

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**UNICEF Weekly Events Calendar  
12-18 October 2009**

UNICEF supported events are an opportunity for the media to develop broader stories on child rights issues such as juvenile justice reform, quality education, early childhood development, mother and child health, social inclusion and poverty, child rights monitoring and more.

<b>Date &amp; Place</b>	<b>Title &amp; Description</b>
<b>13 Skopje</b>	<p><b>Evaluation Workshop of Support Groups for Parents of children in the conflict with the law</b></p> <p>The Institute for Social Activities with UNICEF support will organize the first of three evaluation workshops to evaluate the progress made in implementing parent support groups.</p> <p>Currently 15 of the 30 Centers for Social Work (CSW) organise support groups parents of children in the conflict with the law. Led by a team of trained experts, the groups work together to help parents improve their parental skills and prevent future criminal behavior of their children. This is part of the ongoing reform of the juvenile justice system and directly supports the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Law and its Action Plan. During the workshop social workers for the CSW will review the progress made against their annual plans of action.</p>
<b>13-15 Skopje</b>	<p><b>Training of Bureau for Education Development (BDE) in Supporting Trainers and Teachers in Literacy and Math for the Early Grades</b></p> <p>A team of international experts supported by UNICEF will deliver a three day training programme to advisors from the BED on how to support teachers in improving instruction for mathematics and language.</p> <p>This is part of the broader UNICEF supported programme for teacher professional development programme to improve mathematics and literacy instruction. The programme was developed following a detailed analysis of grade 1-3 curricular to identify why students have under performed in international tests in math and literacy. The programme aims to cover all teachers from 1-3 primary education grades in the country.</p>
<b>14-15 Skopje</b>	<p><b>Training of police workers on Juvenile Justice Law</b></p> <p>The Ministry of Internal Affairs with UNICEF support will organize training on treatment of juveniles in police procedure. This will be the first out of four basic trainings targeting police officers from all around the country.</p> <p>This is part of an ongoing reform of the juvenile justice system to ensure that the juveniles are dealt with in a manner appropriate to their well-being and proportionate both to their circumstances and the offence. It directly supports the implementation of the recently enacted Juvenile Justice Law and its Action Plan.</p>
<b>15-16 Skopje</b>	<p><b>Round table disucssion: The Role of Local Self-Government in Preventive Healthcare Provision: Opportunities and Challenges</b></p> <p>With UNICEF's support, the Institute for Public Health will organize a round table discussion entitled "The Role of the Local Self-Government in Preventive Health Care Provision: Opportunities and Challenges." The round table will bring together experts who will debate the role of local municipalities in the decentralization of the preventive health care and key challenges towards successful devolution authorities. It is expected that a provisional action plan conducive to the whole process will be developed as a result of the discussions.</p>
<b>17 Kicevo and Gostivar</b>	<p><b>Child Friendly Schools Workshops</b></p> <p>Teachers from two primary schools in Kicevo and Gostivar will participate in a one day workshop that focuses on transforming Child-Friendly Schools (CFS) plans into actions in the areas of healthy, safe, and protective environment; inclusiveness; participation and multiculturalism.</p>

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The Child-Friendly Schools initiative is a supported UNICEF approach to education reform from the child rights perspective. It focuses on making schools more inclusiveness, effective and gender-responsive; building healthy, safe, and protective environment for both girls and boys; creating opportunities for democratic participation by children, teachers, parents, and community members; and promotes respect for children's rights and multiculturalism. Schools involved in the initiative have developed action plans to make their schools child-friendly.

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All media interested in developing a story around a UNICEF supported event are invited to contact Suzie Pappas Capovska, Communications Officer, UNICEF Skopje (02) 3231-150 (ext:127), 072 236 725 or [spappas@unicef.org](mailto:spappas@unicef.org) to make necessary arrangements.

Statements by the UNICEF Representative, Mr. Sheldon Yett are also available on request.