

# UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Archive: Mia Farrow

Video B-roll (October 2003)  
Total Running Time: 55:56

1. **Mia Farrow Speaks (1999 – 2000) 4:00**
2. **PSA for Say Yes for Children Campaign (2001) :20**
3. **Mia Farrow visits Nigeria (January 14 – 20, 2001) 26:12**
4. **Mia Farrow visits Angola (August 4 – 10, 2002) 24:38**

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## INTRODUCTION

To mark the 50th anniversary of UNICEF Goodwill Ambassadors in 2004, UNICEF's Broadcast Unit has researched its film and video archives for original footage of Goodwill Ambassadors visiting UNICEF programmes all over the world. The highlights of this footage have been edited into video B-rolls which are intended to be used by broadcasters to make TV programmes highlighting UNICEF's work. For more information please e mail [broadcast@unicef.org](mailto:broadcast@unicef.org)

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UNICEF appointed **Mia Farrow** to Goodwill Ambassador in September 2000 during the first Global Polio Partners Summit at the United Nations (UN) in New York. Farrow's association with UNICEF dates from December 1998, when she participated in a celebration at the UN in New York to mark the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In July 1999, she helped launch the UNICEF report *The Progress of Nations 1999*, which devoted a chapter to the fight against polio. Farrow has done much to draw attention to efforts to eradicate the disease since her appointment.

## 1. Mia Farrow Speaks

Even before she was appointed a Goodwill Ambassador, Mia Farrow was fighting for polio eradication. In July of 1999, she participated in the Progress of Nations press conference at the United Nations in New York. The 1999 edition of P.O.N. documented the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS on children, while celebrating the momentum in eradicating polio from the earth. Mia spoke about her experience having polio growing up and what must be done to fight it.

<b>TIMECODE</b>	<b>SHOTLIST</b>
01 00 18	Mia, July 1999: “The stigma of having had polio was nearly as painful as having the disease itself. But I was lucky. I had survived without any lasting physical effects, unlike many of the children in the ward or in the developing world today. So I feel a moral obligation to stand here today on their behalf, to lend my support to UNICEF, the WHO and Rotary International. With the hope that by the end of the year 2000 their worthy goal will be met that every single child on this earthy will be vaccinated against polio.”

The Global Partners Summit brought together some of the leading figures in the fight against polio, including Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, Director-General, WHO; Frank Devlyn, President, Rotary International; Dona Shalala, US Secretary of Health and Human Services; Carol Bellamy, Executive Director of UNICEF. Carol Bellamy announced Mia Farrow's appointment as Goodwill Ambassador and Mia gave a speech remembering her experiences with polio. Before the Summit started, she and her son Thaddeus, started the clock that counts down polio cases to eradication.

<b>TIMECODE</b>	<b>SHOTLIST</b>
01 00 52	Mia, Thaddeus (her son), and Kofi Annan stand in front of polio countdown clock
01 01 29	Mia speaks to audience at Global Partnership summit “I spent some of the longest days and nights of my life in an iron lung just like that one. Still I was one of the fortunate ones. I had survived polio without any of the lasting effects, unlike many of the other children in my hospital ward or in the developing world today. Children, like my son Thaddeus, who contracted polio in India where he was in an orphanage until 5 years ago. There he had to drag himself on the ground. Here he gets around in a wheelchair and to stand he is braced from his waist through his shoes. He is an enthusiastic little boy who meets the difficult challenges of each day with courage and humour. I'm really proud of him – My son Thaddeus Farrow. Thaddeus joins me today to see the dream come true and to support this great initiative of UNICEF, the WHO, Rotary International, the Centers for Disease Control, to vaccinate every child so that the world can be certified polio free by the year 2005....”

Following Mia's appointment as Goodwill Ambassador, UNICEF sent a camera crew to her home in Connecticut to interview her about being involved in UNICEF and the fight against polio.

<b>TIMECODE</b>	<b>SHOTLIST</b>
01 03 19	"I perhaps am more motivated than most people because I had polio myself when I was 9 and it was a real struggle to come through it. And what I saw around me will never leave me, in the hospitals and public wards for contagious diseases. Perhaps even more so because I have a son who's only 12 years old and he's paralyzed from the waist down because of polio, he has partial use of one hand. This is a terrible disease and he has a lot of difficulty just getting through the day. And I would love to see the end of polio where no more children have this."

## **2. Say Yes for Children PSA for Global Movement for Children (2001) :20**

Mia joined dozens of UNICEF Goodwill Ambassadors and other notable people in the PSA campaign urging people to say yes in support of children's rights. The PSAs were broadcast all over the world.

<b>TIMECODE</b>	<b>SHOTLIST</b>
01 04 22	"I'm Mia Farrow and I believe that all children have a right to grow up in health, peace and dignity."

## **3. Visit to Nigeria (January 14 – 20, 2001)**

Mia's first UNICEF field visit, in January of 2001, was to Nigeria. Accompanied by her son Seamus, she visited UNICEF-supported projects and helped launch a national polio immunization day.

Daughters of Abraham is a project in Abuja, established as an initiative to rehabilitate girls previously involved in prostitution in northern Nigeria. (Daughters of Abraham is not presently supported by UNICEF but is a good example of a working project.) The residents sang to welcome Mia and she toured the facility, including the computer room. In the Kaduna area, she visited other projects, such as a health centre and a well.

Mia then met with First Lady Mrs. Stella Obasanjo. After taking a formal photo with the First Lady and others, Mia was brought to the Millennium Hope Home Centre for "Children in need of Special Protection Measure." She visited a classroom of boys and talked with a boy with polio outside. Mia and the First Lady posed for photos with the boy.

In Ibadan, Mia tried her hand at pounding cassava with a local woman. She attended a special luncheon celebration where she received a Nigerian dress and headpiece. After modelling her new outfit, she joined in the dancing. She visited a school and a public health centre as well.

In Lagos, Mia visited the School for the Handicapped, established by one of the Christian missionaries over 20 years ago. Many of the students have polio. Mia interacted with the youth, talking and dancing with them. She spoke to the press about being in Nigeria, the immunization campaign and the work of UNICEF.

Next Mia, Seamus and First lady Stella Obasanjo launched the national immunization campaign. There was a major gathering and celebration. Mothers and babies were present to be immunized. Mia, Seamus and the First

Lady traveled by boat to the Tarkwa Bay community where they are welcomed by dancing. Mia and others vaccinated the children.

Finally, back in Lagos, Mia gave a press conference.

<b>TIMECODE</b>	<b>SHOTLIST</b>
01 05 00	Mia and Seamus meet head of Daughters of Abraham
01 05 23	Women sing welcome song to Mia
01 05 40	MF listening while girls sing
01 05 52	Computer room, young woman types "You are welcome Mia Farrow"
01 06 29	Mia and Seamus walk in courtyard, boy toddler crying
01 06 52	Mia in room with cribs, picks up various babies from crib
01 07 39	Mia and UNICEF rep look on at well -Cutaways to walking, raising water, people watching.
01 08 45	Mia with First Lady, taking a photo
01 09 20	Millennium Hope Centre
01 09 35	Classroom with boys, Mia shakes hands
01 09 47	Mia stands with boy with polio outside, takes photo with him and First Lady
01 10 07	Mia tries to pound cassava with village woman
01 11 07	Mia dances with local women -Cutaways to musicians, CU dancing, babies
01 12 22	Mia makes a speech: "I'm here in Nigeria because there is a giant launch for all the children of Nigeria all across the country to receive the polio vaccine. And I know it's very important for all the babies and all the children to get their vaccine this coming week and to remind everybody of that. I want to congratulate everybody on the good work you're doing in your community. I've heard about the health centre. I know how important it is and how important your work here it is. I know that, I see my friends from UNICEF have been writing down your requests...I know you have their ear, and mine, as well as my heart. So thank you very much. I'm delighted to be here and I look forward to looking around and understanding better about your village and I'll bring news of you back to America when I go on Sunday."
01 13 32	UNICEF rep presents Mia with dress
01 14 27	Mia emerges with new dress, models it
01 14 52	Mia dances with women
01 15 32	Mia in nursery, picks up babies
01 16 48	Kids singing welcome song to Mia
01 17 30	Mia claps, thanks children, walks around classroom
01 18 12	Mia waves goodbye, kids wave back
01 18 24	Young girl with polio and crutches gives Mia flowers, leads Mia to courtyard - Cutaways to kids watching, CU dancing, MF at head table
01 18 54	Mia shakes hands of youth with polio
01 19 42	Youth dancing, Mia joins in
01 20 42	Mia, with child in lap, talks to girl with polio
01 21 06	Mia speaks to camera: "I'm really impressed...I really believe that transmission will be finished within 2 years. Everywhere we've gone, even the remote villages, they're ready for the vaccines. They've already been immunizing and they're ready to continue. No one is unaware of the program that we've run into, even in the most remote places. I feel certain that there won't be any new cases of polio within three years."

01 21 42	Immunization Day
01 22 00	Mothers with babies, CU babies
01 22 30	Mia makes a speech: “I had polio myself when I was 9 years old and I have a son who is adopted from India who is paraplegic as a result of polio. So it has been my dream for many, many years, almost my whole life, to witness a day like this, which is the harbinger of the end of polio in Africa, in Nigeria, all over the world. I am especially excited to be here today with my son Seamus Farrow. We spent the last 8 days travelling across Nigeria. We visited many health centres and I was excited and my heart was made glad to see that every where we went, mothers were aware that immunization day was coming up and they were prepared to bring their children, bring their babies to the centres to be immunized. So we can say together, let there be no more polio. Thank you for your hospitality. Thank you for all the workers who are participating in this massive immunization. Thank you Nigeria for everything you’ve taught me in this last week. God bless you all.”
01 23 51	Mia and Seamus get on boat, arrive at immunization site - Cutaway shots of mothers, babies CU, arriving at Tarkwa and dancing
01 24 42	Mia dances with villagers
01 24 55	Immunization
01 25 57	Interview with Mia
01 25 57	“Today we went to a village, we really just stopped in. Kuje. The most charming people greeted us and presented their problems, which were water problems, which is a very real situation. And Stella was able to say, “Yes, help will be coming.” They needed medicine and they needed it now and they needed a solution to their water problem. It was so great to be in the presence – to see UNICEF at work. This is really what it’s all about. There is now a plan to get medicine to this village and to help with their water situation. That was extraordinary to me. I could have wandered into that village and been unable to do anything. And to have an effective person and group of people by my side, it was very very satisfying.” Cutaways to listening 01 27 00 – 01 27 10
01 27 10	“I grew up in an affluent home in Beverly Hills, California. My mother was a movie star. She was Jane in the Tarzan movies. It was very – almost a magical existence. Suddenly, on my 9th birthday, I fell down. And this party was going on with all my friends. And the next morning was Sunday and my family, I was one of seven children, and we were getting up to go to church. Again, I fell on the ground. To make a long story short, 2 spinal taps later, I found myself in the public ward for contagious diseases at the Los Angeles General Hospital, diagnosed with polio.” Cutaways to listening 01 28 00 – 01 28 10
01 28 10	“When I returned to my house, everything was different. My brothers and sisters were moved out of the house. The lawn, the grass, was torn up. The house was being repainted. The furniture, all the covers had been torn off. There was wallpaper that was taken off. The disease - they didn’t know at that time where the disease was. The dog had been given away. And everybody was afraid of me, even my mother. My mother was not in my house. My father stayed there. When I returned home, after one year, when I returned back to school, other kids wouldn’t play with me. Nobody would play with me. There was so much fear in the air. They were afraid that maybe I still carried the disease. They all, because of me, had to undergo a preliminary series of injections which were proved ultimately not to be effective. But, anybody who had any contact with me – I can imagine what went on in every household. So, this sort of being a pariah, I lived with and I think it gave me a heightened sense of responsibility. And perhaps compassion or empathy for everyone in the world who is suffering from this disease or any ideas. It’s tough.

	So, wherever I can help... I feel now as though I'm in a lifeboat because I'm saved, for the moment anyway. And I feel a responsibly to pull as many people into my lifeboat or onto shore as I can." Cutaways to listening 01 29 56 – 01 30 04
01 30 04	"The primary reason for my visit is to come here, to absorb what I can, understand what I can and go back, tell people in my country exactly what's going on. What UNICEF is doing and what is going on here and the problems that need to be addressed. With the hope that more people will come forward. That there will be more people mobilized and focused on help that is needed here." Cutaways to listening 01 30 31 – 01 30 40
01 30 40	UNICEF Representative Stella Goings: "Mia's celebrity - the fact that she is internationally recognized, the fact that she has achieved a level of prominence that is beyond international borders, gives her entrée that it's difficult for the rest of us to have. When she speaks, she speaks with a level of personal commitment."

#### **4. Visit to Angola (April 29-30, 2002)**

War in Angola has cost more than a million lives since 1975. More than 450,000 Angolans have fled as refugees to neighbouring countries and more than four million have been internally displaced. On April 4 2002, hostilities in the decades-long conflict finally ceased as representatives of the Government of the Republic of Angola (GRA) and the National Union for the Independence of Angola (UNITA) signed a memorandum of understanding. On August 2, the GRA and UNITA officially declared the end of the 27-year conflict. Two days later, Mia Farrow and her fourteen year old son Seamus arrive in the country on mission with UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund.)

Farrow travelled to four of the most war-affected provinces, meeting with women and children maimed in war, children who were orphaned by war, teachers, doctors, aid workers, provincial officials, and former UNITA soldiers. She saw UNICEF-supported government projects to register the births of millions of Angolan children, and to trace the hundred thousand children separated from their families.

In Luanda, Mia visited the Centro de Acolhimento de Crianças Arnaldo Janssen. Started by Father Horacio, it is a centre for adolescent boys rescued from the streets of the Angolan capital. Many of the boys receive counselling and, if possible, are assisted in returning to their families. Older boys, who can no longer be in the education system, work during the day and attend classes at night. Singing children welcomed Mia. She visited one of the carpentry classes, received a present of handmade wooden chairs, and attended an assembly where she speaks to the boys and young men.

That evening, Mia attended a meeting of the UNICEF staff and spoke about being part of UNICEF.

In Kuito, Mia was welcomed in the airport with flowers and singing. She visited the UNICEF-supported Chissindo IDP camp, where she observed the birth registration of numerous babies. Outside the clinic, Mia played with young children and clapped along with their singing. She spent some time talking to injured women.

At Casas Lar (a centre with a child reunification and family tracing project) and the Primary Health Care and Nutrition project, she witnessed baby-weighing, fed a baby, and vaccinated children. Cutaways to children on swing, playing, line of people outside clinic and CU kids

The next day, Mia traveled to Lubango, where she encountered a chorus of welcome. Numerous young children sang to her and gave her flowers. In association with the Association for Community Development and Participation (ADCP), street children are working on self-constructed houses and Mia inspected them.

Back in Luanda, Mia held a press conference to talk about her experience.

<b>TIMECODE</b>	<b>SHOTLIST</b>
01 31 31	Mia arrives, kids singing welcome, Mia shakes hands - Cutaways of UNICEF car, courtyard
01 32 35	Mia shakes boys hands, thanks them
01 33 27	“Thank you so much. That was such a warm greeting. You made us feel so welcome.”
01 33 40	In classroom, boys present wooden chairs to Mia. Outside, she talks to young men about building furniture.
01 35 00	Auditorium – kids playing music, singing and clapping while Mia enters - Cutaways of kids playing music, Mia at head table, kids clapping
01 35 30	Mia gets gift, thanks everyone: “Thank you very much...to all the children of the centre. I will never forget you.”
01 36 34	Mia makes a speech: “Dear children, thank you for welcoming me to your home, to your community. That I see here great courage. I see here great hope and promise. I see great love. I feel your dream and I hear it. I hope with all my heart that your dreams come true. And I believe you can do it. And I’m going to come back someday and see you all as great men. Until then I’ll be thinking of you and I send you my love from across the ocean. Thank you.”
01 37 58	Mia leaves, waves goodbye and shakes hands through window of car
01 38 28	Night city scene
01 38 38	Mia at UNICEF staff meeting
01 39 58	Star welcomes Mia
01 40 20	Mia gets off plane
01 41 00	Girl ties scarf around Mia’s neck, gives flowers, sings in group a welcome
01 41 33	Van arrives at Chissindo IDP - Cutaways to women on line, poster of birth registration, pump, see saw, UNICEF flag,
01 42 09	Observing birth registration, CU signing documents, babies
01 43 06	Mia outside with children, plays with hands, picks up baby, children sing, clap - Cutaways to CU Mia, Mia shaking hands, Mia picking up baby and clapping with children
01 45 38	Mia and Seamus walk through village with two little girls
01 45 54	Mia talks to polio women (?)
01 46 44	Mia arrives at Casas Lar (?)
01 47 08	Mia with baby being weighed
01 47 42	Mia feeding baby
01 48 28	Health and nutrition centre, people on line outside of clinic, children on swing, CU kids

01 49 24	Mia vaccinates
01 50 45	Mia meets government official “Thank you for coming. I’ll do my best to represent Angola and the problem it faces when I return to the United States. Thank you so much. Thank you for making me feel so welcome. I leave a little piece of my heart.”
01 51 33	ADCP – kids sing welcome song, give Mia flowers
01 52 00	Mia shakes children’s hands and hugs them
01 53 55	Mia inspects house frame
01 53 52	Press Conference
	Mia Farrow says: “The general feeling in the United States, just average people, working people, they don’t really understand the situation here. There is vague impression of a far away country, a country who has endured, suffered a great deal, over 3 decades. This I think everybody knows. The current situation is, there’s not a lot of light on it, not a lot of international press has been here. So just as a person of the people I was asked to come to Angola to better understand the problems it was facing and bring this information back home, back to the United States, where I’ll speak to the media, television, radio, newspaper, there was even talk of me going to congress, and telling them my impressions and representing as accurately as I can what I’ve learned here. In all my travels, through all my work, I’ve met many interesting people. But I’ve never met kinder people, or more extraordinary people than I’ve met this week.”
01 55 28	Mia says: “In the most difficult circumstances imaginable, I saw the triumph of the human spirit. I saw people who have lost everything, but they have not lost the idea of how to reconstruct their lives, of what they need. The idea of how to love, how to care for each other. They are deserving of every assistance, certainly.”

For more information about the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNICEF’s Goodwill Ambassadors, please see [http://www.unicef.org/media/media\\_18045.html](http://www.unicef.org/media/media_18045.html)

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