

Media Update

24 May 2017

United Nations

Press Releases

Photo Exhibition on Sustainable Development Goals kicks off in Karachi

Karachi, 24 May 2017 - The last leg of photo exhibition “Pakistan Sustaining Development: Human Stories through Photography” opened on Wednesday at Sadequain Art Gallery, Frere Hall Karachi. The exhibition highlights human stories of Pakistani people through 102 photos organized in 17 collections according to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Jointly organized by Agence France-Presse (AFP), the European Union, and United Nations and with support from the Embassy of France in Pakistan, UK Aid and the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation, the exhibition aims to raise awareness of the SDGs and of the efforts needed to achieve the Goals by 2030.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Wasim Akhtar, Mayor Karachi, Amelie Herenstein, Bureau Chief AFP for Pakistan and Afghanistan, Vittorio Cammarota, Director UN Information Centre and François Dall’Orso, French Consul General.

The Sustainable Development Goals represent a common agenda, adopted by the world leaders in September 2015 to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030. These 17 goals include 169 targets which focus on economic inequality, innovation, climate change, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among others.

Speaking at the event, Wasim Akhtar, Mayor Karachi said, “The exhibition is a true depiction of Pakistani society; we have to admit that it’s still a long way to go to achieve SDGs. We all have to work together in order



to achieve SDGs. I assure the partners present here that Local Government of Sindh is fully committed to support all the future and ongoing programs of national & international agencies and is also supportive to fulfill SDGs agenda in the province”.

Vittorio Cammarota, Director of the UN Information Centre said, “We are honoured to bring this outstanding photo exhibition to Karachi: it provides people from Sindh with an unprecedented opportunity to expand their knowledge and understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals and of development in Pakistan. Promoting the SDGs is a top priority for UN agencies in Pakistan.”

Speaking at the event, François Dall’Orso, French Counsel General said, “The Embassy of France in Islamabad is happy to have contributed, with other partners, to the exhibition of photographs taken by Agence Française de Presse, AFP, french press agency, throughout Pakistan. Such an exhibition, devoted to sustainable development, complies with the general commitment of France to that major international cause”.

Amélie Herenstein, Bureau Chief Agence-France Press for Pakistan and Afghanistan said, “It is a great honor for AFP Pakistan to present, for the first time, our photos directly to the Pakistani public.” She further maintained that “We have deliberately chosen to focus on the human angle of the story, showing the reality of life as it is now for millions of Pakistanis, be they shopkeepers, teachers, farmers and children. It also documents the extraordinary resilience of ordinary Pakistanis in the face of tragic events like floods.”

World-renowned pianist Jun Kanno performs with NAPA musicians to foster cultural diversity for dialogue and development.

Karachi, 24 May 2017 -Internationally acclaimed Japanese pianist Jun Kanno performed today at NAPA in Karachi to mark World Day for cultural diversity for dialogue and development. The program included Japanese traditional songs, performed with a choir of students from NAPA, together with pieces by Beethoven, Mozart, Ifukube and Chopin. Musicians from NAPA performed



traditional Pakistani music with sithar and tabla and interacted with Maestro Kanno.

Over 250 people attended the concert, including music lovers, diplomats, students and media representatives.

The event was organized by the United Nations in partnership with NAPA and the embassies of Austria, Germany and Japan. Yesterday Maestro Kanno engaged in a masterclass with students and faculty members from NAPA and provided them with a unique opportunity for deepening their knowledge of music and its connections with other cultures.

In the previous days, Maestro Kanno performed at the embassies of Austria, Japan, Germany in Islamabad and met with faculty members from Quaid-i-Azam University and Pakistani singer Qasim Tariq for a workshop on cultural diversity.

Japanese Maestro Jun Kanno said: “I am very happy to be in Pakistan and pleased to see that people have a strong interest in music. My interaction with students from NAPA was an unforgettable human experience! I am grateful to the organizers for having given me the opportunity to visit the country and meet wonderful people.”

Prof. Nafees Ahmed Khan, Head of Music Department NAPA said: “NAPA has been focusing on fostering tolerance and acceptance in the society through music. We were honored to welcome Maestro Jun Kanno in our school: he generously shared his experience and knowledge with our students. His words set solid foundations for nourishing current and future generations”.

Vittorio Cammarota, Director, United Nations Information Centre said: “Music is a language transcending all borders and a powerful mean for connecting people from all cultures around the globe. The day provides us with an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and promoting human rights, peace and stability in the society.” (#)

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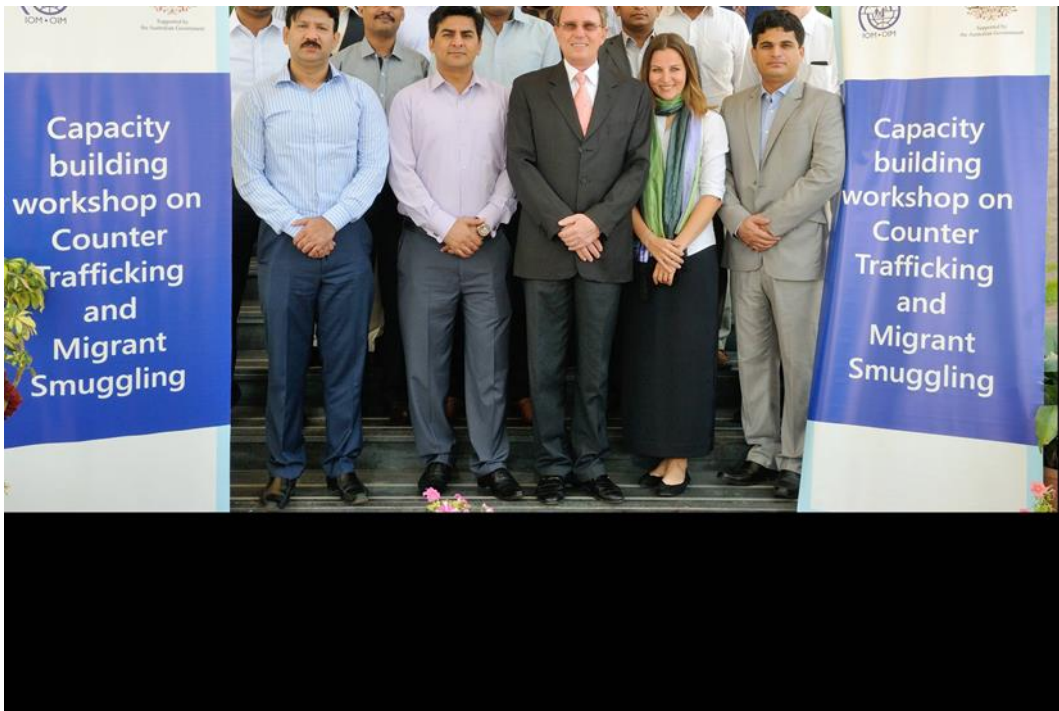


Note for the editors:

The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development is an occasion to promote culture and highlight the significance of its diversity as an agent of inclusion and positive change. It represents an opportunity to celebrate culture's manifold forms, from the tangible and intangible, to creative industries, to the diversity of cultural expressions, and to reflect on how these contribute to dialogue, mutual understanding, and the social, environmental and economic vectors of sustainable development. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals can best be achieved by drawing upon the creative potential of the world's diverse cultures, and engaging in continuous dialogue to ensure that all members of society benefit from sustainable development.

IOM

Capacity building workshop on Counter Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling



IOM Pakistan organized a two-day capacity building workshop on Counter Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling in Islamabad on May 23-24, 2017 under the DIBP funded project 'Strengthening Reception Capacity of Immigration Authorities in Pakistan'. The workshop focused on various topics including trafficking in persons, migrant smuggling, victim identification, interviewing victims of trafficking and victim assistance. Participants included officials of Federal Investigation Agency and Provincial Police Departments.

