than \$1 a day. But 43 countries, with more than 60 per cent of the world's people, have already met or are on track to meet the goal of cutting hunger in half by 2015.

## 2 ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

113 million children do not attend school, but this goal is within reach; India, for example, should have 95 per cent of its children in school by 2005.

## 3 EMPOWER WOMEN AND PROMOTE EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN

Two-thirds of the world's illiterates are women, and 80 per cent of its refugees are women and children. Since the 1997 Micro-Credit Summit, progress has been made in reaching and empowering poor women, nearly 19 million in 2000 alone.

## 4 REDUCE UNDER-FIVE MORTALITY BY TWO THIRDS

11 million young children die every year, but that number is down from 15 million in 1980.

*Published by the United Nations  
Department of Public Information – October 2002*

*More information available at <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals>*

## 5 REDUCE MATERNAL MORTALITY BY THREE QUARTERS

In the developing world, the risk of dying in childbirth is one in 48. But virtually all countries now have safe motherhood programs and are poised for progress.

## 6 REVERSE THE SPREAD OF DISEASES, ESPECIALLY HIV/AIDS AND MALARIA

Killer diseases have erased a generation of development gains. Countries like Brazil, Senegal, Thailand and Uganda have shown that we can stop HIV in its tracks.

## 7 ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

More than one billion people still lack access to safe drinking water; however, during the 1990s, nearly one billion people gained access to safe water and as many to sanitation.

## 8 CREATE A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT, WITH TARGETS FOR AID, TRADE AND DEBT RELIEF

Too many developing countries are spending more on debt service than on social services. New aid commitments made in the first half of 2002 alone, though, will reach an additional \$12 billion per year by 2006.

*Millennium Briefing, continued from pg. 3*

### Challenges:

The representative of the European Delegation expressed concern that the MDGs are not comprehensive enough and do not address issues in developing countries. The central challenge we face today is to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all. Globalization offers great opportunities, but at present its benefits are very unevenly shared, while its costs are unevenly distributed. It has become a critical issue because the world has become increasingly interconnected and interdependent. Developing countries face special difficulties in responding to this challenge. Thus, only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future, based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable.

### Accomplishment Report:

**Goal 1** - In the developing world, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean are on track to achieve the target among young children. Prevalence of

underweight children is unchanged in Northern Africa. It remains high in South-Central Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, and is rising in Western Asia.

**Goal 2** - To ensure by 2015 that children everywhere will complete a full course of primary schooling. Many regions are on track to achieve the target before 2015, but lower levels of achievement and progress persist in sub-Saharan Africa, Western Asia and Southern Asia.

**Goal 3** - Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005 and in tertiary education by no later than 2015. *In developing countries, gender gaps still exist in enrollment at all levels of education.*

**Goal 4** - To reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate *In developing countries on average, more than 100 children die before age 5, for every 1,000 born.*

**Goal 5** - Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio. Based on best estimates for 1995, maternal mortality is far higher in all developing regions, compared to developed regions, and fifty times higher in sub-Saharan Africa.

## Upcoming Events



December 5, 2003  
**3rd Forum on the Eradication of Poverty**  
UN HQ New York, USA



December 6-8, 2003  
**WFPW International Leader's Workshop**  
New York, USA



March 8, 2003  
**International Women's Day**



March 21, 2003  
**International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

**\*Forum on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination/ Interracial Bridge of Peace**  
UN HQ New York, USA



\*date tentative