

eKhaya at Home

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UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, Laurence Fishburne gets a warm greeting from children at the Soul Buddyz Club at Winnie Ngwekazi Primary School, Soweto.

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Goodwill Ambassador Laurence Fishburne

On first visit to South Africa advocates for OVCs and young people's initiatives to fight HIV and AIDS

"If South Africans can overcome apartheid, then you can also overcome the HIV & AIDS epidemic," says Goodwill Ambassador Laurence Fishburne, who just concluded a four-day visit to the country, touring rural communities of KwaZulu Natal and meeting with orphans and vulnerable children in localities that have one of the highest HIV/AIDS prevalence rates in South Africa, as well as a high incidence of violence against women and children.

Both Mr Fishburne and US Fund President Chip Lyons were committed to his visit to South Africa in support of UNICEF's assisted programmes here. But it took almost a year to get the Hollywood action star away from his busy movie-making schedule and out to South Africa to learn first hand, about HIV and AIDS and its impact on children.

Led by Country Representative Misrak Elias and the OVC programme team, the US Fund visitors, including Ron Gibbs, Senior Vice President, and Marissa Buckanoff, got a close-up look at the South Africa's pioneering role in community-based and youth-driven initiatives to prevent of HIV/AIDS among young people. Mr. Fishburne also observed programmes that offer protection, care and support for orphans and vulnerable children from the industrial, commercial and media hub that is Johannesburg to bustling Soweto, Durban and parts of peri urban Pinetown in Kwa Zulu Natal, where he took the opportunity to dialogue with children and families, NGOs and media representatives and government officials.

Another project visited was Moorlands Primary School, in Chatsworth, KZN, where children are coming up with their own solutions for countering and preventing violence against girls in schools through a UNICEF supported programme.

In Johannesburg, Mr. Fishburne spent one Sunday morning talking with children from a Soul Buddyz Club in Pimville, Soweto and recorded two public service announcements for UNICEF, one dealing with positive models of masculinity and the other with violence against women. Next day, he attended a media roundtable hosted by the SABC and launched the UNICEF supported publication, all sides of the story: reporting on children, a journalist's handbook, which provides guidance on news coverage of children.

A firm supporter of children's rights, Mr. Fishburne took time to commend UNICEF partners, communities and children of South Africa for the insights provided during his visit which, he said, were critical to helping him understand the challenges faced by a country grappling with the complex nature of the HIV&AIDS epidemic and gender based violence, particularly its impact on women and children.

Commenting on his role as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, Mr. Fishburne told journalists, "I've been an actor for 32 years and I became really famous about 10 years ago...I like to touch and move people... I decided to do this work because it is human, it is universal and it's not political. This will become my real job, this is my real work." Perhaps we can expect him back in South Africa real soon.



With a mission to encourage youth-driven efforts to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS and to curb the problem of violence against women and children, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Laurence Fishburne celebrates life with young children in Soweto.

FOREWORD

– By Misrak Elias

The Mid Term Review process

Like many other UNICEF country offices, South Africa is in the process of a Mid Term Review (MTR) to assess the performance of our four programmes – HIV and AIDS, Primary Health Care, Education and Communication Community Participation – as originally detailed in the Master Plan of Operations, for modification if necessary in staffing structure and budgetary allocations for fulfilling the obligations of the new programme priorities, objectives and goals established as a result of the review.

As many of you know, this year (2004) represents the chronological mid-point of the current country programme implementation cycle of five years (2004-2006). In this regard, it is mandatory for SACO to conduct, in collaboration with government and other partners, an (MTR) of the implementation of the Country Programme of Co-operation.

The MTR process entails extensive consultation with government and sectoral partners and the establishment of internal thematic and technical working groups who create and execute the work plans for this process. Its main purpose is to review any changes in the country situation and understand the implications for programme co-operation; identify new challenges and

opportunities that the country programme should address based on the updated situation; identify key lessons learned and programme achievements in relation to the current MPO objectives, incorporate the results of studies conducted, lessons learned and new strategies for programme implementation.

The MTR will also look at any constraints experienced in the implementation of the country programme adopted during the past two and a half years and examine how they have been addressed in order to adjust or modify goals, objectives and key strategies and if necessary the overall programme structure and financial resources to make it more focussed and relevant to the latest developments in the country and more effective in addressing MTSP and UNDAF priorities.

The MTR process is expected to continue over the next four and a half months until mid-October when a final report is produced and recommendations made for the next half of the country programme cycle 2004-2006.

I look forward to everyone's cooperation and support during this important process.

– Misrak



Community-based IMCI

With polio on the move across borders, UNICEF helps South Africa step up immunisation action around the country to stop the disease



A health worker immunizes a new baby during a recent immunisation campaign in KwaZulu-Natal

South Africa saw its last polio case 1989. Why then, did the respected daily newspaper, *This Day*, want comments from the UNICEF country office about the threat of a polio outbreak in South Africa following news of a child contracting the crippling disease in neighbouring Botswana?

In a 27 May report, OPSCEN, UNICEF's emergency alert wire informed country offices, quoting a government spokesperson, that: "Health officials at district level in north western South Africa have been put on "red alert" to prevent the spread of polio from over the border in Botswana." The report also said that district health officials for the North West province have noticed that the number of children coming in for inoculation to prevent polio "had dropped in recent years and are now taking urgent steps to ensure that all children are inoculated, particularly in the districts located along the border with Botswana."

According to Dr. Marinus Gotink, Chief of the SACO Health and Nutrition Programme, there was good reason for concern. "While there are no reports of a polio outbreak in South Africa, unfortunately, polio travels with people, so there is always this danger when the disease, which is a spread by human contact, has not been eliminated." After outbreaks the Botswana and Nigeria outbreaks, South Africa has stepped up its surveillance to detect the disease.

Editor's Note: In UNICEF, EPI (expanded programme of immunisation) is an integrated part of IMCI (Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses) with community focus for social mobilisation. Key family practices are implemented for the improvement of overall child health and improved child response. These include home treatment, community involvement and referrals to health centres. More in the next issue of eKhaya

Immunisation: How UNICEF adds value

South Africa runs an effective programme of immunisation with highly skilled nurses and health workers. However, there are weaknesses in rural areas of low coverage and the country is only now moving to auto destruct (AD) syringes to improve infection safety -- an excellent move in the high risk environment of HIV/AIDS. Among several challenges posed by the immunisation situation are the need for improvements in injection safety, the need for integration of Vitamin A service delivery in the extended programme of immunisation and for improved data management, and the high attrition rate among health care professionals, which is being addressed by several Government initiatives. The "Reach every District" (RED) strategy has been instituted to help improve coverage in low-performing districts around the country.

Recently, UNICEF South Africa supported the National Department of Health with the supply of 410,000 AD (auto destruct) syringes from our Supply Division warehouse in Copenhagen. The AD syringe is a single use product designed to be disposed of after use. The supply by UNICEF to the South African immunisation programme is for their field testing programme during the forthcoming measles immunisation campaign, hopefully leading to a change of national policy supporting auto-destruct syringes, their adoption and use. Currently, AD syringes are used throughout the world with UNICEF being the largest purchaser and supplier.

UNICEF SA also plans to continue working with partners to strengthening surveillance for improved reporting of polio and measles to meet certification goals for 2005, to facilitate the shift to the safer AD syringes and to involve communities and families in child care practices.

Community-based IMCI

Useful information about polio and measles immunisation

Following the Minister of Health's launch two years ago, of the nationwide and SADC campaign to attain WHO polio free certification South Africa and the region by the end of 2004, several provincial and national level social mobilization and awareness-raising activities were undertaken to help elevate immunization coverage levels to the desired rate of 80% for the country. These actions include:

- A Mass Polio and Measles Campaign, 1st round, 26-30 July 2004; 2nd round scheduled 30 Aug.-3 Sept. 2004.
- A National 'Polio Plus' Ride organised by Rotary International together with Government and the pharmaceutical company, Aventis Pasteur, from 2003 to 2005 to raise awareness of the importance of immunisations. The final ride is scheduled for 28 June to 5 July 2005 in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, KZN and Eastern Cape provinces.

For more information:

Web Sites

Anti vaccination websites: <http://www.skeptics.com.au/journal/anti-immune.htm>
<http://www.radioislam.org.za/misc/vaccines.htm>

Also, watch out for these materials that will help educate families and communities about the importance of polio and measles immunisation:

- Public service announcement posters are sent out in English on a regular basis on all matters pertaining to EPI by the Department of Health. Provinces are encouraged to translate the materials in their local languages and develop their own campaign communication strategies around the materials for local communities.
- Electronic copies of consent forms and pamphlets in English, Afrikaans and Tswana, were also sent by to the provinces, and
- Promotional Material supported by UNICEF, in the form of bibs and aprons for children and care givers, shopping bags for volunteers, and rulers for distribution to students during the Polio-Plus Final Ride next year, will also be available.
- The National Polio and Measles Campaign launch will be celebrated during the first week of Polio-Plus Final Ride. All provinces will organise their own pre-launch and launch activities before the national campaign.



Polio moves across borders (continued)

Currently, South Africa is working towards attaining Polio Free certification status for the country by the end of 2004 and the government announced in June that it will embark on a polio immunisation campaign beginning in July. Containment of the wild polio virus is essential and is maintained through a sound vaccination policy, stringent lab conditions and effective surveillance and reporting of any suspected cases. To maintain what health professionals call "herd immunity" or the appropriate level of coverage in communities, periodic polio and measles campaigns have been going on in South Africa in high risk areas over the past 10 years. Now UNICEF is assisting in stepping up national information campaigns to get people better informed about the disease and to help support efforts to reach high levels of coverage in all districts (reach every district RED approach) by 2005.

The polio situation worldwide

Worldwide there are only four polio endemic countries that still report actual cases. With 722 cases reported globally, Nigeria, at 353 cases, has the highest number in the world. India reports 225 cases, the lowest ever for this country and Pakistan, 101. The consensus is that all endemic countries are making good progress, with the exception of Nigeria. Last year, that country experienced the suspension of polio vaccinations supported by international organisations including UNICEF, due to a series of anti-vaccination campaigns by Muslim communities located in the north of the country. An interruption in routine immunization programmes as well as a boycott of the planned mass immunization campaigns scheduled to rollout in the country in March 2004. Their action posed a major setback for the WHO polio eradication globally with the result that imported cases of polio have been reported in four of the neighbouring countries, namely - Chad, Burkina Faso and Niger—where zero cases of polio have been seen for the past few years. And, according to UNICEF, the threat of the epidemic has seen 22 countries in Africa launch their own mass immunisation campaigns to prevent the spread of the disease.

Action in the Southern Africa Region

In Southern Africa, polio eradication is a regional initiative. South Africa assists both Lesotho and Swaziland with technical support and a regional International Certification Committee (ICC), consisting of experts from the three countries, has been established and will be the key co-ordinating body that will assist WHO in certifying the region as Polio Free. Immunization coverage currently stands at 70% with intensive efforts underway to reach the targeted objective of 80% immunization coverage for all districts.

Manchester United star Quinton Fortune appointed Goodwill Ambassador

Quinton Fortune, Manchester United footballer and South African born star from the Western Cape, has been appointed UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador for South Africa.

In a letter to Mr. Fortune, Country Representative Misrak Elias said "It gives me great pleasure to join our Executive Director in welcoming you, a son of Africa, as our special Goodwill Ambassador for South Africa". Noting the star's activities on the continent as a friend of children, she said SACO looked forward to working with him in furthering the rights of children in South Africa, particularly in helping us to promote positive action to reduce the high incidence of violence against women and children in the country.

Welcome Quinton! Welkom Quinton!



PARTNER NEWS



5th World Summit on Media for Children to be held in South Africa

Date set for March 2007

South Africa has won the Bid to host the 5th World Summit for Children and the Media to be held here in March 2007.

At a recent briefing to announce the decision, Firdoze Bulbulia, Chairperson of the Children and Broadcasting Foundation (CBFA), and of the Summit, said she was excited that after ten years of participation and development work, the Summit Movement had decided on South Africa as the host and venue for the child-focused event held every three years in capitals around the world.

"This is an African victory", said Ms. Bulbulia. "It is an opportunity for all of the African continent, and South Africa in particular, to showcase its work in the area of children's media in a truly African way." The theme of the 2007 Summit which seeks to promote quality children's media will be Media as a Tool for Global Peace and Democracy.

With three years to plan, CBFA is busy drawing up partnership projects proposed for development with children for the Summit. Among them are "I am an African" production series in which African children reflect on their heritage; an Animation public service announcement (PSA) development project, and an Indigenous Cultures projects celebrating stories from the San, Bolivian Indians, Aborigines through child-developed stories for radio and TV.

Full participation details are available from CBFA moments@icon.com.

SABC announces: News and current affairs programme for children

By the end of this year, SABC will have its first news and current affairs programme for children. Speaking at a press breakfast, attended by UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Laurence Fishburne, Judy Nwokedi, Managing Director, Public Broadcasting Services said the programme, a first for South Africa and the African continent, is aimed at upper primary school children age 8-12 years old. It will be transmitted once a week with a 24-minute duration, beginning on 29 October 2004.

Adding to its considerable lineup of children's television programming, SABC Education's new children's news programme aims to fulfil the public broadcaster's mandate to support child and youth development in South Africa, Ms. Nwokedi said. "It is imperative that through our programming we develop a nation of critical thinkers so as to take us to the next level in our democracy," she added. The news programme will be accessible for both hearing and deaf viewers.

Says Project Manager Jacqui Hlongwane-Papo: "Children for the first time will have access to news and information tailor-made for them. A new window of possibility will be opened to them for them to begin to make sense of the world around them. The programme hopes to develop a new breed of youngsters who will exercise their right to question and receive information and, most of all, form their own opinions with regard world events and their immediate surroundings."



In UNICEF's global campaign "Say Yes for Children", South African children cited the elimination of corporal punishment as one of their top priorities for improving children's lives. This poster was drawn by children in the Crime Reduction in Schools Project (CRISP) at Chatsworth Primary School, Durban.

Physical punishment: What are the alternatives?

Following recent news reports of children being caned or beaten for being late for school, and of one child who died after being beaten by a teacher in his school, the Children's Rights Centre, has recommended the following book:

Alternatives to Corporal Punishment-growing discipline and respect in classrooms by Porteous, Vally and Ruth Heinemann 2001.

Says the Centre: "The book considers the history of corporal punishment and education policy in South Africa. It provides practical and innovative ideas for use in all grades and various settings, recognizes the additional challenges of teaching and youth with specific learning problems a socio-emotional difficulties and addresses the need to involve parents and the community. The book brings hope for the education for a new sense of peace and enjoyment in the learning and teaching process."

YOUNG VOICES



1000 Wishes for the Children of the World

Twelve stunning of South African panels unveiled in 16 June celebration of children's rights

Constitution Hill, Johannesburg, 16 June 2004 – Having a pet and a toy, and being able to enjoy childhood by having opportunities to go to school and to play, are among the wishes that the South African children added to the German National Committee's children's painting initiative, "1000 Wishes for the Children of the World".

The unveiling of the children's wishes on historic Constitution Hill was part of the celebration of South African Youth Day, celebrated on 16 June, the global observance of the Day of the African Child. Assisted by student art mentors from the German International School in Johannesburg, more than 100 primary school children from ten Soul Buddyz Clubs in Gauteng province, one each from the Western Cape and from the Camperdown community in Kwa Zulu Natal, represented their South African peers around the country in expressing in paint their desires ranging from finding a cure for HIV/AIDS and healthy environments that include clean water and clear skies full of stars, to having sufficient food and a common peaceful future for all the world's children.

The twelve South African panels, painted on large pieces of cloth, were sewn into a giant "1000 Wishes" painting that is now in Japan where school children will add their own painted wishes to the global initiative to raise awareness about children's views and rights. The giant painting will then make its way to the Athens Olympics for display there and to help raise funds to make the wishes become reality.

The ceremony on historic Constitution Hill, attended by over 500 children and other guests, drew on the symbolism of the venue, a place where freedom and rights were once denied, today the home of the South African Constitutional Court, to highlight the country's advances in recognising and upholding the rights of children in the decade of democracy. Justice Yvonne Mokgoro of the Court was keynote speaker. Statements were also made by Mr. Jody Kollapen, Chair of the SA Human Rights Commission and Mr. Sam Ramsamy, President of the South African National Olympic Committee.

Country Representative Misrak Elias lauded South African children, who through their own acts of courage in asserting their right to have a say in issues that affect them during the Soweto uprising of 16 June 1976, had helped precipitate the transformation that had taken place in the country leading up to the celebration of children's rights today. "An initiative of this kind and size gives children a wonderful opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns", she said. "Our role as partners is to amplify their voices and let them be heard by other children, in other countries, and by other partners who can help their wishes come true."

Other participants in the programme included a delegation of German children, who were on their first South African visit accompanied by Ms. Nine Ruge, the UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador a prominent television personality from Germany. Ms Ruge thanked all the initiative partners on behalf of UNICEF, for making the celebration possible. Commenting further on the group's brief visit to South Africa, Ms. Ruge said: "We are fascinated by the diversity of South Africa and look forward to sharing our experiences with German children, ordinary German citizens in our television audience and with our initiative partners who did not have an opportunity to be with us."

Other highlights of the ceremony included the reading of 40 Articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and performance of the song "We are the children of the world" by the choir of the German International School.





My impressions of Painting Day

Ed's note: Children from twelve Soul Buddyz Clubs in Gauteng, KZN and Western Cape, who had never painted before were mentored by art students from the German International School and produced the striking work of that was unveiled on Constitution Hill on 16 June. Children from Orchards primary School painted their wishes for a good education for all children. Two of the children tell us about their day.

By Keabetswe Molose

"On Saturday the 29th May, we went on a trip to the DSJ (German School in Johannesburg). It was fun, the teachers were there, the children were there it was just fun. We started the day with a speech from the school's principal, then breakfast to keep us energetic. We went to the painting rooms. There was a lot of painting to be done. Our clothes weren't dirty because they first gave us T-shirts to prevent the paint from touching our clothes. The school was huge. I also made a few friends. After painting, we went for lunch. The lunch was so nice. After lunch we went back to the painting. The bus that transported us was so cool. It had a fridge, a coffee machine and all the cool stuff that a bus could have. Mr. Loechelt [the German School Principal] was so friendly. It all started in Germany, from Germany to Rio de Janeiro, from Rio to South Africa, from RSA to Japan, from Japan to Athens. Without the UNICEF 1000 wishes for the children of the world, none of this could have happened."

By Clarence Baloyi:

"My name is Clarence Baloyi, star of the show. I was very happy to be invited to the UNICEF global event of 1000 wishes for the children of the world. I wish my wishes come true. We painted wishes and had a fabulous time. It was much more fun than going to the movies. This event started in Germany and went to New York in the USA and came to South Africa and will go to Japan and then to Athens. We took photos with VIP's and I think every single child should go to school. Children were interviewed and I think mostly the children who were interviewed will appear on TV. This global campaign was brought to you by UNICEF and Soul Buddyz Club and we will be on Constitutional Hill on Youth Day."

- *Anti-clockwise • Historic Constitution Hill provides the backdrop for the unveiling of the 12 stunning South African panels added to the giant 600 sq. meter painting depicting children's dreams, aspirations, desires concerns and hopes for the world.*
- *Painting Day: Children from 12 Soul Buddyz Clubs in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape provinces, mentored by older children from the German International School in Johannesburg, painted the wishes of children from all over the country on twelve large panels.*
- *The choir of the German International School in Johannesburg performed the song "We are the World, We are the Children."*
- *"Children's rights are there to give children protection in all circumstances of their everyday life - whether they live happy lives or whether they find themselves in difficult situations", Justice Yvonne Mogkoro, of the South African Constitutional Court and keynote speaker at the celebration.*
- *UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Nina Ruge applauds as a South African child reads out one of the 40 Articles from the Convention on the Rights of the Child.*
- *Head girl Gloria Mathlapeng and Head Boy Martin Koch, of the German Internal School were the Programme Directors for the event.*



5th Children and Media Summit:

Children must be part of the organising process says Aliyah

By Aliyah Allie, age 15 years, Grade 10, Raucall High School, Johannesburg

This being the world summit on media for children that we are preparing for, it is imperative that young people are present. As a result of the fact that we are the Children and Broadcasting Foundation of Africa (CBFA), it is of utmost importance that children are part of the organising process.

It will be children working on the agenda of children. CBFA believes that the participation of young people is vital and that if they are given the opportunity and the tools, the work that they produce can be of a very high standard. The CBFA child media team is proof of this. They also corroborate the fact that adults and young people are able to work well together and while doing that they are able to learn a lot from each other.

The media team is a group of young people who together produce television documentaries that are beneficial for other children. We have also taken on the responsibility of educating other children on broadcasting process and on how to use different types of broadcasting equipment.

The media team will be proactive in the organisation of the summit. We were at the previous two [children's media] summits and we have gained a fair amount of experience from them. We intend on using the experience gained from these summits and other projects that we have worked on to ensure that the level of child participation at the 5th summit will be of the highest.

It is as a result of the fact that the summit will be hosted in South Africa, that we believe it fundamental that South African youth are involved and that they all know what the summit is about. We want the summit to have a true South African flavour.

When involving children in the summit and when we have workshops with them, we will ensure that we avoid what it is that we hate the most: tokenism.

When 2007 arrives, those of us presently in the media team won't really be children anymore. It is therefore absolutely critical that other children are brought in and trained and we intend on doing exactly that.

When young people from all corners of the world are brought together, we have the propensity to not want to work all the time. To keep us focused, we need to be entertained after a hard days work. We also want to certify that by the time they leave South Africa, they have a good idea of what South Africa is and what it is that lead us to being what we are.



Aliyah Allie is one of five children representing a core group known as the CBFA Media Team. UNICEF has supported development and participation in several international conferences and national events over the past 6 years. These children are also experienced in training other children in making media for and by children. Here, Aliya (12 years old) interviews a younger child from the Zievenfontein informal settlement, Johannesburg, during the Word Summit for Sustainable Development, August 2002.

Children's views on the news: The top ten issues raised by children

In 2003, children participated in a study, Empowering Children and the Media, conducted by the Media Monitoring Project and supported by UNICEF South Africa and Save the Children Sweden. The study investigated children's representation and children's rights in the South African news media. When asked to express their opinions about the news, the children raised the following issues:

1. Children notice /don't like death and killing
1. Children should be included in the news
2. Children are victims
3. Children are not represented in the media
4. Children have a right to protection/education/provision/health care
5. Children enjoy sport and entertainment
6. Child abuse is horrible
7. Children notice crime
8. Helping needy children and people is good
9. Criminals should not go unpunished.

For further information on the study contact the Media Monitoring Project mmp@wn.apc.org

A KZN programme to Stop violence against girls

in the schools is vision of a boy!

Twelve year-old Mziwe Thutu Mondo is showing that having boys as strategic allies is a great advantage for girls. Thanks to Mziwe, the Malanga Senior Primary School in rural KwaZulu-Natal now has its own successful programme to curb violence against girls in schools.

Concerned about the high levels of violence experienced by girls in his community and school, Mziwe and fellow pupil Sikhulile Jiyane, who are both orphans, accompanied their principal Lydia Kekana to a presentation by children at the Chatsworth Primary School in Durban put on for visiting UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy, in which boys and girls showed off their own solutions to the problem of violence.

They impressed young Mziwe with their frank and creative approach in addressing the problem using drama and dialogue to engage their peers, parents and educators on the issue. After the presentation, Mziwe stepped right up to CRISP (Crime Prevention in the Schools Project) director Bashi Devnarain and said "I wish we could have a programme like this in my school." It didn't take long for Lydia and Bashi to take action, and with UNICEF support, Malanga's programme was off and running shortly after. Now the programme has received additional support to continue its community outreach through a private donation from the US Fund.

"The children are quite happy about this initiative," says Ms. Kekana, "and I have seen a lot of improvement in their interpersonal skills and dealings with people, in particular in dialogue with their parents about these difficult issues. Both of them are now counsellors", she says proudly. And what do the Malanga School children themselves have to say? Read their comments below:

By Mziwe Thutu Mondo, age 12

"There are many topics that are covered by CRISP like Basic Counselling. Things have changed at school. It is a place where it is nice to be and learn in it. We know our rights that are violated and we don't bully girls anymore. We play with each other nicely and we don't call them with other names. Some people get sick with HIV/AIDS. We have been taught to love them and how the disease spread. We wish to share this with other school in our area."

By Sikhulile Jiyane, age 13

"Presentation of CRISP at our school helped to change life at our school. We were faced with violence, sexual abuse like rape, gender conflict. Boys used to bully girls and there was a lot of name-calling and stealing of girls' toys, food and money. Boys did not want to do house-hold work like sweeping. Things have changed. We know how to respect each other. There are no name calling and bullying.

Boys can sweep with brooms and scrub floors when necessary."



Nziwe Thutu Mondo(second from right) age 12 years, Malanga Senior Primary School, KZN, with Principal Lydia Kekana (right). Others in the picture are from left, Misrak Elias, UNICEF SA Country Representative, Mntanenkosi (Son of the Chief) of KwaMthetwa, Empangeni, Sikhulile Jiyane (age 13), Carol Bellamy Executive Director UNICEF and Shiela Ngubane, Director of the UNICEF Welani Rural Trust in Empangeni.

German delegation included a junior ambassador and child reporters

At only nine years old, young Phillip Henschel is already showing the world that his heart is in child development and the fulfilment of children's rights. As a UNICEF Junior Ambassador and one of the children who painted the original 500 square metre painting now enroute to the Olympics, Phillip told the audience on Constitution Hill that his wish was for all the wars to stop and for all children to have love and peace in their lives.

Speaking through his Dad Klaus, Phillip, who was the guest of UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and prominent German TV personality Nina Ruge, said he was very happy to be in South Africa to learn about the country and to be one of the five children who will report back to German TV audiences on the South African story of the "1000 Wishes" and the children, people and experiences they had here. The final goal is to raise funds to make as many of the children's wishes come true for South African children.

Commenting on her and the children's visit to Soweto and to other sites in and around Johannesburg, Ms. Ruge said: "We all look forward to sharing our experiences with our television viewers back in

Germany, including children, ordinary German citizens and our UNICEF partners and volunteers in this initiative who did not have an opportunity to visit South Africa with us."

Young Phillip Henschel became a Junior Ambassador as part of a special drive in his school when he collected over \$500 dollars to support UNICEF programmes. His father Klaus, CEO of the national network of Lufthansa City Centres in Germany is a principal partner supporting the German National Committee for UNICEF and its development interests in Africa.



Phillip Henschel (second from left) age 9, a UNICEF junior ambassador, and four other children were part of the young reporting team that accompanied Goodwill Ambassador Nina Ruge.

ABOUT US



Tenth anniversary of freedom and democracy...

Touching the past, waltzing to the future: A reflection on Bantu education

by June Madingwane

As the country celebrates its first decade of democracy, I cannot resist thinking about our past. The one experience that stands out is the Bantu Education system, which was designed to either shape up or ship out the minds of young black children. Those whose minds got shipped out seldom managed to get back into the system. Those whose minds got shaped up were forced to acquire information against all odds.

I was born in Kimberley, Northern Cape, and brought up in Warrenton, 70km away, a small dusty township that did not have schools in the early seventies. Churches were our make-shift schools during the week. As a young girl, I hated school. My elder sister and cousins used to come home from school with swollen hands and fingers. These were results of beatings from teachers. In my young mind, I vowed never to subject myself to that kind of treatment. I was getting enough beatings at home as it were.

1973 turned out to be the worst year of my life. It was my turn to start school- the beginning of nightmarish years. Dressed in an oversized black tunic and a faded white shirt, I felt like a misfit, but my friends did not seem bothered by my clothes. Our classroom was a small A.M.E. church built from stones and mud. The Sub-Bs (grade 2) started classes in the mornings till midday and the Sub-As (Grade1) started at midday and finished at two in the afternoon.

We could not go to school on rainy days because water seeped in through the holes on the roof. On windy days, one or two corrugated iron sheets would be blown off and that meant school-free hours for us. Winters were icy and we could not concentrate in class. Unfortunately, nothing could be done about it. The seating was terrible. Six kids would be crammed on a single rickety bankstoel (bench) that is supposed to seat four people. Latecomers often sat on the dusty floor. I liked the back seats.

The first three days of school were fun for me. We spent hours playing outside and making friends. I even got into a fight with a boy who teased me about the massive seam from my tunic that was hanging out carelessly. But trouble started on the fourth day, when I went to the rest room (ladies room) without asking permission of the teacher. For that, she gave me four lashes on my palm. I cried uncontrollably until she threatened to do it again. From that day onwards, beatings became a way of life. I got a hiding for making noise in class, interrupting the teacher, going to school with

uncombed hair and many mischievous acts including street fights.

I envied my relatives who had proper schools in Galeshewe (Kimberley). They talked about libraries and I could not imagine what a library looked like. They often brought me books which I treasured; I loved the smell of books, new or used. Fortunately, things changed in 1975 when I passed to Standard One. Two new schools were built and we finally got proper desks. This was a wonderful experience for us children, which meant that we would not have to collect cow dung anymore to clean our 'classrooms' on Friday afternoons. With new schools also came extra-mural activities. I joined the drum majorettes.

In the new South Africa, all children have the right to a proper education and corporal punishment is illegal in the schools. There is still much to be done to equip all our schools and to prepare teachers to discipline children without use of the cane. However, many more children now have clean classrooms

and libraries and do not use slates when they start school. When my two children started school, they sported brand new uniforms with stylish back packs and everyone wanted to accompany them to school on their first day!

Although traces of Bantu Education can still be seen here and there, it feels good that it is no longer the order of the day for South African children.

Ed's Note: Bantu education was introduced in 1953 under the then Minister of Native affairs and late Prime Minister, Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd, who declared: "Native education should be controlled in such a way that it should be in accord with the policy of the state...If the native in South Africa today in any kind of school in existence is being taught to expect that he will live his life under the policy of equal rights, he is making a big mistake...There is no place for him in the European community above the level of certain forms of labour..."

TRAINING NEWS: Programme Process Planning in Pretoria



In April, SACO hosted the two-week long Regional Programme Process Planning (PPP) Training Workshop at the Burger's Park Hotel, Pretoria. At the end of the programme, participants responded the question: "What are the most important things that should be improved and, what were the main strengths of the workshop?" Colleagues cited the length of the training, the need to harmonise training materials, reduce the theoretical aspects and divide the programme into basic and advanced groups, as areas for future improvement. Many agreed, however, that they had learned a lot from the training, acknowledged the unique and rich experience because of the diversity of people from different countries represented, the youthful energy and enthusiasm of the JPOs, the participatory nature of the workshop and skills of some of the facilitators as definite strengths.

On the cargo flight to Chad

Perched amidst mosquito nets, emergency relief blankets and tents, our intrepid Supply Chief takes the 9-hour ride on the UNICEF cargo flight from Johannesburg to N' Djamena, Chad

By Brian Clear

"It's 5:15 am on a cold and dark South African winter morning and I am driving through the mist to Johannesburg International Airport to catch a flight, not the usual scheduled flight, but a seat on a UNICEF cargo charter flight to N'Djamena, Chad. Reaching the aircraft, an African International Airlines DC8, I ask when this was built? "In 1964 for Air Canada, but it still flies OK", is the answer.

On this cold morning the aircraft is being loaded with pallet after pallet of UNICEF supplies from our Johannesburg emergency stockpile. Mosquito nets, blankets, tents, basic family water kits all intended for the refugees from the fighting in Darfur Sudan who have fled across the border to eastern Chad. All the hustle and bustle is finally finished with the aircraft loaded with 40 tons of supplies, so tightly that we have to squeeze past the cargo into the cockpit where the crew are introduced, Vic the Captain, Barry, First Officer, Dean, Flight Engineer and Albert the Loadmaster.

I slip into my seat and we prepare to depart. After much tapping of dials and gauges the engines are running and we taxi out for a northerly take off. As we pass Pretoria on our left hand side, I realise that we are actually flying northeast. N'Djamena is to the northwest from Johannesburg. Well, I suppose the pilots know what they are doing, I think to myself. But after about 20 minutes I have to ask, "I thought that we are going to Chad?" "Oh, we are, but didn't anyone tell you we have to go to Mombasa first to buy fuel?" So, we continue, flying over Harare, Lilongwe, Dar es Salaam, out over the Indian Ocean, over Zanzibar and up the coast to land in Mombasa, Kenya, where we on-load 41 tons of fuel and prepare to depart to N'Djamena.

The aircraft is now "heavy" and the end of the Mombasa runway approaches very quickly. After the runway ends, there is only water - the Indian Ocean. Of course, we lift off just in time and turn to the right towards Nairobi, Kampala and onto N' Djamena. It's a slow climb from sea level, taking 50 minutes to reach our cruising altitude of 28,000 feet but this gives the opportunity for a wonderful view of snow-topped Mount Kilimanjaro off to the south in Tanzania. We continue onto N' Djamena while Albert the Loadmaster, who also doubles as the in flight attendant, keeps us supplied with sandwiches and coffee while the crew recount their stories of flying cargo planes all over Africa. Finally, nine hours after leaving Johannesburg we start our descent through a desert sandstorm into N' Djamena.

To be continued in the next issue of eKhaya



Making a difference

The SACO team recently warmed up the winter for the Children Leamogetswe Home of Safety in Attridgeville, Pretoria. Jerseys, shoes and clothes were donated to the children. Leamogetswe Home of Safety was identified last year by the Caring for Us team as the beneficiaries of contributions made by staff to children orphaned, affected and infected by AIDS. Donations to the home were delivered on World AIDS Day. It is such small steps that lead to greater things. The children of Leamogetswe Home of Safety remain grateful to UNICEF South Africa staff for warming their hearts in these trying times.

It's twin boys

for Walter and Charlotte Makakase

Walter and Charlotte have welcomed their newborn twins Onalerna and Oreratile Makakase. Proud Papa Walter, now the father of four sons, says he can already tell the twins apart. "They already have their own individual gestures," he says. The twins arrived 7 May 2004 and weighed 2.6 and 2.2 kilos.

... And a boy

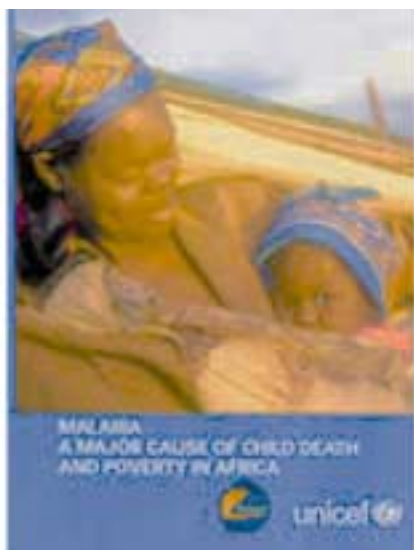
for Daniel and Salphina Sekhoela

Little Lethogonolo Sekhoela weighed in at 3.91 kilos on arrival on 14 July 2004. Daniel, from our Finance Unit is off on paternity leave to help Mom with the new baby.



BOOKS

NEW IN THE KRC



GUIDE To the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict

Produced by UNICEF and the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, this publication is an essential guide to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child related to children in armed conflict. It aims to support child rights advocates in their work to generate momentum and support for ratification and implementation of the Optional Protocol.

Accelerating Progress in Girls' Education

This booklet describes how UNICEF, working with a range of partners in a global education campaign, is reaching out-of-school girls - a group in need of immediate attention - in 25 'acceleration' countries.

WHO/UNICEF Joint Statement on Reducing Measles Mortality in Emergencies

To reduce the number of measles deaths and interrupt transmission of the measles virus during and after complex emergencies this statement advocates for urgent, structured and coordinated supplementary immunization activities, together with vitamin A supplementation.

Strategies for Girls' Education

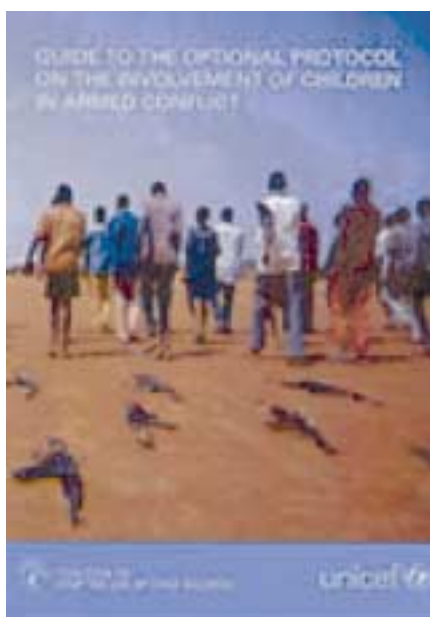
Millions of young girls never attend school. Millions more never complete their education. This publication, reprinted from The State of the World's Children 2004, describes key strategies that can be used to ensure that more girls attend and complete school.

WHO/UNICEF Joint Statement on Reducing Measles Mortality in Emergencies

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Malaria: A major cause of child death and poverty in Africa

Malaria is crippling Africa's economic growth and perpetuating vicious cycles of poverty. In sub-Saharan Africa, malaria affects mostly young children, accounting for some 20% of all child deaths. This publication outlines the key actions UNICEF, along with its partners, must take to control the malaria burden in Africa.



Guide to the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict

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In the next issue of eKhaya:

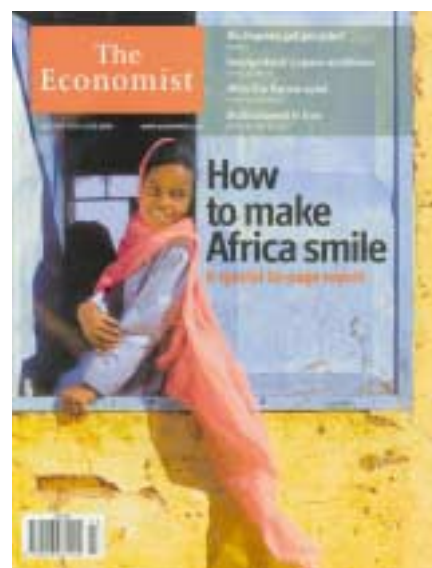
- **Techno Girls**
- **Food Fortification Update**
- **Touching the Past: Being there, the 1976 Soweto student uprising**
- **"I can't see anything through the sand..." Brian's visit to Chad, continued.**

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Giacomo Pirozzi is justly proud of this photograph taken in Sudan, and used recently on the cover of the internationally renowned news weekly, The Economist. We are too!