

Speech by the UNICEF Representative to China Dr. Yin Yin Nwe
at the “LOVEDAY WITH UNICEF” Event at the Great Wall
8 June 2007

- Madam Liang Hong, Division Director, Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM)
- Mr. Li Qimin, Deputy Secretary-General of Chinese National Committee for the Care of Children (CNCCC),
- Ms. Maggie Koong, Ms. Annie Wu and distinguished members of the Hong Kong Committee for UNICEF,
- Ms. Gigi Leung, Hong Kong Committee for UNICEF Ambassador,
- Mr. Vanness Wu,
- Ms. Mei Ting,
- Our Friends from the Media,
- Ladies and Gentlemen and CHILDREN... ..

It is my honour— as well as great pleasure — to welcome you all to this UNICEF and Ministry of Commerce event which has been so magnificently supported by the CNCCC and Cartier in an innovative partnership with a major contribution to make to a most important group of China’s children.

As our **UNICEF Ambassador Gigi Leung** and also other distinguished guests from UNICEF Hong Kong will be aware, today’s event at this spectacular location on the Great Wall is **a kind of anniversary**.

For just over a year ago— at this same site— Gigi was here to congratulate **the first HIV/AIDS Youth Ambassadors ever appointed in China**. With their active participation, backed by the strongest commitment from the Government of China, **The Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS Campaign** in China has gone from strength to strength.

And yet— as is always the case — **still more can be done, and must be done** to build an even stronger role for young people in turning back the HIV epidemic.

I congratulate all partners **on working together with UNICEF** to provide care and assistance to children affected by HIV/AIDS.

When Gigi was here last, she traveled to Guizhou Province to see for herself the situation of these children, which she movingly described at the press conference back in Beijing. Welcome back, Gigi, and a warm welcome also to two other celebrities supporting our common cause ... **Vanness Wu** and **Mei Ting**.

To our existing partnerships with the **Ministry of Commerce and the CNCCC**, we are today adding a **new** corporate partner— CARTIER— one of the world's top brands.

I would like to congratulate CARTIER on the commendable **social responsibility** and **leadership** they have brought to today's launch. We hope that other companies will follow the CARTIER example and lend their support to addressing this epidemic which affects **young people** so much but where equally, young people are part of the **solution and can take so much action to stop AIDS from spreading**.

Together all of you are making a difference for children who need **all the understanding and affection** we can provide them. Our backdrop "LOVEDAY with UNICEF" seems to me to say it well.

Our **hope for the future** is that **all children** who are in our midst today have the capacity and commitment "**to learn, share and care**"— as we say in the campaign --- and to do these things without fear or anxiety because **you are all protected by your knowledge** of what HIV is and how it is transmitted.

In closing, I would simply saythank you MOFCOM, thank you CNCCC, thank you UNICEF Hong Kong, thank you Cartier and thank you, Gigi, Vanness and Mei Ting, for lending **your time, your support** and **your commitment** to this latest and most innovative partnership for children affected by HIV/AIDS... and my thanks also to the media and indeed **to all of you** who made the journey to the Great Wall today....xie xie da jia!