

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 Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (9 August 2015)

In his message on the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called on the international community to ensure that they are not left behind. Indigenous peoples with unique cultures, languages, traditional knowledge, and their special relationship to the Earth's resources, face a wide range of challenges. These challenges include inadequate sanitation and housing, lack of prenatal care and widespread violence against women. To create a better, more equitable future, we need to commit to do more to improve health and well-being of indigenous peoples, as improving indigenous peoples' health remains a critical challenge for indigenous peoples, Member States and the United Nations.

Editorial/ Investing into future

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the outcome document of the global Conference on Financing for Development, concluded that with the due financing and policy, the humanity will be able to implement its dream on full elimination of poverty by 2030. The Agenda contains more than 100 measures to support sustainable development. This and other issues covered by the Conference were discussed at a briefing at the UNIC on 22 July.

WHO/The Advanced Health Information Workshop

The Advanced Health Information Workshop hosted by WHO on the premises of the UN House in June brought together 35 representatives of WHO Member States – mostly from the Commonwealth of Independent States countries, but also from Albania, Serbia and Turkey, – WHO staff and leading international experts. Better health data collection across the WHO European Region and application of WHO practical tools and techniques were on its agenda. Considering the key leadership role that Russia is playing in developing health information in the Region, the next Autumn School on Health Information and Evidence for Policy-Making will also be organized in Moscow.

UNHCR/Consolidating efforts on the borders of the CIS Member States

Based on the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2014 by UNHCR and the Council of Commanders of Border Troops of CIS Member States, the 2015 Plan of Joint Action was agreed upon by the two agencies. Information and experience in international protection and humanitarian assistance will now be shared and joint activities organized to strengthen implementation of the national and international legislation related to refugees, displaced persons, asylum seekers, people without nationality.

ILO/Breastfeeding and work: To help working mothers

Global momentum to support breastfeeding needs to reach new levels, from national to local action. Ensuring adequate maternity protection and time and space for breastfeeding at work does not only protect child health and adequate growth, it also makes economic sense, leading to women's job satisfaction and loyalty and fewer sick leaves. Governments, employers' and workers' organizations should be mobilized to act in harmony with the health, nutrition, and gender equality communities so as to enable working women to breastfeed and reap the benefits both for themselves and for the health and well-being of future generations. The ILO is committed to working with partners to make the change happen.

BRICS Trade Unions respond to common challenges

The 7th BRICS Summit hosted in July 2015 by the city of Ufa was attended by the heads of leading trade unions of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. The Summit Declaration, handed over to the President of the Russian Federation, states that neoliberal globalization tends to eliminate working places and global ecosystem. The austerity measures cannot resolve the crisis, whereas manufacture, education, healthcare, science and technologies need new investments. Strengthening BRICS plays a key role in the democratization of international relations. The participants also reaffirmed their further joint efforts to secure global peace and protection for the common well-being of humanity.

UNEP/Nature for kids and cities

The 2015 World Environment Day activities included eco-action events encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the environment. With the financial support of the UNEP/Moscow Office, a number of eco-events were organized for young children without parents, children with special needs, graduates of boarding schools, pre-school departments, etc. Getting a close understanding of the clean environment benefits and the need for its protection will help the young generation to ensure and enjoy a healthy future.

UNAIDS/Be on a healthy wave! #divesafely

The 16th FINA World Aquatics Championship hosted by Kazan from 24 July to 9 August brought together 2,638 participants from 166 countries and more than 2,000 volunteers. The activities of the project «Dive safely!» were among its highlights. Through this project, the UNAIDS Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia aims to attract the youth to HIV issues, and to encourage them to learn their HIV status through free tests. Located in the Dive safely! pavilion in the FINA Water World park, the initiative provided HIV prevention materials and offered confidential HIV tests to its visitors during the Championship. Singer Dilyara Vagapova, spokesperson for the #divesafely campaign, called on people to know their HIV status. «Together we can end AIDS in our countries. To be fashionable means to know your HIV status!»

OHCHR/ Indigenous people learn the UN human rights protection

The OHCHR Indigenous Fellowship Programme, a comprehensive human rights training programme, was established in 2005 to build the capacity and expertise of indigenous representatives on the UN system and mechanisms dealing with human rights in general and indigenous issues in particular. In 2015, it was attended by six representatives of the Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the five regions of Russia. Its agenda included university lectures, meetings with government officials, NGOs, travel to OHCHR HQ at Geneva, etc. The participants' evaluation of the programme confirmed a high degree of satisfaction and its strong contribution to the support of indigenous population.

Guest of the Issue/UNESCO in Russia

Tigran Epoyan, UNESCO Regional Advisor on HIV and health education for Eastern Europe and Central Asia and Officer-in-Charge, UNESCO Moscow Office, elaborates on the history of UNESCO Office in Russia since 1994. In 2002, UNESCO Moscow office broadened its scope both technically and geographically, now covering also Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus and Moldova. The agency's key priority is to create a dialogue between cultures and people in education, science, culture, communications and information. To achieve this goal, UNESCO closely collaborates with the Russian ministries and governmental agencies, NGOs, national and international experts with a view to implementing various national projects, including the ones promoting tolerance, protecting cultural heritage and facilitating intercultural dialogue within the framework of UNESCO Cultural Conventions.