

Summary

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UN / UN Secretary-General's Message on World Oceans Day

The World Oceans Day was introduced by the General Assembly in 2009 to raise global awareness of the current challenges faced by the international community in connection with the oceans. In his message dedicated to this day, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon notes the role of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development taking place in June this year in Brazil for Member States to act and have a significant impact on this issue.

UNICEF/ National Action Strategy for Children: One More Step Towards Equality

UNICEF welcomes adoption of the Russian National Strategy in the interest of children. This is an important step towards greater equality, especially for children in vulnerable situations. UNICEF considers it's important that most pressing social issues were included in the Strategy, such as efforts towards healthy lifestyles among children and youth, actions against violence towards children, prophylactic measures against so called social orphanhood and other topics.

UNHCR / UN Refugee Agency: 20 years in Russia

UNHCR looks back through 20 years of its operations in the Russian Federation, particularly over needs and priorities that evolved in cooperation with the Russian Government reflecting country's crucial historical developments. As Russia takes the lead in a number of sectors related to the management of borders and the flow of migrants in the broader region and is a growing contributor to UNHCR's global activities, UNHCR counts on Russia's long and protection-sensitive partnership for the future.

UNESCO / Supporting the Diversity of Folk Art and Traditions in the Name of Dialogues and Development

In 2012 we mark the 10th anniversary of the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogues and Development. Several events conducted by UNESCO in Russia and the National Commission took place across Russia to raise awareness about the importance of intercultural dialogue, diversity and inclusion. UNESCO invites everyone to join the "Do ONE Thing for Diversity and Inclusion" campaign by following it on Facebook and showing what each of us can do towards preservation of diversity.

UNIC / The Power of a Smart Sketch

It is now a tradition that UNIC displays political cartooning in its premises on the occasion of the World Freedom Press Day. As noted by the Director of UNIC Alexandre Gorelik, this genre is unique for its universal nature that allows reflecting both issues and paradoxes of contemporary world. This genre is also directly related to freedom of expression. By coincidence on the same date UNESCO declared the first ever International Jazz Day to honour musical "language of freedom".

UNDP / III Environmental Film Festival H2O in MOSCOW

The topic of sustainable energy was key for the film festival "H2O" in May 2012 co-organized by the Moscow city government and UNDP in Moscow. Over 1500 guests attended the Festival. A number of side-events took place in the cinema hall "35MM" – seminars and exhibitions, as well as collection of waste paper and other resources. A growing public interest in the Festival demonstrates the urgency of the issue for Russia, as well as social maturity to put the agenda forward. This year the Festival will also take place in Ulan-Ude and Sochi.

OHCHR / Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights Paid a Visit to Russia

In April, Ms. Farida Shaheed paid an official visit to Russia in her capacity as Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights. During the trip she visited Moscow, Saint-Petersburg, Barnaul and Kazan. Ms. Shaheed was pleased to note a number of initiatives aimed at preservation of cultural heritage and increased access to cultural life in remote areas. She particularly welcomed the recent ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by the Russian Federation.

UNFPA / UNFPA and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the CIS Strengthen Cooperation in the Area of Reproductive Health and Related Rights

UNFPA attaches special importance to the role of parliamentarians in the area of reproductive health. This was stressed by concluding the Agreement of Cooperation with Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the CIS that took place on 17 May in Saint-Petersburg. The parties have an objection to develop a model law in the area of reproductive health and rights in the region.