

**Round table on “Sport for Development and Peace”  
Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, 8-10 September 2008**

**FINAL DECLARATION**

A round table on “Sport for Development and Peace” organized by UNESCO in cooperation with the United Republic of Tanzania, in favour of the countries of the Great Lakes region was held in Zanzibar from 8 to 10 September 2008.

Beside the Ministers and high ranking officials in charge of sports, the Round table was attended by delegates of the National Olympic committees of the Great Lakes region; Burundi; Democratic Republic of Congo; Kenya; Uganda; Rwanda; the United Republic of Tanzania; representatives of the African Development Bank (ADB); the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA); UNESCO’s NGO partners; and various experts.

Following the deliberations,

We Ministers in charge of sports of the Great Lakes region

**Considering:**

the importance of sports in the economic, social, cultural, educational and political development of our societies and its critical role in achieving the objectives of Education for All and the Millennium Development Goals (MDG),

the role of sport and physical education as a means to promote development, peace, education, health and environment protection,

the exceptional level of sports in mass mobilization as a powerful support to the promotion of educational values, intermixing and bringing together different peoples without any consideration as to their ethnicity, religious and political belief,

**Recalling also:**

the UNESCO international Charter for physical education and sports, as a tool for the development of sports in schools and universities, sports for all, sports for women and sports for disabled persons,

**Commit ourselves:**

to act collectively so that sports and physical education can pave the way for solidarity and cooperation in order to encourage development of a culture of peace and to promote dialogue and harmony in the sub-region and on the continent,

to ensure that steps are taken and mechanisms set up at national levels to make sport policies for development and peace become operational, measurable and efficient for the welfare and fulfillment of the people,

to cooperate more closely and efficiently with the sporting organizations of the continent, by creating the necessary environment and taking the appropriate measures conducive to the rapid development of an elite in sports and the diversification of the practice of sports for all and at all possible levels,

**Suggest:**

1. that as part of the follow-up of the implementation of the present declaration, an “African Forum on Sport for Development and Peace” at a continental level be held on a regular basis, under the sponsorship of UNESCO and with the cooperation of ANOCA, as a means to promote and ensure the realization of the MDG and Education for all goals,
2. the establishment of an institutional consultation platform between UNESCO and the African Development Bank, to support efforts made by African Governments towards the implementation of their national policies in the area of sport for development and peace, as agreed on and reaffirmed by this Zanzibar Round table,

**Call on UNESCO:**

through this Zanzibar Declaration, under its leadership and responsibility, to establish as soon as possible, a UNESCO Regional Observatory on Sport for Development and Peace in Africa, aiming at assisting Governments and sports organizations on the continent in acquiring information tools, quantifiable and quality data and providing them with results of scientific and technological research work, and analysis, including periodically published data in the field concerned.

Done in Zanzibar on 10 September 2008.