

Media Update-2

30 May 2016

UNICEF

Press Release

UNICEF alarmed at refugee and migrant deaths in the Mediterranean

NEW YORK/GENEVA, 29 May 2015 – UNICEF expresses alarm at the number of migrant and refugee deaths in the past week in the Central Mediterranean, many of whom were believed to be unaccompanied minors.

In anticipation of a major summer upswing of child migrants using the dangerous crossing between Libya and Italy UNICEF will shortly begin an operation with the Italian Government and partners to provide protection support.

The vast majority of children using the crossing are unaccompanied adolescents and they have faced appalling abuses, exploitation and the possibility of death at every step of their journey.

"The stories which I have personally heard from children making this journey are horrifying. No child should face them. Their lives are in the hands of smugglers who care for nothing other than the money they exhort from them," said Marie-Pierre Poirier UNICEF special coordinator for the European Refugee and Migrant Crisis.

An average of 1,000 unaccompanied children a month have arrived in Italy this year but UNICEF expects this figures to spike in the coming months.

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**About UNICEF**

UNICEF promotes the rights and wellbeing of every child, in everything we do. Together with our partners, we work in 190 countries and territories to translate that commitment into practical action, focusing special effort on reaching the most vulnerable and excluded children, to the benefit of all children, everywhere. For more information about UNICEF and its work visit: www.unicef.org

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United Nations

Secretary-General Message

WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY

31 May 2016

Cigarettes and other tobacco products kill almost 6 million people every year. Sustainable Development Goal 3 aims to “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”. As part of that approach, governments have committed to strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries to reduce the proportion of people who use tobacco.

On World No Tobacco Day 2016, the United Nations is lending its support to one simple measure with proven effectiveness in reducing demand: the plain packaging of tobacco products. As laid out in the UN tobacco control treaty, this entails restricting or prohibiting the use of logos, colours, brand images or any promotional information other than brand and product names displayed in a standard colour and font.





Tobacco use is one of the largest causes of preventable noncommunicable diseases, including cancers, heart and lung disease. It also diverts valuable household income. Plain packaging reduces the attractiveness of tobacco products, restricts tobacco advertising and promotion, limits misleading labeling, and increases the effectiveness of health warnings.

On this World No Tobacco Day, I call on governments around the world to get ready for plain packaging.

UNODC

Press Release

Regional Training of Trainers on UNODC Toolkit for Law Enforcement Officials Islamabad 30 May - 02 June 2016

30 May 2016 - Islamabad

Internationally, the essential role played by law enforcement in protecting citizens and promoting public health, particularly in vulnerable communities, is gaining increased understanding and appreciation. Of these communities, drug users are amongst the most vulnerable; therefore, greater emphasis must be placed on how law enforcement personnel engage with members of this group.

The UNODC has developed a toolkit to support law enforcement personnel in order to better understand and engage more effectively with members of vulnerable populations, such as drug users. These toolkits will provide police officers of all ranks with essential knowledge and skillsets needed both to protect them and to provide a positive enabling environment that enhances the collective health of the community.



Based on this toolkit, a four day long Training of Trainers (ToT) course is being organised for law enforcement officials from the countries covered by the UNODC Regional Programme on Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries (Afghanistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan). Approximately 25 law enforcement officials from these countries are participating in the course.

Mr. Toaha Hussain Bugti, Senior Joint Secretary, Narcotics Control Division, Ministry of Interior and Narcotics Control, graced the opening ceremony of the training course as the chief guest.

During the course of the training, participants will develop a better understanding of the correlation between policing and public health. This “ToT” training course will build upon the capacities of the participants, so that in the future they may conduct future training courses on the subject within their respective countries. The course will help them understand drug use, appropriate public health responses to drug use and the role of law enforcement in supporting these efforts. In addition, it will allow them to apply their acquired skills to productively engaging with vulnerable populations, namely users of illicit drugs.

The training is supported by Government of Sweden through the UNODC Regional Programme on Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries.

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