



United Nations Office in Belarus



Progress Toward  
the Millennium Development Goals

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### International Day of Peace Celebrations in Belarus Held in Orša

On 21 September, thousands of residents and guests of the city of Orša participated in a peace rally and other events in celebration of the International Day of Peace.

Celebrations were organised by the City Executive Committee and the Belarusian Peace Foundation, with technical support from the Department of Public Information of the UN Office in Belarus. Celebrations culminated in a wreath-laying ceremony, planting of trees in Peace Avenue, and a children's concert.

Addressing at the festive ceremony, Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Public Information Victor Radivinovski spoke to the audience about dialogue and mutual understanding, which are the themes of the International Youth Year, and emphasized the importance of more active engagement among young people in efforts to build peace and security.



Participants of the rally urged "all volunteers, non-governmental organisations, and political and religious leaders to do their best for the sake of peace on Earth". They also approached the municipal authorities with an initiative to hold peace celebrations in Orša every year.

### UN Secretary-General Calls for Cohesion in the World Community

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon opened the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly (held on September 23-30) by urging all countries to respond to global challenges through greater cooperation of big and small nations.

He expressed hope that the United Nations, which he believes is the most essential and indispensable global institution of the 21st century, would remain an instrument of such cooperation.

Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, UN reform and facilitation of environmentally sustainable development were identified at the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly as the key priorities for 2011.

### Head of New UN Entity for Gender Equality Appointed

Ms. Michelle Bachelet, the first female President of Chile, has been appointed as UN Under-Secretary-General. She will head the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, known as UN Women. This was announced by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to journalists in New York. He expressed hope that the new entity headed by the former President will accelerate progress in meeting the needs of women and girls worldwide.

The United Nations General Assembly voted unanimously on 2 July 2010 to create the new entity. It will be assigned with mandates and responsibilities currently performed by the Office of the Special Advisor on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Secretariat Division for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the



Advancement of Women. The new entity is expected to start working on 1 January 2011.

### ILO Says Youth Unemployment is Growing

Global youth unemployment has reached its highest level on record, and is expected to increase through 2010, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) said in a new report issued to coincide with the launch of the UN International Youth Year on 12 August.

The ILO Report "Global Employment Trends for Youth 2010" says that of some 620 million economically active youth aged 15 to 24 years, 81 million were unemployed at the end of 2009 -- the highest number ever. This is 7.8 million more than the global number in 2007. The youth unemployment rate increased from 11.9 percent in 2007 to 13.0 percent in 2009.



The authors of the report add that these trends will have "significant consequences for young people as upcoming cohorts of new entrants join the ranks of the already unemployed" and warns of the "risk of a crisis legacy of a 'lost generation' comprised of young people who have dropped out of the labour market, having lost all hope of being able to work for a decent living".

According to the ILO projections, the global youth unemployment rate is expected to continue its increase through 2010, to 13.1 per cent, followed by a moderate decline to 12.7 per cent in 2011.

# Sportsmen Against Violence

## 928 sportsmen participating in the 9th World Contest and 4th World Championship in taekwondo for veterans joined the international campaign “Say “NO” to Violence Against Women”.

The UN Office in Belarus organised the campaign “Say “NO” to Violence Against Women” within the framework of the 9th World Contest and 4th World Championship in taekwondo for veterans, which took place in Minsk during the period August 22–29.

According to Tatyana Haplichnik, manager of the UN Task Team on Gender Issues, the action was initiated by the participants themselves: representatives of the Taekwondo Federations of Belarus and Tajikistan. It is particularly important that sportsmen not only talk about the problem, but also take an active part in addressing it, calling on their counterparts to join the international movement. Only joint efforts can end the global spread of violence against women.

“The idea of the Campaign “UNiTE to End Violence Against Women” is closely interlinked with the underlying principles of taekwondo, as articulated by the sport’s founder, General Choi Khong Khi”, said Mirsaid Yakhyev, President of the National Federation of Taekwondo and Kickboxing of Tajikistan, commenting on the participation of the Federation in the campaign. “For example, the following principles are laid down in the Taekwondo Charter: to build the capacity to help other people restore



Sportsmen are signing poster with the slogan “Say No to Violence Against Women”

### FOR REFERENCE:

In February 2008 UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced the Campaign “UNiTE to End Violence Against Women”, which is to be held over the course of several years and is intended to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls all over the world. The campaign urges national governments, civil society, women’s organizations, young people, the private sector, mass media organisations and the entire United Nations family to consolidate efforts to end the global spread of violence against women and girls.

In 2007 the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) launched a global campaign “Say NO to Violence Against Women” led by the popular actress Nicole Kidman in the capacity of Goodwill Ambassador. Now the campaign is a part of the Global Campaign “UNiTE to End Violence Against Women”, initiated by UN Secretary-General.

justice and thereby contribute to the enhancement of ethics and morals and the creation of a more equitable and peaceful world; true equality and brotherhood, irrespective of social status, origin and religion; adherence to uniform rules of conduct, which are applied on the basis of uniform criteria. Our bond with the global campaign can also be seen in the principal ideals and traditions of taekwondo, which sportsmen should strive to achieve. In Asian countries, and Tajikistan in not an exception, violence against women has traditionally been a fairly common practice. Therefore, the campaign announced by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is very relevant for our country. Our team is

The information campaign against domestic violence has been conducted in Belarus for the fifth year in a row, through the joint efforts of the member-organisations of the UN Task Team on Gender Issues, which includes the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) as coordinator of the Team and the Campaign, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Belarus, the UN Department of Public Information (UNDPI), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Office of the International Organisation for Migration in the Republic of Belarus. The Belarusian counterparts of the information campaign are the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Belarus, which deal with prevention of domestic violence.

confident that we can change the situation if we act together. This is the main message of the campaign initiated by the UN Secretary-General”.

Every participant at the contests had the opportunity to support the campaign, alongside the representatives of Belarus and Tajikistan, by taking part in the action held in the Palace of Sports on 25 August 2010, the first day of competition. By signing a poster with the slogan “Say No to Violence Against Women”, 928 participants of the 9th World Contest and 4th World Championship in taekwondo for veterans, representing more than 50 countries, added their names to the list of supporters of this increasingly important movement which demands that elimination of violence against women should become the utmost priority of governments worldwide.

# Health Starts from Childhood

All of us are anxious that our children should have a successful and happy future, and one of the key pillars of this is health. It is important to take good care of one's health from early childhood, because this is the age when the physical and mental capacities of children are formed. For harmonious development a child needs physical activity, and specially equipped gyms and playgrounds are best suited for that. The EU/UNDP Joint Project "Combat the Negative Effects of the Chernobyl disaster in Belarus" has given kids attending two daycare centres in the Homiel Region more opportunities for outdoor games, rest and fun.

Daycare center 2 in Chojniki has used the project funds (over US\$ 9,000) to renovate its sports and music hall. Now it has new furniture, sporting equipment, a laptop and overhead projector, a compact disc stereo recorder and an accordion. Parents, daycare centre staff and representatives of local enterprises participated in the renovation work, helping to create a light and spacious hall which will be used for physical education, performances and concerts.

The daycare centre at the village of Sudkava in the Chojniki District is the only preschool facility in the village. It is attended by 45 kids under 6 years of age, who can now play in a new recreation ground. Instead of the old asphalt pavement, it now has a lawn with flowerbeds and facilities for sports and games which were already made available for the children at the end of the summer. The recreation



ground has become a favourite place for the kids attending the daycare centre and all the children living in Sudkava, because mothers can now come here to play with their kids. At the opening ceremony, Vladislav Dubikovskiy, EU/UNDP Project Coordinator for the Chojniki District, noted that workers from the neighbouring construction site had decided to help with the arrangement of the ground. Help was also offered by parents, staff of the daycare centre and the Sudkava Project Cooperative. Their joint efforts made it possible to create a comfortable and safe recreation ground where kids can improve their health by participating in active outdoor games. Over US\$ 10,000 was spent on this subproject.

Both subprojects are local initiatives which have materialised thanks to financial support from the EU/UNDP project and the contribution of local authorities and communities. The implementation of the subprojects in Chojniki and Sudkava has involved events aimed at teaching adults and children to adopt a healthy lifestyle, through activities such as sports days, contests and days of health. Similar events can now be organised more often at the new recreation grounds.

Thanks to such small pieces of joy, these children will be able to develop physically, learn to communicate with their peers, rest, play and fantasise, or to put it simply, grow up in happiness.

# World Bank Approves Additional Financing to Improve Living Environment in Chernobyl Affected Areas of Belarus

**The Board of the Executive Directors of the World Bank today approved a US\$30 million Additional Financing Loan for the Republic of Belarus for the Post-Chernobyl Recovery Project (PCRP). The Project provides the population residing in the Chernobyl affected areas of the Brest, Homiel and Mahilio Oblasts with energy efficient, reliable heat and hot water service.**

The additional financing will provide for more investments similar to those implemented under the original US\$50 million loan which was approved in 2006. The Project finances energy efficiency improvements, including window replacements and energy efficiency lighting in public buildings, rehabilitation of boiler houses and conversion of boiler houses to mini combined heat and power plants. The Project also connects individual houses, which currently use solid fuel for heating, to natural gas.

The energy efficiency component of the original loan has reached 205 schools, hospitals and kindergartens with improved lighting, heating, window and door replacements and other energy efficiency measures. 2,920 residential houses have been connected to a gas system; those households benefited from the improved, more reliable and affordable heat supply. The social impact of the original Project has been significant for improving the quality of the utilities and the comfort in schools and hospitals.

“Our team has just returned from Belarus,” said Pekka Salminen, World Bank Task Team Leader for the Project. “We saw schools and residential houses retrofitted under the Project, and talked to the direct beneficiaries. We visited a college in Homiel where the energy consumption decreased by a half for heat and by 2.5 times for electricity. Teachers and parents noticed significant reduction of absenteeism due to low indoor temperatures. The winter temperatures in the retrofitted schools increased from 14 degrees Celsius in 2005 to 20 degrees in 2009. There is no longer any need to worry about children’s eyes being damaged during lessons after the old lighting fixtures and installations were upgraded. The results are encouraging and we are glad to continue similar improvements at additional sites and improve the services and the comfort to more people affected by the Chernobyl accident”.

The World Bank loan has a maturity of 15 years, including a 3 year grace period. The Project implementation will start in 2011 and will take three years.

Belarus joined the World Bank in 1992. Since then, the Bank’s lending commitments in Belarus have totaled US\$719 million for 11 projects; about thirty national programs received grant financing totaling US\$ 24 million. Belarus is currently receiving World Bank financing for 6 infrastructure projects to improve energy efficiency, water supply quality, waste management, and developing infrastructure in Chernobyl-affected areas.



# Progress Toward the Millennium Development Goals

The 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly opened in New York on 14 September. It featured discussions and decision-making on key aspects of peacekeeping and international security, disarmament, sustainable economic growth, human rights, narcotics control and crime prevention. A landmark event was a High-level Plenary Session on the Millennium Development Goals. The Plenary Session resulted in the adoption of the Resolution “Keeping the Promise: United to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals”.

Ten years ago, in September 2000, world leaders committed themselves to cut by half the proportion of people living in poverty, to achieve universal primary education, to reduce infant and child mortality by two-thirds, to reduce maternal mortality by three-quarters, to halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria and other major diseases, to ensure environmental sustainability, and to develop a global partnership for development.

These commitments were laid down in the Millennium Declaration and endorsed by 189 states at the Millennium Summit. Having established 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for the world community and each individual country to achieve within a 15-year period, the Declaration has become a global framework for action towards further progress.

Eradicating poverty, promoting gender equality, improving maternal and child health, combating HIV/AIDS and ensuring environmental sustainability are issues of deep significance for all people around the world and require continuous attention, including in the richer countries.

By endorsing the Declaration, countries have also committed to reporting regularly on their progress in achieving the goals. National reports on meeting the Millennium Development Goals are drafted every five years. The list of concrete targets and indicators, both global and national, is intended to guide development activities and to serve as a framework for informing people and the global community about the efforts and progress of each country.

Progress in attaining the Millennium Development Goals is also monitored within the UN system. The UN Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly about the achievement of MDG targets on an annual basis.

The pace of reaching the MDGs has been uneven across different regions and countries, but, overall, considerable progress has already been noted. For example, between 1990 and 2008 the annual death rate among children under five years of age went down by 30% to 8.8 million deaths

Given that the country has achieved most of the Millennium Development Goals, close attention should be given to improving quality, sustaining progress, and ensuring equal access for rural and urban households, men and women.

*Antonius Broek, UN/UNDP Resident Representative in Belarus*



worldwide; attendance at delivery by skilled health personnel is now available to more women; fewer people get infected with HIV. Between 2001 and 2008 the global incidence of new HIV infections decreased by 16%; the number of people with access to safe drinking water is growing.

At the Millennium Summit in 2000, the Republic of Belarus declared its high-level commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. MDG targets and indicators adapted to the level of development and specific environment of the country have been employed in policy documents including the Programme of Social and Economic Development of the Republic of Belarus for 2001–2005, the Government Programme for Revitalisation of Rural Areas for 2005–2010, the National Strategy of Sustainable Social and Economic Development until 2020, which was elaborated with support from UNDP and adopted in 2004, as well as in other national programmes and conceptual papers.

In 2010 UN agencies supported the publication of the Second National Report on “Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals”. The aim of the report, as set by the national team of experts at the time of its drafting, was to assess the degree of MDG integration in Belarus’ policy papers, to review the progress toward attaining the MDGs based on the indicators proposed in the First National Report (2005), to make recommendations for improvements, and to propose social and economic measures that would contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. The impact of the global financial and economic crisis on the development process was taken into account in reviewing progress in relation to certain MDGs. The Second National Report is innovative in that it offers an analysis of the progress made by Belarus in attaining MDG-8, “Develop a global partnership for development”.

The Report says that Belarus has already achieved almost all of the MDGs. This is a sound platform on which to base further efforts on improving the quality and accessibility of the progress achieved. Belarus has almost met the targets for poverty eradication and reduction of maternal and child mortality. The country has attained the goal of achieving universal primary education. Promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women is addressed in the Third National Action Plan for Promotion of Gender Equality for the period 2008–2010. Further efforts are needed to enhance progress in achieving the goals of combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development.

Experts believe that it is now necessary to develop a strategy for sustaining the current pace and complementing MDGs with new indicators aligned with the level of Belarus’ social and economic development, and also to measure the current variability of the indicators for the country.

Belarus is currently drafting a Programme of Social and Economic Development of the Republic of Belarus for 2011–2015 (Programme-2015). Its principal goals include improvement of livelihoods based on modernisation of economic relations, innovative development, and enhanced competitiveness of the national economy. Through the implementation of Programme-2015, Belarus intends to achieve all MDGs by 2015, as stated by the country’s representatives at the Session of the UN General Assembly.

The current approach, which gives accountability to each nation for economic and social development and assigns a leading role to every country in the development process, is reflected in the Resolution “Keeping the Promise: United to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals” as a key prerequisite for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It also reflects the confidence of the participants of the High-level Plenary Session that the Millennium Development Goals are still achievable before 2015. The global promise to change the life of people in the course of the remaining 5 years can be fulfilled through “renewed commitment, effective implementation and proactive collective effort of all member states and other stakeholders, more sound institutions at all levels, enhanced mobilisation of development resources, improved efficiency of cooperation and more active global partnership for development”.

## MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)



**Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger**



**Achieve universal primary education**



**Promote gender equality and empower women**



**Reduce child mortality**



**Improve maternal health**



**Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases**



**Ensure environmental sustainability**



**Develop a Global Partnership for Development**

# International Year of Youth: Challenges and Prospects

**On 12 August the international community celebrated International Youth Day for the eleventh time. This year, the celebrations inaugurated International Year of Youth (12 August 2010 – 11 August 2011), whose main theme is Dialogue and Mutual Understanding. The selection of this theme reflects the recognition by the UN General Assembly of the importance of intercultural dialogue among young people and between generations.**

The first International Year of Youth was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly twenty five years ago. This coincided with adoption of the Global Long-Term Youth Employment Strategy. The decision to celebrate International Year of Youth for a second time was made in December 2009. The initiative, under the slogan "Our Year. Our Voice", is aimed at promoting the ideals of peace, respect for human rights and solidarity between people of different generations, cultures, faiths and civilisations. United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon emphasised the importance of "getting the youth involved in the development of strategies and programmes" in order to effectively address future global challenges.

To coordinate efforts within the International Year of Youth, the United Nations Organisation has identified three comprehensive goals: (1) increased commitment and investment in youth, (2) greater youth participation in public life and development of partnerships, and (3) intercultural understanding among young people.

## Issues of Concern

According to UN classification, young people are individuals aged from 15 to 24. At present there are 1.2 billion young people, i.e. 18% of the global population. 87% of them live in developing countries and experience poor access to resources, health, education, professional training and job placement services, as well as limited economic opportunities.

The new report "Global Employment Trends for Youth 2010", released by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), says that youth unemployment surged to its highest level ever recorded in the entire period of data collection, and is expected to grow further this year.

At the end of last year, 81 million young people out of about 620 million economically active individuals aged 15–24 were unemployed; this is the highest recorded level of youth unemployment. Youth unemployment rose by 7.8 million people as compared to the global data for 2007. Between the years 2007 and 2009, unemployment among young people rose from 11.9% to 13%.

According to ILO forecasts, in 2010 youth unemployment will continue to grow worldwide and is projected to reach 13.1% with a subsequent minor slowdown in 2011. It is worth noting that youth

Young people make an important contribution in our efforts to eradicate poverty, fight the spread of diseases, address climate change and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. I urge member states to increase investment in young people so that they can do more".

*From the statement of United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the occasion of International Youth Day*

unemployment is more sensitive to economic crisis than adult unemployment.

## Projects in Belarus

UN Agencies in Belarus have initiated various events for young people. For example, every year since 2007, the Belarusian Association of UNESCO Clubs has been holding the international youth conference "Belarusian Model UN". Among its participants have been university and school students from Lithuania, Poland, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Germany. This year the

"Youth is a driving force of economic development. Failure to use this resource may result in economic losses and may undermine social stability. <...> It is important to focus on comprehensive strategies combining education and professional training measures and targeted youth employment efforts."

*ILO Director-General Mr. Juan Somavia*



conference was attended by 300 young people from Belarus, Russia and Lithuania. Students from Belgium also participated in the Forum. The role-play is designed to model the activities of the UN Security Council, Economic and Social Council, Human Rights Council and the Committees of the General Assembly. A peculiar feature of the Conference is the modelling of the activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

As for youth employment, a multi-purpose centre for youth employment and youth business support was opened in Minsk this year, under the Joint Project of the European Union, United Nations Development Programme and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) entitled "Preventing, Fighting and Addressing the Social Consequences of Trafficking in Human Beings in the Republic of Belarus". The centre offers young people free counselling and training services to help them find employment and open their own businesses.

Such initiatives facilitate the improvement of the country's social and economic situation and help young people to realise their potential and thus contribute to a better future.

# A World Free of Nuclear Weapons

**On 29 August 2010 the global community celebrated, for the first time, the International Day against Nuclear Tests. The initiator of the resolution leading to the establishment of this important day was Kazakhstan, and 25 member states of the United Nations Organisation including the Republic of Belarus acted as co-authors.**

On 29 August 1949 the first of 456 nuclear explosions was set off at the Semipalatinsk testing ground in Kazakhstan; this facility was closed on 29 August 1991 upon the initiative of the President of Kazakhstan.

In the fifty years following the first nuclear tests in the USA in 1945, more than 2000 explosions were set off. Nuclear tests have been performed in all environments, including above-ground, underground and above-water tests. "This is not only the history of scientific research, the cold war and arms race - it is also a history of environmental degradation and health impacts for millions of people all over the world", said Antonius Broek, UN Resident Coordinator in Belarus.

Six explosions have been set off since the signing of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in 1996. This is a small number but it nonetheless frustrates the efforts of the international community in the field of nuclear disarmament, stressed Mr. Broek.

"In Soviet times nobody cared to explain what was happening and what it was all about. People came to watch the tests and then they lay dying, not understanding why because radiation is invisible", said Farkhat Abdukhalykov, Charge d'Affaires of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the Republic of Belarus. According to Mr. Abdukhalykov, people living in the vicinity of the Semipalatinsk testing ground still suffer from health problems.

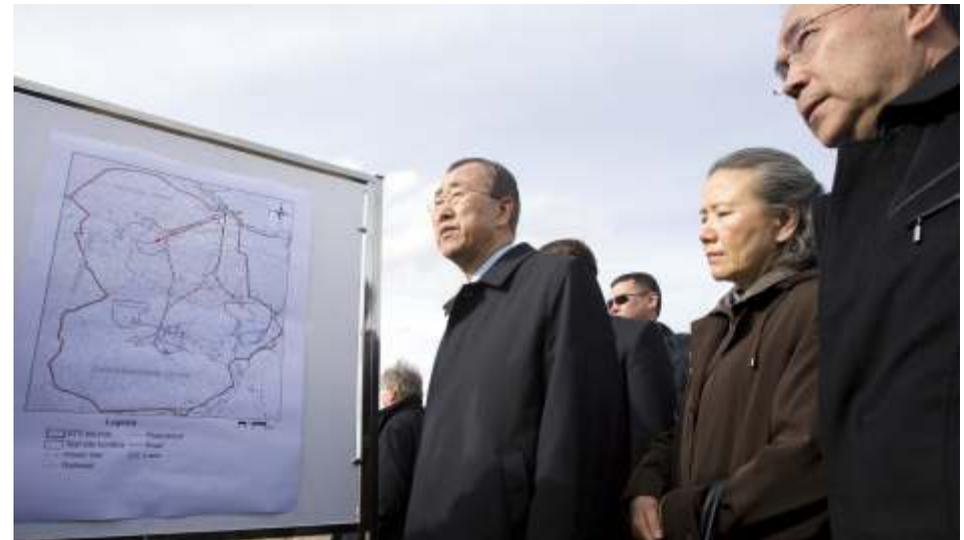
As a country that has been affected by radiation disaster and as a result is fully aware of the health, environmental and economic impacts of nuclear explosions, Belarus supports all efforts of the international community directed at banning nuclear weapons. In 1996 Belarus signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and disposed of its Soviet nuclear arsenal. In 2000 the Treaty was ratified by the Belarusian Parliament. Belarus has financed numerous foreign economic initiatives aimed at building a world free of nuclear weapons, and chaired the Conference on Disarmament held in January 2010 in Geneva.

"Belarus proposed a fairly active programme, so that the countries participating in the Conference could start working on a Treaty banning the production of fissionable materials as soon as possible, – said Ivan Grinevich, Advisor at the Department for International Security and Arms Control at the Belarusian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. – We do hope that these ideas will give a new impetus to the nuclear disarmament process. During the last decade it has been a bit in the shadow, even though the threat of nuclear war still exists". According to Mr. Grinevich, nuclear disarmament efforts should be undertaken both locally and at the level of international treaties. A comprehensive nuclear-test-ban

## Chronology of Nuclear Testing

The first atomic bomb was blasted on 16 July 1945 (New-Mexico, USA).  
The Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests was signed in 1963. The  
Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was signed in 1996.

The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was adopted on 10 September 1996 at the 50th Session of the UN General Assembly and was opened for signature on 24 September 1996. The Treaty places a worldwide ban on nuclear test explosions of any kind in the atmosphere, under ground and under water and is intended to prevent the production of nuclear weapons. The Treaty can enter into force once it has been signed and ratified by the 44 countries that possessed nuclear capabilities in 1996. Three of these countries – the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India and Pakistan – have not yet signed the Treaty and another six countries – China, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Israel and the USA – have not ratified it. The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation is mandated to promote the Treaty and to establish a regime of inspection.



Secretary-General Visits Ground Zero of the decommissioned Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site in Kurchatov, Kazakhstan in April 2010

should be enforced first and then the Treaty should be complemented with articles banning the distribution of nuclear weapons and production of fissionable materials. A comprehensive ban on producing and storing nuclear weapons could thus enter into force.

Despite a recent slow-down in nuclear disarmament efforts, now, for the first time in the last 65 years, there is some room for optimism. At present, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty has been signed by 182 countries and ratified by 153 countries, and these numbers are growing. In May 2010 the countries participating in the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons committed to act towards achieving peace and security in a world free of nuclear weapons. At its 65th Session in October 2010, the United Nations General Assembly is expected to review more than 50 resolutions on nuclear issues.

## 10.10.10 – Global Video History of the Day

The website [www.onedayonearth.org](http://www.onedayonearth.org) was launched in April 2010, with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) within the framework of the project “One Day on Earth”. This is a new media initiative intended to create a unique “video time capsule”, a global web-community and a feature-length documentary film. Project participants from over 190 countries are expected to depict the life of people all over the world on 10 October 2010.

Based on an idea by Project Manager Kyle Ruddick and Executive Producer Brandon Litman, the interface of the website is designed as a general use repository allowing all participants to post their work on the network and see the materials produced by others.

A final 120-minute documentary is expected to be released in movie theatres all over the planet in 2011.

one day on earth Help Document the World's Story on 10.10.10

HOME MY PAGE COLLABORATE PARTICIPANTS MEDIA ABOUT CAUSES EDUCATION DONATE

Welcome to One Day On Earth  
Sign Up or Sign In

UNDP  
UN Development Programme Distributes 120 HD Cameras for One Day on Earth

Participate

09 : 09 : 19 : 23  
Days Hours Mins Secs

UNTIL 10.10.10  
Filming begins soon, Sign Up to participate.

Join us on 10.10.10 for an unprecedented event. Every Nation, 24 hours, and You.

On October 10, 2010 (10.10.10), across the planet, documentary filmmakers, students, and inspired citizens will record the human

## “Academic Impact” will Strengthen Links Between Institutions

The web-resource <http://www.academicimpact.org> has been developed to provide information support to the Academic Impact Initiative. The Initiative is intended to align higher education establishments with the United Nations Organisations in actively supporting ten universally recognised principles related to human rights, literacy, sustainable development and conflict resolution.

The Academic Impact Programme is open to all higher education establishments and research institutions. The website has three main tasks: to be a source of information and interactive forum for the global academic community, to create a specialised web-community and to contribute to addressing problems in the education sector.

To join the initiative, educational institutions just need to complete an electronic form available on the website. All information is available in Russian, Arabic, English, Chinese, Portuguese, French and Spanish.

We Believe

Academic Impact

Home Message Principles Activities Participation Members Partner Organizations

**Introduction**

Academic Impact is a global initiative that aligns institutions of higher education with the United Nations in actively supporting [ten universally accepted principles](#) in the areas of human rights, literacy, sustainability and conflict resolution. The Academic Impact also asks each participating college or university to actively demonstrate support of at least one of those principles each year.

The critical role of higher education in economic and social development and as a foundation for world peace is widely acknowledged. Only lacking is the resolve and action of academic leaders around the world. By formally endorsing the ten principles in the Academic Impact, institutions make a commitment to use education as an engine for addressing global problems.

*"It is often said that if the United Nations did not exist, we would have to invent it. I fully agree. And that is why we have to strengthen its capacities on each of the three pillars of the United Nations' work: peace, development and protection of human rights. Part of that effort means continuing to open our doors to new partners. The academic community is surely at the top of that list. My colleagues and I have been discussing an initiative called 'Academic Impact.' We hope to build stronger ties with institutions of higher learning; ... we hope to benefit from your ideas and scholarship."*

**About this Site**

This website has three purposes:

- To provide a source of information that can be referenced in common from the websites of both its sponsoring organisations, the [United Nations](#) and the [International Association of University Presidents](#).
- To allow heads of colleges and universities to join the Academic Impact project quickly and easily, by utilizing the online [Participation Form](#).
- To provide visibility for some of the successes of the project over the coming months and years.

Please use the [Comments and Questions](#) form to comment or inquire about the site.

**“We need peace” Children's Street Art Contest  
on International Day of Peace in Orša, 21 September 2010**

