

FINAL REPORT

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SPORT AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2005



UNITED NATIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace hereby presents the report on the International Year of Sport and Physical Education to the United Nations Secretary-General. The General Assembly in resolution 58/5 of 3 November 2003, entitled “Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace”, recognized the positive values of sport and physical education and proclaimed the year 2005 as the International Year of Sport and Physical Education.

The International Year has clearly affirmed that sport and physical education in their broadest sense are essential components of the world’s efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. Sport and physical education offer a number of innovative approaches for achieving sustainable development, in combination with existing efforts, to accomplish specific targets such as those concerning poverty reduction, education, gender equality, and HIV/AIDS.

The present report describes just some of the international, regional and thousands of local projects initiated during the International Year, concretely establishing sport and physical education as tools for education, health, development and peace. 70 countries identified multi-stakeholder national committees or national focal points to plan, coordinate and implement national observance of the Year; in addition, 52 other countries reported on commemorative activities without having officially appointed such a national focal point; over 20 international and 18 regional conferences were held within the framework of the International Year; and thousands of initiatives have strengthened the role of sport and physical education as an integral dimension of the development and cooperation strategies of all stakeholders including sports organizations, athletes, multilateral organizations and the United Nations system, bilateral development agencies, Governments across all sectors, the armed forces, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector and sports industry, research institutions and the media.

The United Nations has proved it has the ability to help Governments and communities harness the positive aspects of sport and channel them in a coordinated way. The Year illustrated the role of sport and physical education for a quality education with mandatory physical education recognized in a number of countries as a universal pillar to foster education, health and personal development. Sport and physical education have been recognized for the important role they play in improving public health; and sport as a universal language has been found to bridge social, religious, racial and gender divides, hence contributing to lasting peace.

The report documents resources invested, initiatives launched, research undertaken, and activities by millions of individuals who participated in events relating to the International Year which demonstrated that sport is a vital tool to make a better world.

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I. Introduction

1. In recognition of the initiatives undertaken globally commemorating the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005, the Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace reports on the International Year to the United Nations Secretary-General. This report will serve as the basis of a report to be submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/9 requesting the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of that resolution and on the events organized at the national, regional and international levels to celebrate the International Year, under the item entitled “Sport for peace and development”.

2. The report takes into account General Assembly resolution 58/5 entitled “Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace” of 3 November 2003 wherein 2005 was proclaimed as the International Year of Sport and Physical Education; the report of the Secretary-General (A/59/268) in which the overarching objective of the International Year was identified as the systematic integration of sport into existing activities, programmes and projects wherever relevant; General Assembly resolution 59/10 of 27 October 2004; the report of the Secretary-General (A/60/217); General Assembly resolution 60/1; General Assembly resolution 60/8 of 3 November 2005 urging Member States to observe, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations, the Olympic Truce, individually or collectively, during the 2006 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, held in Turin; and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67. Particular consideration is made of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled “A world fit for children”, stressing that education shall be directed to the development of children’s personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential.

3. The report indicates that the International Year has clearly affirmed that sport and physical education are fundamental vehicles for promoting education, health, development and peace as part of the overall effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Sport, as a universal language, can help bridge social, religious, racial and gender divides. The commemorative efforts undertaken during the year, as reflected in this report, particularly took into account certain negative aspects facing athletes, including child labour, violence, doping, early specialization, over-training and exploitative forms of commercialization, as well as less visible threats and deprivations, such as the premature severance of family bonds and the loss of sporting, social and cultural ties.

4. As evidenced by the broad participation of Governments, the private sector, civil society and United Nations funds, programmes, and specialized agencies, the International Year is considered a full success. The present report addresses some of the activities and initiatives undertaken at the national, regional and international levels to strengthen the role of sport and physical education as an integral dimension of the development and cooperation strategies of Member States.

5. The International Year was a springboard for launching new, and strengthening existing, programmes using sport and physical education to achieve internationally recognized development goals such as the MDGs. The present report concludes by suggesting mechanisms to ensure that sport as a tool for development and peace is used in a coordinated and coherent manner and responds to needs identified at the local level; that projects implemented are sustainable; and that partnerships are expanded and strengthened, drawing fully on the expertise developed in this field by governmental organizations, as well as by vibrant civil society organizations with a sports focus.

II. Background

6. During the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005, an initiative of the Government of Tunisia, 70 countries worldwide appointed national focal points to coordinate commemorative events; in addition, 52 other countries reported on commemorative activities without having officially appointed national focal points. International conferences and consultations were organized by Governments, international, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and research institutes. Activities within the International Year's framework, many with the support of the United Nations system, aimed at following up on the recommendations of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace in its report entitled *Sport for Development and Peace: Towards Achieving the Millennium Development Goals*, published in October 2003.

7. In achieving its objectives, the International Year built on the experience of the European Year of Education through Sport 2004. Although measuring the many dimensions of the success of the International Year is not easy, the present report documents resources invested, initiatives launched, research undertaken, and activities by millions of individuals who participated in events relating to the International Year which demonstrated that sport is a vital tool to make a better world.

III. Institutional arrangements

8. The decision of the General Assembly to observe an international year dedicated to sport and physical education required institutional arrangements to support the ideals and objectives proclaimed by the international community. These arrangements consolidated and built on the many efforts undertaken prior to the year in support of these ideals and objectives, and, in particular, focused commemoration of the International Year on long-term action to establish the role of sport and physical education as a tool for development and peace.

9. Following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 58/5, Mr. Adolf Ogi, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, proposed to the Secretary-General the establishment of the United Nations Office for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education. The establishment of the Office was approved by the Secretary-General in December 2003 and it was set up in May 2004. No financial request was made to the United Nations for the establishment of the Office; rather, its success has been dependent on the determination and will of all partners

involved, on the financial assistance of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, following the establishment of a trust fund by the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), and on the support in kind of the United Nations Office at Geneva. A core objective of the Office for the International Year was the global coordination of the commemoration of the Year and the promotion of sport as a partner for development and peace, contributing to the achievement of the MDGs. The Office worked in close cooperation with the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace in Geneva. In October 2004, the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace was created with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to assist the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace. The three offices worked together to advocate the power of sport in achieving identified goals and to facilitate and promote commemorative activities in connection with the Year.

10. The Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace of the United Nations Communications Group, under the leadership of the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace, held regular meetings throughout 2005 among United Nations agencies and with other partners to maximize the impact of sport activities and programmes throughout the United Nations system, as detailed in its business plan. The Working Group helped promote commemorative activities for the International Year. A task force on resource mobilization was created within the Working Group with the aim of encouraging non-traditional partners and donors to support policies and activities through field projects and partnership programmes.

IV. The national and regional stage

A. National focal points

11. In accordance with the Economic and Social Council guidelines for the observance of international years, special attention was given to the role of Governments in the commemoration activities. Member States were invited by a note verbale from the Secretary-General to establish multi-stakeholder national committees or national focal points to plan, coordinate and implement national observance of the International Year. The valuable contribution of the United Nations Information Centres (UNICs) and the UNDP country offices in assisting in identification of a significant number of national focal points is recognized.

12. Action at the country level in coordinating and publicizing commemorative activities is testimony to the success of the International Year and has ensured that a growing network of Governments, organizations, groups and individuals around the world are made aware of sport and physical education's vital role in contributing to education, health, development and peace. National focal points have been established in 70 countries, namely Albania, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Comoros, Cuba, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Israel, Latvia, Lebanon, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico,

Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu and Zambia. Beyond those countries which established national focal points, a further 52 countries have been particularly active in forwarding the objectives of the Year with reports on their activities made to the Office for the International Year.

13. All countries are encouraged to continue activities beyond 2005 to help develop and implement sustainable sporting and physical education programmes and policies designed to respond to the specific needs and conditions of their communities. The call for reporting on the International Year made by the Office for the International Year drew responses from many national focal points suggesting that national committees established for the Year had evolved – or were considering evolving – into permanent bodies.

14. It is beyond the scope of the present report to describe the multitude of events, activities and initiatives undertaken within the context of the International Year. Therefore, the following summary highlights the key areas of interest and priority themes, and presents a brief overview of activities held in various regions around the world during the Year.

B. Africa

15. Based on information provided to the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, 19 national focal points were appointed for observance of the International Year in Africa, in the following countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zambia.

16. Many projects were organized in partnership with United Nations agencies in various countries throughout the continent. For example, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) organized nature and sports camps for children in slum areas in Nairobi. In Sierra Leone, a United Nations inter-agency sport pilot project proposal was formulated which called for the inclusion of sport-based elements into currently implemented development programmes.

17. Round tables and workshops were held in Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Niger and Nigeria. Following the Next Step II Conference in Zambia, the President of the Republic of Zambia announced the re-introduction of physical education into the mandatory school curriculum as a pillar to foster education, health and personal development.

18. Mass-participation running and walking races in Cameroon, the Comoros, Ghana, Kenya, Mali and Togo met their objectives of sensitizing the population about the benefits of sport and physical activity for all.

19. Special events and festivals were held in Cameroon, Lesotho and Mauritius. Ghana adopted a slogan, “Sport For Life”, and in Seychelles a national theme, “Our Children, Our Treasure, Our Future” was used in the context of the International Year. Sport was used as a tool in Liberia to raise awareness to help protect children from HIV/AIDS. In South Africa, the University of Pretoria adopted a declaration of support for the Year.

20. Many NGOs are active in Africa promoting sport and physical education as a tool for education, health, development and peace. As an example, Sport – The Bridge has been active in Ethiopia and established the “Ethiopia – Sport Builds Bridges” project for socializing street children in Addis Ababa. In Kenya, the Kenyan Community Foundation has undertaken a number of activities throughout the country. The following NGOs, Alive and Kicking Kenya, Play Soccer, Right To Play, and the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation have used sports as a mobilizing tool to build trust among warring communities and promote public awareness.

C. Asia and the Pacific

21. Based on information provided to the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, 14 national focal points were appointed for observance of the International Year in Asia and the Pacific, in the following countries: Australia, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Mongolia, Nauru, New Zealand, the Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

22. Throughout the region numerous activities were undertaken in commemoration of the International Year including: communication tools such as websites created in Australia and Bhutan; a mass-participation run in India; an annual Push Play Day to celebrate and promote physical activity in New Zealand; a table tennis tournament with the theme “Sports for Health and Happiness” in Bhutan; and the Tour of Qinghai Lake International Road Cycling Race in China. In recognition of their efforts in overcoming regional tension and encouraging peaceful relations, the national cricket teams of India and Pakistan were appointed spokespersons for the Year.

23. Conferences commemorating the International Year were held in India, Malaysia, Pakistan and Samoa. Thailand hosted the International Conference on Sport and Education in Bangkok. The 2005 Arafura Games International Sport Conference “Celebrating Sport and Culture” was held in Darwin, Australia.

24. In reaction to the devastating tsunami of December 2004, the international sporting community held a number of activities rallying support, including round tables in Switzerland and Thailand.

25. Australia dedicated numerous public awareness-raising activities to the commemoration of the International Year, such as the Australian Youth Olympic Festival, and the Indigenous Sport and Recreation Program. The 2005 Australian University Games were the first official Australian sporting event to be endorsed by the United Nations for their role in instilling the values of fair play, peaceful competition and the pursuit of excellence.

D. Europe

26. Based on information provided to the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, 20 national focal points were appointed for observance of the International Year in Europe, in the following countries: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Latvia, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

27. With 2004 being the European Year of Education through Sport, activities commemorating the International Year of Sport and Physical Education tended to build on those already commenced, enabling consolidation of initiatives on sport as a tool for education, with additional initiatives also undertaken on sport for health, development and peace. Throughout 2005, contacts with the European Union continued, enabling evaluation and dissemination of best practices of European projects throughout the region. A study by OXFAM GB found that the Indian Ocean tsunami had taken the life of four times as many women as men. Therefore, development projects such as Austria's "Women Swimming into the Future: promoting and strengthening women in the South Asian Tsunami region" were initiated. The Government of Ireland supported an "Active School Initiative", an initiative that was first introduced as part of the European Year of Education through Sport and is being continued during 2006 to create a link between the European Year and the International Year. The European Parliament, in its resolution on sport and development adopted on 1 December 2005 welcomed the International Year and emphasized that sports projects can be a cross-cutting means of building capacity in education, health in general, HIV/AIDS prevention and peace-building and to combat social exclusion, violence, inequalities, racism and xenophobia.

28. A number of conferences took place throughout Europe in the framework of the International Year including: a round table on inclusion and sports participation in the European Union and the European Commission's Consultation Conference with the European Sport Movement on the Social Function of Sport, Volunteering in Sport and the Fight against Doping, in Belgium; the European Association for Sport Management's "Power of Sport Congress" in the United Kingdom; the XVIIth European Sports Conference, in Greece; a symposium on the meaning of sport science for the political decision-making process in Germany; "The EU and Sport: Matching Expectations", in Belgium; "The International Year of Sport and Physical Education" Congress in Spain; and "Cooperation of governmental and non-governmental organizations in the field of 'Sport for All' development", in Serbia and Montenegro. The Conference of the Youth and Sports Ministers of French-speaking Countries and the first meeting of European government experts on the topic "Sport and disability", were held in France. The Church and Sport Section of the Holy See organized its first ever seminar on the theme "The Christian mission in the field of sport today".

29. Mass-participation sporting events were held in Albania, Belarus, Italy and the Russian Federation. Events linking sport with development and peace

were held in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Poland and Serbia and Montenegro. Charity football events were held during the year in Barcelona (Spain), Innsbruck (Austria) and Munich (Germany), and the 16th Vienna-Budapest Super Marathon was held under the theme “Run without borders”.

30. Many European countries have been involved in sports and physical education projects that contribute to education, health, development and peace in developing countries. For example, the Finnish governmental organization, *LiiKe*, has been involved with schools in the United Republic of Tanzania. France provided financial support to the NGO, Sport Sans Frontières (Sport without borders) to contribute to improving the situation of deprived children and women through sport and promoting national reconciliation in Afghanistan and Kosovo. UK Sport, together with the Norwegian Sports Confederation and National Olympic Committee, supported the Next Step II Conference in Zambia, and the Kicking AIDS Out! courses in Malawi. Austria used sport in development projects such as “Rwanda: kicking for reconciliation in Kigali”.

31. In Switzerland, thousands of initiatives were undertaken to commemorate the International Year both within the country and around the world. Financial assistance facilitated the work of Mr. Adolf Ogi, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace and former President of the Swiss Confederation. A National Committee composed of different federal offices and other institutions was formed to create nationally coordinated promotional programmes under the leadership and coordination of the Federal Office of Sport. Eight nationally coordinated promotional programmes were initiated including the “Schools on the move” project which made nearly 30,000 children from all over Switzerland physically active every day. A “Constitutional Run” from district to district was held in Zurich. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Pestalozzi Children’s Foundation (PCF) and the Office for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 hosted the International Youth “Play for Peace” Camp. A working group was set up that supports sport and development projects worldwide.

32. Public-awareness initiatives and promotional activities took place throughout Europe. In commemoration of the International Year, a number of Internet platforms were established, inter alia, in Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Spain and Switzerland. Hyperlinks to the United Nations International Year website from countries’ websites were set up in Finland and the United Kingdom. France disseminated information on United Nations activities and the objectives of the Year in booklets, posters, and advertisements. In Germany, the Ministry of Interior launched a public poster campaign about the Year, emphasizing that sport and physical activity are possible for all. Latvia’s poster campaign was launched under the theme “Sport and education: one language”. In Austria, projects were initiated such as “Female athletes as role models for girls and women”. A gymnastics and sports association team from Denmark toured 20 countries and widely disseminated documentation on the Year and the use of sport for education, health, development and peace. In Finland, in partnership with the Finnish United Nations Association and a number of

NGOs, the UNDP Nordic Office organized the “Sauna Bus” Tour to promote the Year, the MDGs, and the United Nations sixtieth anniversary celebrations. The United Kingdom is preparing a “Sport for Development” evaluation manual. The Netherlands held an extensive campaign with the Dutch governmental agency NCDO in collaboration with approximately 30 Dutch organizations to spread the message of the Year that reached around 2.5 million people in the Netherlands.

33. United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies collaborated with local partners to organize events using the International Year’s logo in Albania, Armenia, Belarus and Bulgaria. With the support of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo, the Year proved an excellent platform from which to launch sport-based projects aimed at young people, contributing to a more peaceful society.

E. Latin America and the Caribbean

34. Based on information provided to the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, eight national focal points were appointed for the International Year in Latin America and the Caribbean in the following countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Paraguay and Trinidad and Tobago.

35. Brazil hosted the Latin American and Caribbean Youth Leadership Summit. Cuba hosted the World Convention on “Psycho Motor Function, Stimulation and Infants Health” and the “Latin-American Forum of Physical Education and School Sports Teachers”.

36. The Trinidad and Tobago Alliance for Sport and Physical Education, in collaboration with other local and regional stakeholders, held several activities in commemoration of the International Year including an international sport and physical education convention; a mass-participation Jump Rope for Heart programme; and continuation of a Youth Empowerment through Sport programme. A commemorative music video was produced to promote the theme of the Year in the Caribbean.

37. During the International Year, activities in Argentina, Belize, Chile, Costa Rica and Mexico focused on public-awareness activities, workshops and international forums. The Government of Brazil, through sport-based special programmes such as “Segundo Tempo” and “Pintando a Liberdade”, sought to address deprivation and social problems. Currently, about one million people take part in the “Segundo Tempo” programme throughout Brazil.

38. The town of Medellín in Colombia hosted events including an international “Football for peace” tournament organized by the NGO, Streetfootballworld, and “26 hours of athletics” to celebrate sport’s social contributions in offering alternatives for young people to risks such as violence, drugs and alcohol.

F. Middle East and North Africa

39. Based on information provided to the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, eight national focal points were appointed for the International Year in the Middle East and North Africa, in the following countries: Algeria, Bahrain, Israel, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates.

40. As with other regions throughout the world, public-awareness activities concerning the International Year were evident in the Middle East and North Africa. Tunisia, as initiator of the Year, carried out an “Awareness Campaign” about the benefits of sport and physical education. The Government of Tunisia, with the support of UNDP, organized an international conference on sport and health, aimed at highlighting the critical role of sport in health promotion; the Arab Conference on Sport and Education; a Sport and Development Conference; and various events in connection with labour, education and youth.

41. Israel organized public-relations campaigns, including the distribution to all schools of posters with the official logo of the International Year and held “National Physical Education” weeks. Morocco organized activities under the slogan “Sport for all, together for a better world” and stamps were issued commemorating the Year. The Islamic Republic of Iran’s sports radio channel broadcast comprehensive sport and health programmes making it one of the most successful radio channels in 2005. In Algeria, open days within sporting federations were organized to highlight sport and physical education.

42. Throughout the Middle East and North Africa, conferences and workshops were held publicizing the United Nations objectives for the International Year. The Wingate Institute, Israel’s National Center for Physical Education and Sport, hosted the Fourth Post-Olympic Conference. The Third West Asian Games 2005 were held in Qatar. Yemen successfully hosted the Third Asian Conference on Women and Sport. A conference on the value of sport in human development and a national seminar on women and sport were held in Oman. Morocco hosted the 68th Annual Congress of the International Sports Press Association, a workshop on the empowerment of sports educators, and the Second Pan-African Youth Leadership Summit that highlighted the power of sport in advancing health, education and development while promoting tolerance and peace.

43. Sport activities in Bahrain showed great improvement in 2005 due to the Government’s willingness to increase significantly the budget for the development of sport and youth activities with six world-class sports championships hosted in Bahrain in 2005. In Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Kuwait, activities related to the International Year included workshops, games, national festivals and running events. The Islamic Republic of Iran National Olympic and Paralympics Academy carried out approximately 150 educational programmes in which 11,000 people participated. Advisers to the National Olympic Committee of Iraq have advocated for social responsibility and public diplomacy to be at the heart of the Committee’s sport development strategy.

G. North America

44. In Canada, hundreds of special events and celebrations were held over the course of the International Year. These activities were posted on the website of the Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (CAHPERD). A Canadian Year of Sport and Physical Education logo was developed, disseminated widely and integrated into promotional material, conference themes and special events. As a culminating event for the International Year, CAHPERD hosted a National Physical Education Forum, “Time to Listen/Time to Learn/Time to Act”, in Ontario. Canada also hosted the 2005 Congress of the International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women, “Learning to lead: women’s influence on policy and practice in physical education and sport”.

45. The United States of America hosted a number of major athletic events and a conference on gender and women in sports that helped forge constructive partnerships within the international community. The United States National Paralympic Academy hosted a biennial, two-day celebration of Paralympic sport for youth with physical disabilities.

V. The international stage

A. United Nations activities and initiatives

46. The world of sport is a natural partner for the United Nations system and should be included in efforts to cultivate a “global partnership for development” – the eighth MDG. Sport provides an innovative avenue to engage civil society in development initiatives. United Nations organizations have used the International Year to highlight and encourage the use of sport in international development programmes and projects.

47. The United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace and the Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace of the United Nations Communications Group drafted a business plan that is intended to provide the United Nations system with a blueprint for promoting more systematic and coherent use of sport for development and peace activities, especially in conjunction with efforts to achieve the MDGs. To publicize and promote United Nations sport for development and peace activities and programmes, and in commemoration of International Year, the New York Office is producing a fortnightly electronic Sport Bulletin. The Bulletin, available in English, French and Spanish, is posted on the International Year for Sport and Physical Education website and circulated to United Nations offices worldwide and to several thousand other partners working with Governments, sports and other organizations, the private sector, academia and the media.

48. The **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** has been progressively strengthening its links with sporting events and personalities, as a means of increasing awareness of the issues of hunger and poverty among a wide audience, especially youth. A number of international sports personalities have been nominated as FAO Goodwill

Ambassadors, who have been particularly instrumental in promoting the FAO TeleFood program during 2005.

49. The **International Labour Organization (ILO)** is involved in local development and youth insertion through sport and training, particularly in El Salvador, Mozambique and Senegal. The ILO Youth Sport Program puts sport partners and sport values at the centre of a process that allows development and sports institutions to assess their needs and to pool efforts, resources and capacities in partnership to meet these needs.

50. The **Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)** has joined forces with the International Cricket Council with the primary aim of using cricket to raise public awareness of HIV and AIDS in the cricket-playing world, which accounts for some of the countries that are hardest hit by the epidemic.

51. In January 2005, the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** hosted the first Global Workshop on the Monitoring and Evaluation of Sports for Development Programmes. At the FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) Confederations Cup Germany 2005, UNICEF and FIFA engaged in a global communications campaign "With Children We Win", using football as a universal language to help bridge divides and promote core values for lasting peace, non-violence and tolerance. The UNICEF-FIFA campaign uses a football coaches' manual to help address the issue of violence and discrimination. UNICEF and the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football signed a partnership pledge to benefit children in Latin America and the Caribbean. The International Olympic Committee, the Indian National Olympic Committee, UNICEF, UNAIDS and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) jointly hosted a workshop on HIV/AIDS prevention through sport, encouraging partnerships at the local level between National Olympic Committees and UNICEF country offices focused on sports for development. Recognizing the need for greater integration and collaboration around its approach to sports partnerships, UNICEF convened a strategic working group on sport to develop an integrated global framework on sport. In addition, with funds donated by Swatch, UNICEF and several partners expanded a national sports programme in Rwanda focused on HIV/AIDS and education.

52. The **United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI)** circulated information on the International Year to all United Nations agencies through the United Nations Communications Group and to the public through United Nations information centres worldwide. The DPI News and Media Division covers United Nations sport-related initiatives on the United Nations Web-based news service, the United Nations family audio-visual page and other outlets. It has also assisted in setting up and maintaining a website for the Year. The Year was publicized by international broadcasters, and a French distributor, Tele Images International, promoted the Year in an animated series of 26 half-hour programmes on street football. The series was aired in over 100 countries around the world and its stories and characters were used in several products including books, comics, a DVD, a music single and album, clothes and bedding which convey the

United Nations message about sport's values. These are to be released between February and June 2006.

53. Within the framework of the International Year, **UNDP** entered into a partnership with the NGO Right To Play agreeing to collaborate in three priority areas: (a) organization and follow-up to the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group; (b) knowledge sharing and exchange in the area of sport for development, with the objective to promote further the inclusion of sport for development in national development programmes and policies; and (c) exploration of future areas of cooperation in the area of sport for development. In further support of the work of the Working Group, UNDP accepted its chairmanship at the inaugural meeting in May 2005, and has actively participated in its work to date. UNDP has supported extensive programming activities throughout the Year across all regional groupings, including in Belarus, Chile, Finland, Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Ukraine.

54. During the International Year, **UNEP** played an active role in the Sport and Environment Commission of the International Olympic Committee and supported the Committee in organizing regional seminars on sport and the environment in Dubai, Lusaka and Nairobi. An agreement was signed by UNEP and the Beijing Organizing Committee of the XXIX Olympiad aimed at making the summer Olympics of 2008 environmentally friendly.

55. The **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** played a key role in encouraging commemoration of the International Year. Several countries launched Global Action Weeks or special days, as a tool, for example, to promote traditional sports and games (Oman). Sport and physical education became a defined key component of quality education in Jamaica and Thailand. The educational dimension, health issues, scientific research and studies, doping, fair play and national programmes on sport and physical education were the core components of activities to which public authorities, development agencies, specialized agencies and sport and physical education staff unions and professionals dedicated their mobilization efforts to raise awareness and advocate the key objectives of the Year. The unanimous adoption of the International Convention against Doping in Sport by the 33rd session of the UNESCO General Conference on 19 October 2005 is recognized as a significant achievement of the Year.

56. The **United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)**, through its municipal youth development programmes, has been working with sport and recreation organizations in slum areas to help inform young people about HIV/AIDS and reproductive health and to offer alternatives to drugs and crime.

57. As in the past ten years, the **United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)** has continued to run sports activities in refugee camps, mostly in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, in partnership with sports-oriented donors such as the International Olympic Committee, Right To Play, Nike and the international volleyball, badminton and basketball federations, with a view to enabling UNHCR to expand its sports programmes further. Plans for a joint United Nations inter-agency pilot

project in Sierra Leone are well under way. The Together for Girls project has been continued in Dadaab, Kenya, throughout the International Year using sports as a tool to promote female integration and retention in the educational system.

58. The **United Nations Millennium Campaign** reached out to sporting celebrities, associations and clubs in 2005 across all Campaign offices, most notably in Europe, where the FC Barcelona Foundation and Juventus Turin worked with the Campaign to promote the MDGs at a special football match on 24 August.

59. The **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** year-long campaign was launched on 23 June focusing on sports and health. The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, on 26 June, had the theme “Value yourself ... make healthy choices” and included involvement in sports.

60. Events in 2005 organized by the **United Nations Programme on Youth** offered opportunities for highlighting linkages between youth and sport for development and peace. Through consultative meetings and in response to a booklet entitled *Making Commitments Matter: a Toolkit for young people to evaluate national youth policy*, young people contributed to the ten-year review of the World Programme of Action for Youth.

61. The **United Nations Volunteers (UNV)** programme has recently been an operational partner in a project in Sri Lanka with the aim of boosting awareness of volunteerism and the MDGs and to foster cultural dialogue; on a volunteerism against violence project in collaboration with UN-Habitat and UNDP in Madagascar; and a project on youth and sports for development in refugee communities in Ghana. UNV will be one of the implementing partners in the joint United Nations inter-agency pilot project in Sierra Leone. In a speech at the launch of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Volunteer Programme in 2005, the UNV Executive Coordinator linked the spirit of the Olympics to that of volunteerism.

62. The **World Health Organization (WHO)** undertook several normative projects, technical meetings and related activities directly linked to the International Year in cooperation with various partners at all levels. These actions, such as guidelines for physical activity policy and programme development and for promoting physical activity and sport for young people in and out of schools, are carried out in the context of WHO work in health promotion, integrated prevention/control of non-communicable diseases, implementation of the WHO Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health, and achievement of the MDGs. Their implementation along with new ones will be pursued during the 2006–2007 biennium. The Global Annual Move for Health Day/Initiative, held on 10 May (or other dates selected by each country), and its website developed in March 2005, will facilitate sustainability of worldwide collective actions to promote and strengthen physical activity and sport for education, health, development and peace.

B. Major international conferences and events

63. Following the proclamation of the International Year, a number of international events were initiated to increase awareness of the value of sport and physical education for the promotion of the core themes of education, health, development and peace. The declarations that have emerged from over 20 international and 18 regional conferences organized within the framework of the International Year, reflect the firm conviction of the stakeholders involved in the importance of sport for a better world.

64. **Sport and health:** A major outcome of the International Year has been the adoption of the International Convention against Doping in Sport. This is the first time a legal instrument aimed at eradicating doping has been both binding and universal. The Hammamet Declaration adopted at the International Conference on Sport and Health in Tunisia reaffirmed the role of sport and physical education for the promotion of healthy and active lifestyles.

65. **Sport and education:** Participants at the International Conference on Sport and Education in Thailand agreed on the Bangkok Agenda for Action on Physical Education and Sport in School, in which Member States are encouraged to make it mandatory for every school to provide all students with adequate time for physical education and sport on a weekly basis.

66. **Sport and development:** An international workshop on sport for development was held at the end of 2004 in Switzerland. An International Conference on Sport and Urban Development was held in the Netherlands. The Next Step II Conference, "Taking sport for development home", in Zambia was attended by the BBC World Service Trust and resulted in a media event which reached over 20 million listeners across Africa.

67. The report of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace clearly identified youth as one of the greatest beneficiaries of the effects of sport. Therefore, the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace organized a Youth Leadership Summit series which highlighted sport as an entry point for mobilizing youth to bolster efforts to achieve the MDGs and promote tolerance and peace. Pan-African, Pan-Asian, and Latin American and Caribbean Youth Leadership Summits were held, respectively, in Senegal (2004), Morocco (2005); Japan (2004); and Brazil (2005). The regional summits will culminate in a Global Youth Leadership Summit at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 30 October to 1 November 2006.

68. As a culmination of the International Year, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Swiss Federal Office of Sports and the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace organized the 2nd Magglingen Conference on Sport and Development in Switzerland attended by over 400 participants from 70 countries. A Call to Action was adopted which led sport and development to the next stage emphasizing the need for global partnerships to be increased and strengthened. Partners at different levels will come together again in

October 2008 in Magglingen, Switzerland, to share results and validate the impact.

69. **Sport and peace:** The use of sport as a means to promote intercultural, post-conflict and peacebuilding dialogues was highlighted at several international conferences and events particularly at the International Conference on Sport and Peace in the Russian Federation.

70. Sporting events commemorating the International Year were organized around the globe, including the first Islamic Solidarity Games; the Homeless World Cup 2005; the fifth Francophone Games; the Everest Peace Project; and the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation World Games.

71. Various other international conferences on issues pertinent to the International Year were held in 2005 including: the fourth international world communication conference on sport and society, “Play the Game – Governance in Sport: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly” in Denmark; an International Conference on Sports and Development, in Norway; the International Forum Sports and Development: Economy, Culture, Ethics in Germany; “Celebrating Sport and Culture” in Darwin; an International Seminar on the Quality of Physical Education and Sport, in Benin; the “Sport and Joy” Conference in Italy; the SportAccord conference in Germany; and the 2nd World Summit on Physical Education in Switzerland.

72. Two major international summits on sport and the environment were held during the International Year, including the Sports Summit for the Environment, in Japan at which participants pledged to reduce pollution and enrich the natural environment so future generations might enjoy sports as they are enjoyed today, and the Sixth World Conference on Sport and Environment, in Kenya organized by the International Olympic Committee with the support of UNEP and held at UNEP headquarters.

73. The International Paralympic Committee hosted two Women in Sport Leadership Summits. Kennesaw State University, in the United States, and the ILO Universitas programme hosted the International Summit: Effecting Social Change Through Women’s Leadership in Sport. The Summit addressed such topics as promoting gender equity, empowering women, and developing global partnerships related to education and sports. The conference outcome was a centre on social changes through women leadership in sports based at Kennesaw State University.

C. International partnerships and initiatives

Intergovernmental initiatives

74. At the 2005 World Summit held at United Nations Headquarters in New York in September, over 170 Heads of States and Government adopted General Assembly resolution 60/1 paragraph 145 of which underlines that sports can foster peace and development and can contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding, and encourages discussions in the Assembly for proposals leading to a plan of action on sport and development.

75. The Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace was initiated by the Government of Switzerland among permanent representatives to the United Nations in New York in January 2005. The Group serves as an intergovernmental platform aiming to encourage Member States to integrate sport actively into their international cooperation and development policies through the implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions and to work together with the different United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as well as with the Office for the International Year and the United Nations New York Office of Sport for Development and Peace. The Group is co-chaired by the Permanent Representatives of Switzerland and Tunisia, and includes representatives from Austria, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Germany, Greece, Italy, India, Mali, Norway, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand and the United Kingdom. The Group met regularly during 2005 and plans to expand its activities in 2006.

76. The Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group was announced by the NGO, Right To Play, at the 2004 summer Olympic Games in Athens, at a round table co-sponsored by UNFIP. Chaired by UNDP, the Working Group is supported by Government leaders, United Nations experts, Olympic athletes and sports federations, with the overall goal to contribute, through a set of recommendations, to systematic mainstreaming of sport into national and international development strategies and programmes. These recommendations will be presented at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, encouraging Governments to address the issue of sport for development and peace when formulating national and international development policies.

Governmental organizations for development and international cooperation

77. The outstanding role of governmental organizations in the field of development cooperation using sport and physical education as a tool for development and peace must be highlighted, particularly those in Austria, Brazil, Canada, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. As a core group of similar entities, these organizations, through identification of needs in various countries around the world and the financing and organization of projects and initiatives, have made a major contribution to the advancement of the objectives of the International Year.

Non-governmental organizations and the private sector

78. Several notable global initiatives and many existing projects and programmes received additional impetus as a result of the International Year, for example, ExChange for Peace, Fundación Defensores del Chaco, Global Sports Alliance, the International Sport and Culture Association, Kick Forward, Kicking AIDS Out!, Laureus, Magic Bus, the Mathare Youth Sports Association, Peres Center for Peace, Playing for Peace, Play Soccer, Red Deporte y Cooperación, Sports Coaches Outreach, Sport Sans Frontières, Streetfootballworld, Street League and Youth Charter, organizations which predominantly use street football as an educational tool in projects that promote self-esteem and intercultural understanding. Nike became the first in

its industry to voluntarily disclose the names and locations of more than 700 active contract factories that currently make Nike-branded products worldwide in a publicly available Corporate Responsibility Report. The company intends to continue to use sport as a tool for positive social change. The NGO Right To Play has been using sport and play programmes to encourage the healthy physical, social and emotional development of the world's most disadvantaged children in partnership with United Nations agencies, Governments and sports federations and organizations.

Sports associations and federations

79. The International Year proved that international sports federations and organizations and the sport manufacturing industry are increasingly willing to become involved in humanitarian actions. Many federations provided reports on activities commemorating the Year indicating their contributions to humanitarian causes and the hosting of a number of seminars and events which have contributed to the validation and acceptance of sport and physical education as a tool in development work.

80. Partnership programmes were launched as an imperative step towards enabling a coordinated and coherent approach to the use of sport and physical education. In particular, sports federations, associations and organizations raised funds for natural disasters such as the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004 and the earthquake in Pakistan in 2005.

81. Links to the United Nations International Year website were made from a number of international federation websites.

82. The International Olympic Committee (IOC), which had already been instrumental in the proclamation of 1994 as the International Year of Sport and the Olympic Ideal when the Committee celebrated the hundredth anniversary of its creation, participated actively in developing activities for the commemoration of the International Year. In October 2005, the Committee and UNAIDS produced a toolkit for the sports community on HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention.

83. In 2005, FIFA established a Corporate Social Responsibility Department in recognition of the importance of being a socially responsible organization. A celebrity football match was organised by FIFA in Barcelona to raise funds for victims of the tsunami. FIFA's short-term response for tsunami relief has included promoting play to help overcome trauma, and distributing equipment. Medium-term relief includes restarting football activities with financial support and long-term assistance includes the reconstruction and rebuilding of football structures and facilities. In 2005, UNICEF, FIFA and the South American Football Federation officially launched "Los chicos siempre ganan!" (Teenagers/adolescents always win!), intended to promote youth rights.

84. The President of the International Paralympic Committee signed a partnership agreement between the Committee and the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace; the Committee hosted the International Paralympic Day in Bonn, Germany; and organized a

Healthy Paralympians project in Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Significant contributions were made and support given in honour of the International Year by the Committee to the article in the draft United Nations Convention on the Rights and Dignities of Persons with a Disability, which relates to the right to leisure, recreation and sports.

85. In the immediate follow-up to the International Year, the Secretary-General, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, and the presidents of FIFA and the IOC attended the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, at an event dedicated to sport for development and peace. For the first time, the World Economic Forum brought together leaders from the world of sport to discuss sport's role in improving the state of the world and to plan new initiatives. The Secretary-General and his Special Adviser also visited the headquarters of the IOC in Lausanne and FIFA in Zurich to discuss ways to strengthen collaboration.

D. Global communications and public-awareness activities

86. The International Year was launched on 5 November 2004 at United Nations Headquarters in New York by the Secretary-General. At the event, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace named top-ranked tennis star Roger Federer and marathon champion Margaret Okayo, as spokespersons to promote the objectives of the Year. In 2005, the national cricket teams of India and Pakistan were also appointed spokespersons for the Year.

87. A number of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies have worked successfully with the world of sport in the area of communications and awareness-raising on key issues through global and local efforts. A concept document including a CD-ROM, detailing the reasons behind the proclamation of 2005 as the International Year was published by the Office for the International Year.

88. Public information units of United Nations system organizations and DPI, in cooperation with various Governments and NGOs, advocated the International Year by distributing information and using its official logo during sports-related activities and events. The official website of the International Year, created in close collaboration with DPI, was launched to foster cross-sectoral fertilization, promote country-level action and improve national and international networking and reporting. A number of countries such as Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Switzerland established their own websites dedicated to the Year. Other countries provided a hyperlink from their sports ministry's website to that of the Year. These included Australia, Austria, Bhutan, Canada, Finland, Iraq, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, and the United Kingdom. The Sport and Development International Platform website, financed by Switzerland, is dedicated entirely to sport and development.

89. The UNODC Global Youth Network, in cooperation with Right To Play issued a CD-ROM, a *Coaches' Guide for Using Sport to Teach Healthy Life Skills* which used the International Year logo and that of the UNODC 2005 campaign.

90. A brief introductory video in English was produced by a private sponsor and translated into three languages: Arabic, French and Spanish. Furthermore, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), the International Volleyball Federation and UNHCR produced videos to increase further media outreach for the International Year.

91. An unprecedented amount of media attention was accorded to the issue of sport and physical education during the International Year. Globally, all forms of media provided impulsion and awareness to activities and initiatives commemorating the Year. A number of media interviews were held throughout the Year with a particular focus on the Swiss media.

92. Marketing tools were provided by the Swiss Committee for the International Year, with financing by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, in the form of stickers, flags, wrist warmers, caps and cushions.

93. A major product of the International Year has been the promotion and distribution of the international *Toolkit Sport for Development* available in CD-ROM or online. The *Toolkit* was a national initiative of the Netherlands Government-supported international development and cooperation agency NCDO, the Netherlands Olympic Committee and Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport. From mid-September to mid-October, the International Paralympic Committee and Magnum Photos provided use of photos for an exhibition at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

E. Research initiatives and publications

94. A number of research initiatives and publications were made during the International Year that have contributed to the consolidation of sport and physical education's role in education, health, development and peace, and that have enhanced understanding of the need for interdisciplinary research and information sharing to enable accountable monitoring and evaluation of projects to take place. Comprehensive reporting on sporting projects including the exchange of research results, approaches and experiences must continue.

95. Products from the United Kingdom included a paper published by UK Sport and the International Business Leaders Forum, *Shared Goals: Sport and business in partnerships for development*, aimed at encouraging the private sector to use sport in community projects for health and development; a paper that outlined how sport is now recognized as an important, powerful and under-exploited tool for development in post-conflict reconstruction; and a research tool, the Value of Sport Monitor. UK Sport and UNICEF have also commissioned the publication of a monitoring and evaluation manual for sport in development projects intended to contribute to increased organizational sustainability and programme effectiveness. The International Paralympic Committee, the United Nations and the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE) promoted research on a number of topics concerned with sport for people living with a disability and the Paralympic Movement. ICSSPE published the sixth volume of its book series, *Perspectives*, on the topic of *Health Enhancing Physical Activity*. It explains why physical activity is important for public health, what kind and

how much physical activity provides health benefits, and how to change physical activity behaviour. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation published a book, *Sport for Development and Peace*, providing an overview of the main themes, demonstrating opportunities and limitations, and outlining possibilities for future endeavours. ILO research has examined how youth leadership and skills development can be fostered through sports. ILO will publish a book on these findings entitled *Beyond the Scoreboard* in April 2006. The University of Basel, Switzerland, published *International Comparison of Physical Education: Concepts, Problems, Prospects* in recognition of the fact that in recent years, school physical education has been confronted with serious challenges in a large number of countries and regions.

VI. Achievements

96. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, the International Year contributed to a better understanding of the value of sport and physical education for human development and a more systematic use of sport in development programmes. Evaluation of the Year shows that activities generated during 2005 are in many instances to be integrated into regular programmes. There has been awareness-raising about the benefits of sport and physical education in social and educational programmes, consciousness-raising campaigns and endeavours strengthened with concrete actions. Actors have been involved who had not participated prior to the Year.

97. The International Year provided a unique opportunity to use the convening power of sport to capture the attention of and mobilize individuals, organizations, communities and the public at large. It facilitated delivery of messages and programmes to a wide range of people at local, national, regional and global levels, drawing diverse groups together in a positive and supportive environment.

98. The perception of “sport” by the general public and at the Government level was expanded, emphasizing the notion of “sport for all”. Programmes promoting sport for development and peace have gained greater attention and resources from Governments, civil society and private-sector partners globally.

99. The International Year illustrated the importance of sport and physical education for quality education and brought to light that physical education is continuously losing ground in formal education systems and that it is imperative that young people gain an appreciation of sport at school in order to ensure lifelong active and healthy living.

100. The private sector in the form of sports organizations, federations and providers of sporting goods has embraced the multi-stakeholder approach advocated during the International Year. Private-public partnerships have been established with United Nations agencies and increased information sharing has been enabled at all levels.

VII. Conclusion

101. The International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 highlighted the significant role that sport can play in accelerating progress towards the achievement of the MDGs by 2015 and added strong impetus to efforts to mainstream sport into existing development and peace programmes.

102. Over 100 international and thousands of local projects were initiated during the International Year, concretely establishing sport and physical education as tools for education, health, development and peace. Sport was identified as: (a) being integral to quality education with mandatory physical education recognized in a number of countries as a universal pillar to foster education, health and personal development; (b) improving public health; (c) an important element for achieving sustainable development; and (d) contributing to lasting peace.

103. The dialogue about sport has been widened and the positive values of sport have been promoted. This momentum must be sustained and advocacy and social mobilization strengthened. Sport has demonstrated that, in conjunction with humanitarian and development activities, it can contribute to a powerful synergy to raise public awareness and mobilize support and resources.

104. The International Year has proved that coordinated and coherent approaches are necessary for using sport as a tool to address locally identified needs. The regular meetings of the Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace of the United Nations Communications Group are an essential forum to foster communication and cooperation among United Nations agencies and other partners. Member States are encouraged to participate in the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace, to include sport actively in their international cooperation and development policies, and to work with the various United Nations specialized agencies. The Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group has provided a platform during the Year to enable Member States to coordinate objectives, ideas and events to further the objectives of sport for development and peace.

105. Close collaboration will be maintained with UNFIP to strengthen relations with the private sector and non-traditional partners and donors, to support policies and activities through field projects and partnership programmes. Continued collaboration is recommended between the United Nations and international-day organizers such as WHO and the World Heart Federation.

106. A long-term commitment and determination must be made to making sport in its broadest sense an essential component of the world's efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs. Sport, with due attention to cultural and traditional dimensions, is resolved to be used to promote education, health, development and peace. In so doing, respect is upheld for the principles of human rights – especially youth and child rights – human diversity, gender equity, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

107. The continued establishment and development of sports-related national focal points, committees, and other multi-stakeholder mechanisms at the national level to benefit development and peace in society through the use of sport are encouraged. National governments are encouraged to apply the principle of subsidiarity by delegating political decisions to the lowest possible level of decision-making. Capacity building and education programs to enhance awareness of good practices in the use of sport and physical education for education, health, development and peace must continue to be developed.

108. As the culminating event to the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005 and drawing together the results of the Year, the Magglingen Conference on Sport and Development presents a call to all stakeholders for the use of sport and physical education across the broad themes identified in General Assembly resolution 58/5. The various stakeholders are called upon to take the following actions to sustain the momentum created by the International Year: **Sports organizations**: to integrate and implement sustainable development principles into their policies, programs and projects; **Athletes**: to act as role models and actively use their influence and experience to advocate for development and peace; **Multilateral organizations and the UN system**: to take a lead role in policy dialogue on strategic and global levels; raise the awareness of international actors and other partners; strengthen networks and enhance coordination; and carry out and evaluate projects and programs; **Bilateral development agencies**: to integrate sport in development cooperation policies and programs; and implement and evaluate projects and programs; **Governments across all sectors**: to promote the ideal of sport for all; develop inclusive and coherent sports policies; involve all stakeholders in their coordination and implementation; strengthen and invest in sport and physical education in schools and educational systems; and integrate sport, physical activity and play in public health and other relevant policies; **Armed forces**: to use sport for promoting friendship and for building peace and security; **NGOs**: to realize projects that demonstrate the potential of sport for development and peace; transfer experience and knowledge; and engage other members of civil society; **Private sector/sports industry**: to take an active role in addressing social and environmental impacts in business operations and across supply chains; and support and invest in sport-based development activities; **Research institutions**: to develop collaborative research agendas including the documentation, analysis and validation of experiences; and development of monitoring and evaluation methods and instruments; **Media**: to adopt editorial strategies that ensure the coverage of social and political aspects of sport; train journalists; and raise awareness of the possibilities of sport for development and peace.

109. The International Year has seen many positive actions undertaken globally and all stakeholders are encouraged to continue the impetus and to engage in a dialogue on visions, goals and frames of action; and participate and invest in the consolidation and expansion of global partnerships for sport and development.

110. The commemoration of the Year has shown that the recommendations made in General Assembly resolution 60/9 of 17 January 2006 remain valid

and must continue to be followed. Member States are invited to provide voluntary contributions to ensure adequate execution of and follow-up to the activities being implemented by the Office of Sport for Development and Peace; and that Governments and international sports bodies assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education, by providing financial, technical and logistic resources for the development of sports programmes.

111. Member States, the United Nations system, international sports bodies and sport-related organizations are invited to promote further sport and physical education, including assistance for the building and restoration of sports infrastructures, the implementation of partnership initiatives and development projects, as a contribution towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and the broader aims of development and peace.

112. An action plan will be elaborated in 2006, as requested in General Assembly resolution 60/9, that will expand and strengthen preceding documents such as the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace, the United Nations Communications Group business plan, conference outcome documents and research and initiatives undertaken globally by all stakeholders. This will be done on the basis of an assessment of progress achieved, steps taken and difficulties encountered in realizing the potential of sport as a tool for development and peace. The International Year has made it clearly apparent that a common vision and framework for action are necessary to achieve the goal of building a global multi-stakeholder partnership around sport and physical education for education, health, development and peace.

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