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Translating economic growth into sustainable human development with human rights

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In 2007, the UN and its partners plan to channel US \$80 million to support the population of the North Caucasus /7-12

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"It is important that cinema professionals try to contribute with their work to the establishment of humanism ideals and development of rights awareness in society", President Vladimir Putin marks in his greeting to the participants and guests of 'Stalker' Festival

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Since 1999, the total amount of aid for the North Caucasus has reached 200 million Euro. Currently, over 85 percent of the European Commission humanitarian aid in the region goes to Chechnya, Jeroen Uytterschaut, Head of ECHO Moscow office writes

People /12

"In my photos I tried to tell the adults that we, the children of Chechnya, need protection and care," says Yaser Osterkhanov, a 12 year-old orphan and author of several photos. "We want to live under a bright, peaceful sky. Don't we deserve it?" he adds

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Human Rights Day and Poverty

The message of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Louise Arbour on the occasion of Human Rights Day, 10 December 2006

The awareness of the stranglehold of poverty on billions of men, women and children around the world, and of how this state of deprivation and misery compromises our common future, has never been higher. Yet, despite an increasingly sophisticated understanding of the complex makeup of poverty, ranging from exclusion and discrimination to a skewed international trade system, approaches to poverty reduction are still often tinged with appeals to charity or altruism.

On this Human Rights Day, we reaffirm that freedom from want is a right, not merely a matter of compassion. Fighting poverty is a duty that binds those who govern as surely as their obligation to ensure that all people are able to speak freely, choose their leaders and worship as their conscience guides them.

All countries, independent of national wealth, can take immediate measures to fight poverty based on human rights. Ending discrimination, for example, will in many cases remove barriers to decent work and give women and minorities access to essential services. Better distribution of collective resources and good governance, exemplified by tackling corruption and ensuring the rule of law, are within the reach of every state.



But as much as States bear the primary responsibility for their own development, the international community must also meet the commitments it has made to support the efforts of developing countries. Many rich countries have yet to meet development assistance targets they have accepted, yet they continue to spend ten times more on military budgets. They also spend nearly four times their development assistance budget – an amount almost equal to the total gross national product of African countries – to subsidize their own domestic agricultural producers. Indifference and a narrow calculus of national interests by wealthy countries hamper human rights and development just as damagingly as discrimination at the local level.

At the 2005 World Summit, global leaders recognized that development, peace and security and human rights are mutually reinforcing. In a world where one in every seven people continues to live in chronic hunger, and where inequalities between and within countries are growing, our ability to reach the goals the Summit reaffirmed in order to 'make poverty history' will remain in serious doubt if we do not tackle poverty as a matter of justice and human rights.

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United Nations

Highlights

Stalker Festival: Cinema Against AIDS Initiative



I welcome participants and guests of the XII International Human Rights Festival 'Stalker'.

For over ten years the festival has gathered together prominent cinematographers from Russia and has drawn attention of the audience to the issue of human rights and freedoms and civil responsibility. It is important that cinema professionals try to contribute with their work to the establishment of humanism ideals and development of rights awareness in society.

I am sure that your cinema forum will receive wide response and both participants and guests will remember remarkable, interesting and deep films, the best of which will be selected by an expert jury. Wishing you success, inspiration, and all the best.

17 November 2006

V. Putin

For the second year the United Nations Organization supports the Cinema against AIDS initiative within the framework of the Stalker Film Festival held in the Moscow Cinema House. On 1 December, a press-conference dedicated to the event was organized in Moscow. Sietske Steneker, UN Resident Coordinator a.i. in the Russian Federation, spoke at the press-conference on behalf of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) co-sponsoring organizations representing ten United Nations agencies. She said that the press-conference was very timely, considering that the 1st of December is World AIDS Day. "In 25 years of responding to what is one of the worlds' greatest challenges, the HIV epidemic, we have learned that protecting individual human rights is not only a moral obligation, it is also a pre-condition for effective action to prevent the spread of HIV and ensure proper treatment, care and support for those living with and affected by HIV and AIDS," she noted.

Ms. Steneker reminded that HIV/AIDS is a matter of urgency for Russia. As of November 2006, over 350,000 people were officially registered as HIV positive, while UNAIDS estimates that the total number of people living with HIV in Russia could reach a million. Every day some 100 Russian citizens test positive for HIV and, most alarmingly, it is the future of the country – the youth - that shoulder the overwhelming burden of the epidemic.

“Cinema can be a powerful instrument for inspiring society to protect the rights of people living with HIV, to fight stigma and discrimination. That is why I hope



our cooperation becomes a long lasting tradition,” Ms. Steneker stressed.

The Cinema against AIDS programme featured a collection of five documentaries covering different important aspects of HIV epidemic and telling stories about real people and real challenges they face. Film director Evgeny Zakharov presented a series of three documentaries – ‘Red Ribbon in Moscow’, ‘Flowers of Hope’ and ‘Front AIDS – Free Radicals’. The latter is about a movement of young people living with HIV. Through public actions in different cities they try to draw the attention of authorities in order to get affordable treatment. “We have no time to waste,” the movement activists repeat again and again. After the film this tragic reality was confirmed by the film director, who said that two of young people in the film had died.

The film ‘Seryozha’ by Denis Kuzmin is about hard life of an HIV-positive street child who was lucky to find a new family. ‘Doomed to Survive’ based on Vladimir Tyulkin’s idea was shot by two sisters who used to suffer from drug addiction. They are HIV positive, as well as their friends featured in the film. The audience can see how difficult it is to live and fear that relatives and neighbours could find out about the illness and still be brave enough to speak about one’s feelings in front of a camera.

Around table under the slogan ‘Let Us Join Hands’ held in the framework of the festival brought together representatives of communities affected by HIV/AIDS from Russia and Ukraine, international and civil society organizations and celebrities. Vladimir Pozner, President of Russian TV Academy, spoke about ‘Time to Live’ TV marathon dedicated to HIV and AIDS. The 19th marathon in the series was recently held in the Krasnodarsky region. Mr. Pozner is sure that if at least 75% of the capacities of mass media were used to fight the epidemics, it could really make a difference.

The Cinema against AIDS programme also included demonstration of four feature films. The films focused on the rights of people who are unfairly stigmatized and isolated in the society for different reasons, the necessity of understanding, tolerance and compassion. The programme included films ‘Invisible Children’, ‘Breaking the Waves’ by Lars von Trier, ‘Orangelove’ by Ukrainian film director Alan Badoev, and ‘Che Guevara: The Motorcycle Diaries’ by Walter Salles.



Medical Students to Combat AIDS

On 1 December 2006, a student conference devoted to World AIDS Day was held in Moscow Sechenov Medical Academy. The conference was organized by the Epidemiology Department of the Academy, together with the World Health Organization.

The conference was opened by Professor Valentin Pokrovsky, Head of the Epidemiology Department and member of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, who spoke about the first cases of HIV/AIDS diagnostics and current development of the HIV epidemic. He underlined the role of youth in combating further expansion of this disease, which is still incurable.

Professor Nikolay Briko from the Department on Epidemiology covered in detail nearly all medical and social issues related to the HIV pandemic. Professor Briko noted that in the Russian Federation, the HIV risk group included drug addicts and sex workers, and the rate of HIV incidence in Russia is among the highest in the world. The number of HIV positive people registered in Russia amounts to 360,000, while in reality, there are much more. According to the Federal Scientific and Methodological Centre on AIDS Prevention and Control, there are from 940,000 to 1.5 million HIV positive in Russia. It means that in fact 1.5 percent of people aged 15-49 have HIV/AIDS. Since 1996, intravenous injection of drugs by non-sterile syringes



Dr. Corinna Reinicke

has been the main cause of HIV transmission. By the end of 2005 eighty-six percent of people of the known risk groups were infected through to intravenous drugs injections. However, in 2001 the number of people infected through usage of intra-



Students of the Sechenov Academy

venous drugs reduced, while the amount of people infected via sexual contacts increased. In 2005, in 43 regions of the Russian Federation the percentage of HIV positive people infected via sexual contacts exceeded the percentage of people infected via intravenous drugs injection.

Professor Nataliya Gheppe, Head of the Children's Diseases Department, underlined that over 60 percent of HIV positive people in the Russian Federation were men, but the share of women was steadily growing. A total of 100,000 women are HIV positive. Infection of women at childbearing age results in the increase of the number of childbirths from HIV positive mothers.

Ms. Mary Collins, Acting Head of WHO Office in Russia, told the participants that the World Health Organization had announced the first World AIDS Day in 1988, and since then 1 December had been marked all over the world. According to WHO and UNAIDS estimations, in 2005, from 36 million to 44 million of people all over the world were affected by HIV or AIDS, while 10 million of them were infected in the previous two years, and more than 24 million died. About 14 thousand people, including 2 thousand children, are infected every day. The rate of HIV positive people in some countries is very high. High level of HIV incidence is registered in Eastern and Central Europe as well as in CIS countries. Today, the most serious situation is regis-

tered in Estonia, Ukraine and Russia. About 80 percent of HIV positive in the Eastern Europe are under 30.

Dr. Corinna Reinicke, Coordinator of WHO programme on HIV/AIDS in Russia, spoke in detail about the implementation of the WHO/EC project 'Monitoring and Prevention of HIV/AIDS in the Russian Federation' in the regions and in the country in general.

The staff of the Epidemiology Department carried out a quiz to estimate the students' knowledge about pathogenesis, prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. Those who answered the questions of the quiz correctly were divided into two teams. They continued the competition and showed deep knowledge of the issue. The most active students who won the competition received prizes.

The competition was followed by a film featuring a person who is infected with HIV. The issues touched upon in the film aroused interest of the audience.

Professor Nikolay Briko closed the conference expressing his gratitude to participants and assured that the cooperation between the experts of the WHO/EC project 'Monitoring and Prevention of HIV/AIDS in the Russian Federation' and Sechenov Medical Academy of Moscow would continue in future.

Blood Should Be Safe



More than 20 million people all over the world died from AIDS. How many people died after they were transfused HIV infected blood: thousands, tens or hundred of thousands? Actually, to exclude any possibility of spreading infection through blood transfusion is more important than to have exact numbers. This issue was discussed by Russian and foreign experts at the workshop 'Clinical Use of Blood' carried out in Kaliningrad on 30 October – 3 November.

The workshop was organized in the framework of the implementation plan of the WHO/EC project 'Monitoring and Prevention of HIV/AIDS in the Russian Federation'. The reason for choosing the particular venue and audience was that Kaliningradskaya, Leningradskaya and Irkutskaya Oblasts as well as the Krasnodarsky Krai have one of the highest HIV/AIDS rates among all Russian regions. Twenty workshop participants included head physicians of the regional blood transfusion centres (BTC), chief obstetrician-gynaecologists, transfusiologists, anaesthesiologists and resuscitators from perinatal centres.

The workshop was opened by Ms. Nataliya Kostyk, representative of the Kaliningradskaya Oblast Ministry of Health. She underlined the importance of efficient blood usage in the HIV epidemic environment. Dr. Igor Baranov, National

Program Officer on blood safety, briefed the participants on WHO clinical blood usage strategy. Then regional specialists described the situation in their regions.

During the workshop, current issues of modern transfusiology were covered with a focus on usage of blood components in obstetrical and gynaecological practice.

Professor Mikhael Stark (Germany) from the European Surgery Academy, Professor George Peltecu (Romania) from the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinic and Dr. Tatyana Foteeva, Research Assistant of the Gravitational Blood Surgery Department of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences facilitated the workshop.

Professor Mikhael Stark presented new surgical methods of most common gynaecological surgeries, such as Caesarean section, which allow to minimize the blood loss. Professor George Peltecu spoke about the ways to decrease blood loss during surgeries, to provide infusion and transfusion treatment of acute blood loss as well as efficient usage of donor blood components.

Dr. Tatyana Foteeva spoke about alternative methods of blood loss compensation – blood reinfusion, auto-donorship, hemodilution, efferent methods of treatment in obstetrical and gynaecological practice, usage of photo modifications under various pathological states.

All presentations were followed by lively discussions among the participants of the workshop, as all of them have considerable clinical experience to share with colleagues.

During the workshop a visit to the Kaliningrad Regional Blood transfusion centre was organized. The participants could take a closer look at all stages of blood components production and to follow the sequence of events – from the moment when a donor comes to BTC to distribution of the blood to medical institutions.

The workshop was highly appreciated by all participants, who suggested organizing similar workshops next year.



Dr. Tatyana Foteeva

Workshop participants from the regions thanked the hosts, the staff of the Regional Blood Transfusion Centre and its Head Physician, Dr. Nina Kabanchuk, and the organizers implementing the WHO/EC project 'Monitoring and Prevention of HIV/AIDS in the Russian Federation'.

Dr. Igor Baranov
National Programme Officer
WHO/EC project 'Monitoring
and Prevention of HIV/AIDS
in the Russian Federation'

WHO is a specialized agency of the United Nations with 192 Member States. It has four main functions: to give worldwide guidance in the field of health; to set global standards for health; to cooperate with governments in strengthening national health programmes; to develop and transfer appropriate health technology, information, and standards.

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The booklet prepared for the workshop

HIV Prevention in Education Environment

On 14-15 November 2006, a conference on HIV prevention in education environment took place in Moscow. It was held at the premises of Bauman Moscow State Technical University by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, Federal Service of Surveillance for Consumers' Rights Protection and Human Well-Being, UNESCO and UNICEF offices in the RF. The goal of the conference was to consolidate the efforts of all education institutions in the field of HIV prevention among young people.

“HIV has a young face in Russia,” said Mr. Vladimir Fridlyanov, Deputy Minister of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, opening the conference. “More than 80 percent of HIV positive people are aged from 19 to 30.” He told the participants that the fight against HIV and AIDS is part of the national priority project Health. A considerable part of its funds will be used for HIV prevention and raising awareness, especially among youth. In 2006, the government allocated 200 mln roubles on HIV prevention activities at schools and universities. According to Mr. Fridlyanov,

“the goal of educational programmes is to eliminate myths on HIV and AIDS, warn of the dangerous character of the disease, and promote tolerance to HIV-positive people.”

For the first time a conference on HIV prevention among children and youth, held at the federal level within the framework of the Russian education system, looked at the issue of HIV prevention through the lens of psychological, pedagogical and educational, rather than medical aspects. Recommendations were adopted following the results of the conference.

Digital Television and Public Interest

On 1-5 November 2006 in Moscow, the IX Eurasian Teleforum took place. This traditional meeting of TV and radio professionals gathered eminent specialists representing media communities of 40 countries.

The International Congress ‘Electronic Mass Media of Eurasia: World TV Outlook in XXI Century’ dedicated to the 15th anniversary of the CIS was held within the framework of the Teleforum. The Chairman of the Federation Council, Sergey Mironov, participated in the official opening.

On the initiative of UNESCO, the second day of the congress was devoted to the future development of digital broadcasting in Russia. The first session was opened by Abdul Waheed Khan, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information. The panel chaired by Henrikas Yushkiavitshus, Adviser to UNESCO Director-General, included Daniil Dondurey, Editor-in-chief of *Iskusstvo Kino* magazine, Boris Boyarskov, Head of the Federal Service for Media Law Enforcement and Protection of Russia’s Cultural Heritage, Marius Lukosiusnas, Communication and Information Adviser of the UNESCO Moscow Office, Alexei Malinin, Deputy Director-General of Russian State TV & Radio Company, Pavel Pozhigailo,

Deputy Minister of Culture and Mass Communications of Russia, and Mikhail Fedotov, Secretary of the Russian Union of Journalists.

Speaking about the role of the organization in the World Summit on the Information Society, UNESCO Assistant



Left to right: Boris Boyarskov, Henrikas Yushkiavitshus, Abdul Waheed Khan

Director-General Abdul Waheed Khan noted that digital revolution changed the way people think, behave, communicate, work and earn their livelihood. He reiterated that the revolution opened new ways of generating knowledge and disseminating education and information. “Access to information and knowledge,” said Mr. Khan, “is a prerequisite to achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals.”

Digital switchover has been actively discussed in Russia as it clearly has

a potential to increase public access to information and knowledge. “We have witnessed the rapid growth of television. Since early 2005 Russia has granted 1864 broadcasting licenses (1068 television and 796 radio broadcasting),” said Boris Boyarskov. Panelists believe that the future of broadcasting depends on digital technologies. “There is no alternative to digital broadcasting in Russia,” said Evgeniy Vasiliev, Director of the State Information Technologies Policy Department of the Ministry of Information Technologies and Communications of Russia.

Mr. Gorelik, Director of the UN Information Centre in Moscow, offered a global view on the obligations of television in society. According to UNIC Director, TV could be more focused on such UN advocated commitments as education for all, eradication of poverty, sustainable development, etc. Mr. Rumphorst from the European Broadcasting Union emphasized the importance of understanding how monitoring, as well as financial and organizational issues of public broadcasting should be organized in order to ensure high quality content.

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Appointments

Inge Breuer, WFP Representative in Russia

In September 2006, Ms. Inge Breuer assumed the post of WFP Country Director/Representative in the Russian Federation taking over from Mr. Chris Czerwinski who had worked in Russia for about three years.

Inge Breuer has a 12 years' experience of working for the World Food Programme. Prior to her appointment as WFP Representative in Russia she worked for six years in the WFP headquarters dealing with coordination of emergency situations in Transcaucasia and republics of the North



Caucasus (1994-1997), as well as issues of resource mobilization for WFP operations worldwide (1997-2000). In 2001, she became head of WFP in the UN country office in Indonesia where in 2004 she successfully coordinated a complex food relief operation for tsunami victims. In 2005, Ms. Breuer was appointed WFP Country Director/Representative in Georgia.

Ms. Breuer will be responsible for general coordination of WFP activities in the Russian Federation and WFP emergency food relief operation in the North Caucasus.

Food Security Assessment in Chechnya and Ingushetia

In August 2006, the UN World Food Programme carried out a comprehensive study of the food security situation and supply of food for the population of Chechnya and Ingushetia. The research was conducted in cooperation with other humanitarian organizations working in the North Caucasus, including the Danish Refugee Council, UNICEF, and Action Contre la Faim. The outcomes of the research were used for development of humanitarian programmes for the next year, particularly those stipulating the transition from emergency humanitarian relief to development assistance and aimed at the recovery of the republic, as the situation in Chechnya is stabilizing, and a lot of families return home.

The results of the exercise aroused interest in the Statistics Committee of Ingushetia and the Refugees Committee, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Labour and Social Development of Chechnya. Each organization provided specialists for conducting the research.

On the basis of representative sampling information on 1,300 households in Chechnya and Ingushetia was collected and analyzed. Residents of the republics, as well as internally displaced persons living either in private sector or in temporary or spontaneous settlements were among survey participants. The research was conducted by three teams: one was carrying out a survey

among household owners, the second held individual interviews and worked in the focus groups, and the third team registered height and weight of children aged from six months to five years.

The analysis of results helped identify new and to better understand already known trends of socio-economic development in the region. First of all, the problem of poverty still remains topical here. From 28 to 66 percent of people that took part in the survey fall into the categories of poor or extremely poor. The most destitute live in spontaneous settlements and temporary accommodation centres for internally displaced persons. As result of the uneven recovery process in urban and rural areas the poverty dynamics has changed in the past year: the income of urban population, for example, in Grozny, has increased as compared to the income of people in rural areas. In addition, poverty has its own geography: the highest percent of people with low income is registered in mountain villages.

Housing and employment remain major problems in both republics. However, it should be noted that each category of population has its own problems. Young people cannot find a job and begin independent lives, men do not have permanent jobs, women suffer from destroyed infrastructure, chronic diseases and psychological stress. In addition, the research demon-



strates dangerous tendencies related to height and weight insufficiency among children of preschool age, and irregular school attendance by children aged 8-15.

In November 2006, most important research results were presented in Moscow, Nazran and Grozny. They form the basis of the 2007 workplans of the World Food Programme and other humanitarian organizations.

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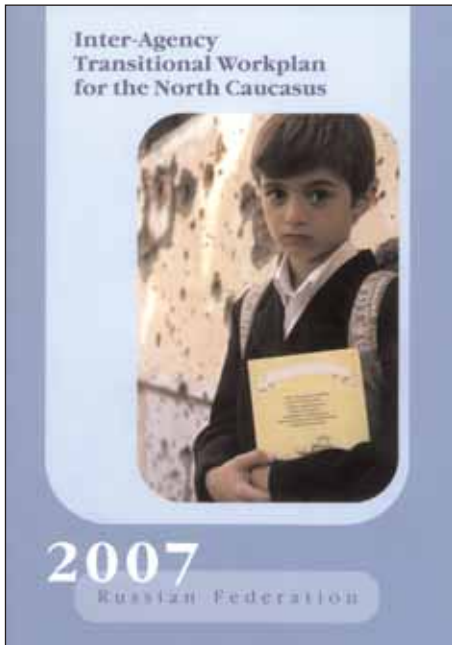
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UN Office for the Coordination
of Humanitarian Affairs

Regions

UN and NGOs to Continue Assistance in the North Caucasus in 2007



The UN Resident Coordinator a.i. Ms. Sietske Steneker and the IASC Humanitarian Coordinator a.i. Mr. Carel de Rooy

On 7 December in Moscow, the UN Resident Coordinator and the IASC Humanitarian Coordinator launched the 2007 Inter-Agency Transitional Workplan for the North Caucasus. This is the second strategic planning document of the kind, which replaced the traditional humanitarian Consolidated Appeal (CAP) of the previous years (1999-2005). The Transitional Workplan represents a joint strategic framework of 9 UN agencies and 12 national and international

non-governmental organizations. To better coordinate and direct their joint efforts, these 21 organizations set forth three strategic goals for 2007 in support of the Russian Government's efforts:

- enhanced protection of the civilian population, including through government protection partnerships defined in the Transitional Protection Strategy for Chechnya;
- addressing basic humanitarian needs, reducing vulnerability across the region

through closely linked socio-economic recovery projects; and

- establishment of strategic partnership with the government and local communities to expand their capacity for humanitarian action and development.

The participating organizations plan to implement recovery and development projects in various sectors, such as economic growth and poverty alleviation, governance, peace and tolerance, as well as an array of humanitarian and recovery activities in the sectors of education, food security and agriculture, health, mine action, protection, shelter, and water and sanitation. Sector Working Groups developed inter-agency response plans designed to achieve the above goals in close cooperation with relevant government agencies and on the basis of the best available situation analysis. Government officials participated in sector-specific and strategic priority-setting meetings.

Priority areas of humanitarian and recovery activities to be found in the Sector Response Plans include:

- microfinancing and poverty reduction;
- sustainable solutions for internally displaced persons, including housing and employment;

** The meaning of 'transition' adopted for the Transitional Workplan is that of a period between the emergency and development phases when humanitarian needs must be met and the long-term benefits of rehabilitation and reconstruction have yet to be fully realized. The need in the North Caucasus is for a range of assistance projects in relief, recovery, and development to be conducted simultaneously for several years*



Representatives of donors...

- basic food relief to the most vulnerable, as well as food for work and agriculture projects;
- training, technical assistance, supplementary feeding, and supplies in health and education;
- technical assistance for rebuilding water and sewage systems in Chechnya; and
- strengthening institutional capacity in the areas of governance and public sector reform.

The United Nations and participating NGOs are appealing for nearly US\$ 79.6 million to carry out the consolidated programme in 2007.

The launch event on 7 December provided a forum for representatives of federal, regional, and republican government agencies, the UN, donor countries, and international and non-governmental organizations to engage in an open discussion on the humanitarian and recovery situation in the North Caucasus. In the course of the discussion, as well as in the Transitional Workplan, signs of socio-economic recovery in 2006, as well as the expectation that the recovery process will continue in 2007, were mentioned. However, the North Caucasus remains



... and the governments of the republics of the North Caucasus

one of the poorest regions in the Russian Federation. Despite enhancement of health service capacity in 2006, health indicators suggest deeper problems related to poverty and inadequate social services. For example, maternal and

infant mortality rates in Chechnya and Ingushetia are 2-4 times higher than the national average, and the incidence of tuberculosis in Chechnya is ten times higher and has increased nearly fivefold since 2001. Certain improvements were noted in the area of education; however most schools in Chechnya are overcrowded and run on two or three class shifts per day.

The discussion between international organizations, the government, and local communities increasingly focuses on the issue of human vulnerability affecting the North Caucasus. Regional and federal authorities make efforts to boost socio-economic recovery, and this should over time help reduce the need for humanitarian assistance.

Thus, current assessment demonstrates that the overall humanitarian situation in Chechnya and the neighbouring republics will remain difficult throughout 2007, but gradual improvement is underway and can be expected to continue.



Lively dialogues did not stop even after the presentation

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Legal Advocacy: Essential Support to People in Conflicts



In the Legal Counseling Centre of the "Memorial" Human Rights centre, Urus-Martan, Chechen Republic

Since the outbreak of the second Chechen conflict in the autumn of 1999, the European Commission has actively contributed to assistance programmes in the North Caucasus through its Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO). The humanitarian aid, which addressed essential needs of the population affected by the conflict, helped save lives in the emergency situation when hundreds of thousands of people had to leave their homes. Aid is delivered through the Commission's implementing partners to the most vulnerable groups in Chechnya and in the neighbouring republics of Ingushetia and Dagestan. In 2006, the European Commission allocated 26 million Euro to the victims of the Chechen conflict. The total amount of aid for the North Caucasus since the beginning of the current crisis in 1999 has reached 200 million Euro, making the European Commission a leading donor to the region. Currently, over 85 percent of the ECHO humanitarian aid in the North Caucasus goes to Chechnya.

As a donor the European Commission does not implement projects on the ground but supports partner organisations specialised in humanitarian aid, including UN agencies, the Red Cross and Red Crescent and NGOs. Currently, the European Commission has about 195 partners worldwide, including 20 partners in the North Caucasus.

There are different ways of providing humanitarian assistance, including those targeting the vital needs of people – food, water, medical care, and others, which are not so obvious but equally important. They include legal advocacy that remains an essential element in the global humanitarian approach related to conflict situations.

Today, conflicts are more complex than ever. Unlike 'traditional' wars between states, most current conflicts are internal by nature and result from the fight for power or for natural

resources among armed groups. In other cases, the motive is ethnic, tribal or religious. Usually the parties in conflict have little knowledge of international humanitarian law, in particular the fundamental requirement to distinguish between fighters and civilians. International humanitarian law is often violated at the country level as well. As a result, civilians very often become main victims and in many cases even direct targets of hostilities. While the first responsibility for legal protection of civilians, including displaced persons, lies with the state, international mandated agencies, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), play an increasingly pivotal role in this respect.

In the course of the Chechen conflict the civilian population was considerably affected. Hundreds of thousands had to flee Chechnya to find temporary shelter either in neighbouring republics or in other regions of Russia, many left for other countries. They were all looking for physical protection in order to survive in terms of shelter, food, medicines, and they needed legal protection in terms of getting a proper status. Both the displaced and those who stayed in Chechnya need guarantees for protection of their fundamental rights. Many lost their relatives or are searching for those missing. Others lost their documents and need legal assistance in claiming their rights. This necessary advocacy work is done through partners of the European Commission working in the field.

Advocacy projects aimed at assistance to affected civilian population remain vital and will be further supported in Chechnya, Ingushetia and Dagestan. The programmes are implemented through UNHCR and ICRC and aim at providing legal support for displaced people, returnees or those who need professional legal advice. A major objective of such projects is to make sure that the rights of internally displaced people and returnees are respected, that

all returns to Chechnya are voluntary and those displaced who are not willing to return to Chechnya are offered viable alternatives.

Advocacy programmes also strive to build capacity of local organisations and initiatives. Most activities are implemented through UNHCR partners, local and international non-governmental organizations, such as Vesta, Memorial, Caucasian Refugee Council, Nizam, the Stitching Russian Justice Initiative, and Peace for the Caucasus. These organizations focus on supporting displaced people and local population by providing legal assistance free of charge. In the first six months of 2006 some 2,500 consultations were provided on various legal issues, including reissue of documents, compensation for lost housing, re-establishment of the official legal status of forced migrant, the right for voluntary return. Many people ask for assistance in preparing lawsuits on violation of their rights, which sometimes requires direct intervention of partners. The Stitching Russian Justice Initiative (a Dutch NGO) assists victims of serious human rights abuse in submitting their cases to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). Several applicants received positive rulings from the ECHR and new cases are now prepared for submission. Another NGO, Nizam, focuses



In the Legal Counseling Centre of the Interregional public organization "Vesta", Nazran, Republic of Ingushetia

on dissemination of advocacy information in local Chechen media.

Apart from working with implementing partners on the ground UNHCR closely cooperates with local government structures.

It is worth mentioning that the Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission is an active donor. ECHO staff regularly travel to the region to meet partners and beneficiaries and to

assess existing needs and assistance required.

The European Commission will strive to live up to its commitment to provide humanitarian assistance in the North Caucasus as long as it is required.

Since 1992, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department has funded relief programmes aimed at millions of victims of natural and man-made disasters worldwide. Aid is channelled impartially to the affected population, regardless of race, nationality, religion, gender, age, or political affiliation. The European Commission is one of the biggest sources of humanitarian aid in the world. In 2005, it provided 652 million Euro for humanitarian programmes. This does not include the aid allocated individually by 25 EU member states. The Commission supports projects in more than 60 countries. Funds are spent on goods and services such as food, clothing, shelter, medicines, water supplies, sanitation, emergency repairs and de-mining.

Jeroen Uytterschaut

*Head of Humanitarian Aid Department
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A monitor of the Caucasian Refugee Council talks to Chechen IDPs near the box tent provided by UNHCR

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Chechnya Through the Eyes of Children

On 17 November 2006, more than a hundred people, including senior officials of the Government of Chechnya, representatives of international organizations, media and local community attended the opening of the photography exhibition, 'Chechnya Through the Eyes of Children' in Grozny. The exhibition, which ran for a fortnight, was presented by UNICEF with financial assistance of the Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (ECHO) and was on display at the premises of the Youth Affairs Committee of the Chechen Government.

Presenting photos taken by 10 Chechen children who attended a photography training organized by UNICEF and ECHO, the exhibition reflected life in Chechnya as children see it. The opening ceremony was attended by the children themselves who explained to the gathering the messages they wanted to send through their photos.

"In my photos I tried to tell the adults that we, the children of Chechnya, need protection and care," said Yaser Osterkhanov, a 12 year-old orphan and author several photos. "We want to live under a bright, peaceful sky. Don't we deserve it?" he added. The exhibition was opened by Lechi Yahyaev, Advisor to the



Photo by Magomed Bamakiriev

Prime Minister of Chechnya, who said, "On behalf of the Government of Chechnya, I would like to express gratitude to UNICEF and ECHO for organizing this exhibition. It is a very good idea to look at the situation in

Chechnya from children's point of view. I think that this exhibition can be viewed as a bridge of understanding between children and adults. We should have more events like this in future."



Photo by Aminat Saidullareeva

Carel de Rooy, UNICEF Area Representative in the Russian Federation and Belarus and UN Humanitarian Coordinator in the RF, welcomed guests and thanked the Chechen Government for its support.

"The children's perspective is realistic, yet optimistic," he said. "This can be



Photo by Salimat Ibrakarov



Photo by Mariam Gabdulatova



Photo by Amira Khasbabanova



Photo by Magomed Bannakhriev

considered as a first step that gives an opportunity to young people of Chechnya to express their views and feelings; we hope this opens the door for more children's participation. This is not the end, this should be the beginning," Mr. de Rooy added.

Samuel Marie-Fanon, ECHO Representative in the Russian Federation, also spoke at the opening. "I met with these 10 kids in July after they took lots of pictures.

They were so excited and focused on selecting the best ones for this exhibition. I must say that I am deeply impressed by the images taken by the children and their view of today's Chechnya. I regularly go on missions to Chechnya, but I should admit that a child's eye sometimes sees the world differently than we adults do," he said.

Children's amateur dance groups were invited to the opening ceremony.

Children recited poems, danced and sang songs turning the event into a real celebration. The exhibition was widely covered by the republican media.

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Photo by Arkady Khadzagarov

Here they are – the magnificent ten, photographed by their trainer



Ad Melkert in Russia

Ad Melkert, UN Under-Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, visited Moscow on 28-29 November 2006 to see firsthand current UNDP programme activities in the world's largest country.

Meeting with Russian experts at the Moscow State University, Ad Melkert discussed the early research findings of the forthcoming NHDR 2006/7 which looks at the uneven effects of the economic growth across the regions in Russia. One of the particular issues coming forward is the fact that in a country with 9 time zones two thirds of the Russian population live below the average Russian human development index. Ad Melkert noted that "work such as this points to the need to focus on inclusive growth as a priority. I firmly believe that UNDP is well placed to support the Russian authorities in addressing distinct regional disparities."

During a meeting with Alexander Yakovenko, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Associate Administrator learnt about Russia's interest to both be a recipient of aid and its strong willingness to engage increasingly as a provider of development assistance. Only a week before the Associate Administrator's visit to Russia, the Government decided to create a new mechanism for international



Georgy Muradov, Head of International Department of the Moscow City Government, shows Ad Melkert around the Moscow Government building.

development which was a welcome endeavour.

The Moscow Export Initiative project was presented to UNDP Associate Administrator during the meeting at the Moscow city Government. The joint endeavour between the UNDP Country Office and the Moscow Government is aimed at developing a set of measures for enhancing the export potential of various companies and entities operating in Moscow. Within the framework of the project, the House of Moscow in Bishkek, the Kyrgyz Republic, was officially opened

in June 2006. The objective of this initiative is to explore investment opportunities in Central Asia and promote them to investors, starting from the Kyrgyz Republic at the first stage.

The Associate Administrator later discussed with Mr. Shakhrai, Deputy Chairman of the Russian Federal Accounts Chamber, national efforts to tackle the issue of corruption. With the support of the UN Democracy Fund, UNDP is working together with the Accounts Chamber to undertake a number of activities from a series of public opinion surveys on corruption and capacity development training for civil servants to launching a nationwide network to fight corruption. "This project goes to heart of the problem of corruption, namely that it does not recognize boundaries, geographic zones, and administrative divisions," stated Ad Melkert.



Participants of the meeting with Ad Melkert at the Moscow City Government

At the end of his mission, Ad Melkert exchanged views with the UN Country Team on the recent report of the High Level Panel on System-wide Coherence, welcoming examples of UN coordination in Russia, in particular through the work of UNAIDS and assistance to relief and recovery in the post-conflict region of the North Caucasus.

Chernobyl: Ecology, People and Health



International efforts aimed at mitigating the consequences of the Chernobyl accident and bringing normalcy and prosperity to the region were in the focus of the international exhibition and scientific workshop, 'Chernobyl: Ecology, People and Health', organized in Moscow on 5-8 December 2006 by the Russian Ministry of Emergencies. At the exhibition, the United Nations Development Programme presented prospective solutions for Chernobyl-affected communities.

In 2002, the United Nations adopted a new strategy for the recovery of Chernobyl-affected areas presented in the report 'The Human Consequences of the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident. A Strategy for Recovery'. According to the report, the lack of social and economic opportunities, rather than radiation, is a major challenge for the affected population. This conclusion was confirmed in 2005 by the UN Chernobyl Forum that

had brought together eight UN agencies and the governments of the three most affected countries to come to a scientifically grounded conclusion on the impact of the accident on health, environment, and society.

In line with the new UN strategy, socioeconomic rehabilitation of Chernobyl-affected areas in Belarus, Russia and Ukraine has become a UNDP priority. UNDP activities in the region target the most vulnerable groups and promote improved local living standards through the creation of new jobs, investment and economic growth and restoration of community self-reliance.

In facing Chernobyl challenges UNDP has identified three priority areas: provision of security information and promotion of healthy lifestyle; community-based social and economic development, supporting initiatives aimed at

improving living standards and encouraging self-reliance; and policy advice to help governments rationalize Chernobyl spendings.

In Belarus, the Cooperation and Rehabilitation Programme (CORE) provides start-up business assistance to affected communities.

In Russia, Chernobyl-affected territories are viewed as a model for piloting new regional and local mechanisms of economic recovery, investment promotion and employment generation. In the Bryansk oblast, a business promotion



centre and a microcredit facility were established.

In Ukraine, the Chernobyl Recovery and Development Programme (CRDP) supports community-based self-help initiatives. So far, 207 community organizations have been formed in 139 villages, involving over 20,000 community members. Each community organization takes full responsibility for the implementation and maintenance of projects such as improving water and gas supply, building health clinics and renovating schools and youth centres.

"Our top priority is to deliver a message of hope to people affected by the Chernobyl accident and to offer prospective solutions to the problems affected communities are facing," said Oksana Leshchenko, UNDP Chernobyl Coordinator, at the opening of the exhibition. "We will devote every effort to help transform a generation of defeated 'victims' into a generation of proud 'survivors'."

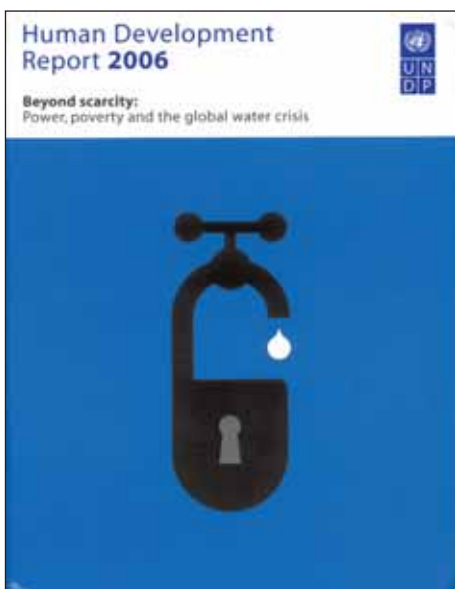
Representatives of state institutions, NGOs and enterprises dealing with Chernobyl issues from Russia, Belarus and Ukraine, as well as international organizations participated in the event.



What Lies Beyond Scarcity?

“The difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing would suffice to solve most of the world’s problems.”

Mahatma Gandhi



On 9 November 2006 in Moscow, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Russian Federation presented the 2006 UNDP Global Human Development Report ‘Beyond Scarcity: Power, Poverty and the Global Water Crisis’. The launch was organised in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Eurasian Economic Community Integration Committee (EvrAsEC).

Representatives of ministries and Agencies concerned, including the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, the Federal Agency of Water Resources, the Water Problems Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences and other academic institutions, as well as diplomatic corps, UN agencies and media, took part in the presentation at the EvrAsEC office in the 1st Basmany Pereulok.

“Access to water for life is a basic human need and a fundamental human right”, Mr Kemal Dervis, Administrator of United Nations Development Programme, wrote in the Report’s foreword. “Yet in our increasingly prosperous world, more than 1 billion people are denied the right to clean

water and 2.6 billion people lack access to adequate sanitation... Every year some 1.8 million children die as a result of diarrhoea and other diseases caused by unclean water and poor sanitation. At the start of the 21st century unclean water is the world’s second biggest killer of children... At the start of the 21st century, we have the finance, technology and capacity to consign the water and sanitation crisis to history just as surely as today’s rich countries did a century ago.”

What has been lacking, according to UNDP head’s opinion, is a concerted drive to extend access to water and sanitation for all through well designed and properly financed national plans, backed by a global plan of action to galvanize political will and mobilize resources.

The main presenter of the Report was Mr. Timothy Scott, Acting Chief of the National Human Development



Mr. Alexander Mironenkov

Reports Unit, Human Development Report Office, UNDP New York. Mr. Alexander Mironenkov, Advisor to the Secretary General of EvrAsEC spoke about the regional aspects of water crises, namely in Central Asia. Russia’s perspective was presented by Victor Danilov-Danilian, Member by Correspondence of the Russian Academy of Science, Director of the Institute of Water Problems.

Beyond the household, competition for water for production intensifies, while the environment and the rural poor lose out. Debunking the myth that the global water crisis is the result of scarcity, the 2006 Human Development Report argues that poverty, power and inequality are at the heart of the problem.

The Report offers fresh new data on how many poor people go without water and sanitation, the inequality of access within and between nations, and on what clean water really means for child survival rates. It argues for a concerted drive to achieve water and sanitation for all through national strategies and proposes models of cooperation to resolve cross-border tensions in water management.

The global launch took place in Cape Town, South Africa. Simultaneous launches were conducted in New York, Toronto, and Oslo.

The Human Development Report continues to frame debates on some of the most pressing challenges facing humanity. It is an independent report commissioned by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Kevin Watkins is the Lead Author of the 2006 report, which includes special contributions from U.K. Chancellor Gordon Brown, Nigeria’s Finance Minister Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, President Lula of Brazil, Former U.S. President Carter, and UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. The Report is translated into more than a dozen languages and launched in more than 100 countries annually.

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The Flow of Global Investments: Trends and Forecasts

In natural resource-based economies, such as that of the Russian Federation, most of the policy issues are related to the management of the windfall earnings from high international oil prices and defining or redefining of the role of state. This is one of the findings of the World Investment Report 2006 issued by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The report is entitled 'Foreign Direct Investment from Developing and Transition Economies: Implications for Development'. In October the study was presented to Russian public at the UN Information Centre.

Leonid Grigoriev, President of the Institute of Energy Industry and Finance Foundation, a well-known figure in economic circles, presented the report. He made comments in his typically light and lively manner addressing tough issues and at times reaching paradoxical conclusions and contributed to an active discussion among the participants – scholars, experts and foreign economy analysts.

The key conclusion of the report is as follows: 2005 was marked by growth of global flows of foreign direct investment (FDI) for the second year in a row. Trans-border mergers and acquisitions reflecting the strategic choice of transnational corporations (TNC) in an environment of grow-



ing global stock markets contributed to the increase of FDI flows. The global inflow of FDI rose by 29 percent compared to 2004. Inflows to developed countries rose by 37 percent, while inflows to developing countries rose by 59 percent.

The participants were particularly interested to learn that in 2005 developing countries reinforced their role as sources of FDI, having invested, in aggregate, US\$ 117 billion. This appears to be a sign of fundamental changes occurring in the global economy.

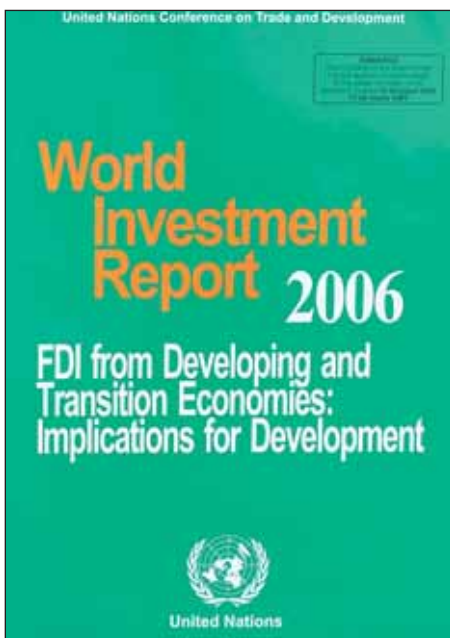
The level of FDI inflows to South-East Europe and the CIS remain virtually unchanged compared to 2004, constituting in total US\$ 40 billion. Russia has retained its number one position on the list of investment recipients, followed by Ukraine.

At the same time, a new trend emerged in 2005: FDI outflows from the region grew for four years in a row, reaching US\$ 15 billion, with the Russian Federation alone responsible for 87 percent of the total outflow. As UNCTAD points out, high oil prices and competition for resources in 2005 made Russian transnational corporations maintain a high level of FDI abroad.

Several experts made emotional comments on the issue of Russian companies' investment activity coupled with the search for an optimum role of the state in the economy, as well as the general issue of TNCs. The UNCTAD report concludes that, while the majority of the global transnational corporations are based in the 'big three' locations – European Union, Japan, and the United States – at the same time, there is an increase in the number of global and regional players from developing and transition economies.

The scale of transnational activity of the largest TNCs substantially expanded in 2003 and 2004. Five companies from new market economies (three of them state-owned) are on the list of the world's 100 largest TNCs. Yet a considerable gap between the two groups remains as measured by the Transnationality Index, a tool developed by UNCTAD for assessing the scale and level of a TNC foreign activity. For example, companies from developing countries have branches and subsidiaries mostly within regions of their location. To the contrary, the world's largest TNCs have subsidiaries and branches on average in 40 foreign countries across different regions.

The boom of FDI outflow from a number of developing and transition economies reflects the increased competitiveness of many companies based in these regions. It is, in part, attributable to an increase of export proceeds from the sales of processing industry products and mineral resources. Perhaps most importantly, companies from these countries feel more and more affected by the global competition. The participants noted that these companies began to realize the increasing importance of access to international markets and global production systems and knowledge networks. External expansion of such companies opens new opportunities for the development of their countries. This means that the global economy is likely to undergo further changes.



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United Nations Association of Russia

World Federation of United Nations Associations Anniversary



The newly elected WFUNA President Mr. Hans Blix and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee Mr. Alexei Borisov

On 4-12 November 2006, a delegation of the United Nations Association of Russia participated in the 38th World Federation of UN Associations (WFUNA) Plenary Assembly held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

United Nations Associations members from 59 countries of the world met in



Latin America to discuss policy, activities, management and further development of the World Federation.

Before the Assembly, the 190th WFUNA Executive Committee meeting was held, where Mr. Alexei Borisov, First Deputy Chairman of UNA-Russia, spoke. Later on he was elected Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee. The plenary also bestowed the title of WFUNA Honorary President to the Chairman of UNAR Youth Commission, Mr. Gregory Kovrizhenko.

On the first day of the Assembly, the International Symposium on the Millennium Development Goals was held

in the National Senate of Argentina. It started with welcoming speeches of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and Hans Blix, Chairman of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission and the newly elected WFUNA President. The Symposium included a number of discussions devoted to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals with participation of well-known diplomats, UN officials and public figures. MGIMO Professor and Chairman of the MDG UNA-Russia Commission, Mr. Lev Voronkov, presented a report on MDG implementation in the national contexts.

The Assembly adopted the Buenos Aires Declaration highlighting the commitment of the peoples of the United Nations "not to pursue conflictual paths in considering issues of acute contemporary conflict." Thanks to the efforts of the Russian delegation, a number of resolutions were adopted: on the establishment of a Mass Destruction Weapons Free Zone in the Middle East; immediate end to the blockade of Cuba by the government of the United States; recommending that no wall be constructed between Mexico and the USA; supporting the Alliance of Civilizations and its further development; and calling for the creation of a UN Parliamentary Assembly.

Activists of the UN Model movement in Russia, a MGIMO student Julia

Taranova and a Higher School of Economics student Leonid Isaev, took part in the work of WFUNA-Youth meeting in the framework of the Assembly. The Youth Section of the UNA-Russia acted as a co-sponsor of the amendment to the WFUNA Constitution putting forward the idea of integrating a new youth movement network into the organization's structure. Students and young professionals adopted several documents, including the Rules of the Procedure and the Plan of Action and carried out meetings to share best practices. A representative of UNAR-Youth was elected Educational Project Coordinator.

To mark the 60th anniversary of the World Federation, delegates highlighted the contribution of national associations to education and human rights promotion, their role in the struggle against apartheid.

The Executive Committee unanimously decided that the next Plenary Assembly would be hosted by the Republic of Korea in Seoul in 2009.

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Summary

You can find the full version of the UN in Russia Bulletin in English at www.undp.ru or www.unrussia.ru (Documents)

UN/ Message of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Occasion of Human Rights Day, 10 December

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Louise Arbour urges states and international community to fight poverty. She calls to tackle poverty as a matter of justice and human rights.

Stalker Festival:

UN Supports Cinema Against AIDS Initiative

UN supports 'Stalker' film festival for the second year by hosting the 'Cinema against AIDS' initiative. This year's programme includes a collection of five documentaries and four feature films covering different aspects of HIV epidemic and other human rights issues.

WHO/Medical Students to Combat AIDS

On 1 December, a student conference dedicated to the World AIDS Day took place in Moscow Sechenov Medical Academy. It was organized by the Epidemiology Department of the Academy and the World Health Organization.

WHO/ Blood Should be Safe

On 30 October - 3 November, a seminar 'Clinical Use of Blood' was held in Kaliningrad in the framework of the WHO/EC project 'Monitoring and Prevention of HIV/AIDS in the Russian Federation'. Kaliningrad region has one of the highest HIV/AIDS rates in Russia.

UNESCO/ HIV Prevention in Education Environment

On 14-15 November, a conference on HIV prevention in education environment took place in Moscow. The goal of the conference was to consolidate efforts of all education institutions in the field of HIV prevention among young people.

UNESCO/ Digital Television and Public Interest

On 1-5 November in Moscow, IX Eurasian Teleforum took place. This traditional meeting of TV and radio professionals gathered eminent specialists of the media community from 40 countries.

WFR/ Inge Breuer, WFP Representative in Russia

In September 2006, Ms. Inge Breuer assumed the post of the Country Director in the WFP Russia office. Ms. Breuer has 12 years' experience of working in the World Food Programme.

WFP/ Food Security Assessment in Chechnya and Ingushetia

In August 2006, the World Food Programme in cooperation with other humanitarian organizations and NGOs conducted a comprehensive research of food security situation in Chechnya and Ingushetia. Results of the research were used for development of next year humanitarian programmes.

OCHA/ UN and NGOs to Continue Assistance in the North Caucasus in 2007

On 7 December, the 2007 Interagency Transitional Workplan for the North Caucasus was launched in Moscow. The Transitional Workplan represents a joint strategic framework of 9 UN agencies and 12 national and international NGOs.

UNHCR/ Legal Advocacy:

Essential Support to People in Conflicts

The European Commission through its Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) actively contributes to assistance programmes in the North Caucasus. Currently over 85 percent of the humanitarian aid provided by ECHO goes to Chechnya.

UNICEF/ Chechnya Through the Eyes of Children

On 17 November, a photo exhibition 'Chechnya Through the Eyes of Children' supported by UNICEF and ECHO was opened in Grozny. It presents photos taken by 10 Chechen children who attended a UNICEF and ECHO photography training.

UNDP/ Ad Melkert in Russia

On 28-29 November, UN Under-Secretary-General and UNDP Associate Administrator, Ad Melkert, visited Moscow to see firsthand current UNDP programme activities in the world's largest country.

UNDP/ Chernobyl: Ecology, People and Health

On 5-8 December, the international exhibition and scientific workshop 'Chernobyl: Ecology, People and Health' was held in Moscow. It was focused on international efforts to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl accident and bring prosperity to the region.

UNDP/ What Lies Beyond Water Scarcity?

On 9 November, UNDP Russia presented UNDP Global Human Development Report 2006 dedicated to the global water crisis. The Report offers new data on how many poor people suffer without water and sanitation, the inequality of access within and between nations, and what clean water really means for child survival rates.

UNIC/ Global Investments: Trends and Forecasts

World Investment Report 2006 issued by UNCTAD is dedicated to direct foreign investments from developing and transition economies. In October the findings of the study were presented to the Russian public at the UN Information Centre.

UNA-Russia/ 38th Plenary Assembly of the UNA World Federation

On 4-12 November, a UNA-Russia delegation participated in the 38th World Federation of the UN Associations Plenary Assembly held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

United Nations



Millennium Development Goals

The Millennium Development Goals is a set of specific and measurable targets aimed at reducing poverty and raising living standards, which was adopted by 191 United Nations member-states, including the Russian Federation, at the Millennium Summit in 2000.

These Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), to be reached by 2015 or earlier, are as follows:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Goal 1 | Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger |
| Goal 2 | Achieve universal primary education |
| Goal 3 | Promote gender equality and empower women |
| Goal 4 | Reduce child mortality |
| Goal 5 | Improve maternal health |
| Goal 6 | Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases |
| Goal 7 | Ensure environmental sustainability |
| Goal 8 | Develop a global partnership for development |