

Summary

The full version of the UN in Russia bulletin in Russian can be found on the UN Internet portal in Russia www.unrussia.ru (Publications and Documents)

UN Secretary-General: Message on the International Mother Earth Day (22 April 2016)

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon highlighted the role that each of us can play in improving climate resilience. Make energy-efficient choices! Stop wasting food! That is something everyone can do. Small actions, multiplied by billions, will in turn bring about dramatic change. The theme of Earth Day 2016 – Trees for the Earth – is to prove it. 7.8 billion trees will be planted over the next five years, each one absorbing harmful CO₂ and benefiting all the humanity.

UNEP / Climate control (editorial)

The Paris Agreement Signing Ceremony took place on 22 April at the UN Headquarters in New York. 175 countries signed this landmark pact. Now it is time to act. As part of implementation of the Paris Agreement, Russia has started developing its national strategy of low-carbon development - 2030. The United Nations Development Programme will proactively participate in improving climate resilience by disseminating information about the key challenges.

UNIC / Honorary Ambassador for Green visits Moscow

Red of the Angry Birds appointed as Honorary Ambassador for Green by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon arrived in Moscow on an 'official visit' in the lead-up to the Paris Agreement Signing Ceremony. He visited the United Nations Office in Russia where he met some heads of agencies and gave an exclusive interview to UNIC Director Vladimir Kuznetsov. The Honorary Ambassador expressed hope that people would step up their effort to combat the climate change and implement the 2030 Agenda.

ILO / ILO urges to invest more in labor protection

The International Labor Organization (ILO) highlights the importance of accident prevention measures that could make the workplace healthier and safer. According to the ILO, more than 2.3 billion people die as a result of accidents in the workplace every year. Chief of the ILO's Programme on HIV/AIDS, Alice Ouedraogo, calls for implementing HIV/AIDS prevention measures with a view to stopping the spread of the disease. Alice believes that creation of a safer environment at work will benefit both businesses and the economy in general.

UNAIDS / 5th International Eastern Europe and Central Asia AIDS Conference (EECAAC-2016)

EECAAC-2016 took place in Moscow under the motto: "Global Partnership to Fight HIV/AIDS – Every Life Matters". In his message to the Conference, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev pointed to the fact that the ongoing HIV/AIDS-related debates are led not only by doctors, but also by policymakers, members of the expert community and the civil society. Only together can we defeat the global epidemic. High-ranking representatives of the Russian government, UN Under-Secretary General Michele Sidibe and delegations from the CIS countries were present at the opening ceremony.

WHO / How to reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases in low-income countries?

The Second Moscow training course on prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in the countries of Central Asia and Eastern

Europe took place in Moscow as part of an international educational programme. The choice of Moscow as a venue was motivated by the fact that Russia is playing an important role in combating the NCDs on a global scale. During the course, experts in the NCDs prevention exchanged their knowledge and discussed a set of measures of the NCDs prevention that may be implemented at the national level.

Interview / Can a UN Secretary-General be admired by everyone?

The selection of a new UN Secretary-General is going to be one of the major diplomatic intrigues of 2016 as Ban Ki-moon's second and final term expires by the end of the year. While the candidates for the UN top job introduce themselves at the so-called 'public hearings' in an unprecedented move to increase transparency of the selection process, the UN Bulletin looks back into history. What makes a good Secretary-General? Vladimir Grachev, a seasoned diplomat with over 20 years of experience with the UN, shares his perspective. In an interview for the UN Bulletin, he comes up with the portrait of Secretary-General Kofi Annan, a passionate jogger and charismatic leader.

UNESCO/IITE / Moscow International Education Fair

The annual Moscow International Education Fair (MIEF 2016) was held by the Russian Ministry of Education and Science, in collaboration with numerous leading Russian and international organizations. The MIEF agenda in 2016 sought to identify some effective tools that would allow to put theory into practice and to spread successful knowhow and technologies. In the course of the Fair, the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE) signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of knowledge dissemination and the best ICT practices with SAP CIS, one of the leading companies in the market of enterprise applications.

OHCHR / "Equal rights and opportunities in culture and the society" round table as part of the "8 Women" Film Festival

Stories about women created by women – that is what the International Film Festival «8 Women» is all about. The brainchild of cooperation between the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Russia, the Russian Union of Journalists and the Guild of Russian Film Directors, it was held in Moscow for the second time. This year, the Festival's programme included a thematic round table on the gender equality that brought together officials representing the UN and the Council of Europe, members of women's and human rights organizations, as well as a good number of moviemakers and the media.

Guest of the Issue / Bayisa Wak-Woya: «I think in Russian»

Mr. Bayisa Wak-Woya of Ethiopia is the Representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the Russian Federation. He has spent more than 20 years with the UNHCR, and 10 of them in Russia, "more than in any other country of the world," as he says. He is due to leave the UNHCR in July. In an interview for the UN Bulletin, Mr. Wak-Woya elaborates on his experiences in Russia both in the 1990s and in the recent years, highlights the importance of cooperation with the Federal Migration Service, provides his take on the impact of the ongoing migration crisis in Europe, saying that he hopes to come back to Russia again someday.