

Media Update

18 July 2018

UNIC

Press Release

Nelson Mandela International Day commemorated with the underprivileged children of Pakistan Sweet Home

Islamabad, 18 July 2018: On the 100 anniversary of Nelson Mandela's birth today, the United Nations Information Centre in partnership with the Pakistan Sweet Home paid tribute to the values and dedication to Nelson Mandela's legacy and his services to humanity. We engaged with the underprivileged children of the Pakistan Sweet Home in several learning and recreational activities including cultural performance, screening the documentary, a quiz competition and touring an exhibition on the life and messages of the Nelson Mandela.

Mr. Zammurud Khan, Patron in Chief, Pakistan Sweet Home welcomed the guests and acknowledged that, through the commemoration of the Nelson Mandela Day, the children of Pakistan Sweet Home have got unique opportunity to learn about the life story and inspiring messages of the great personality of this century, as well as for the times to come.

In his remarks, H.E Mr. Mpendulo Jele, High Commissioner, Republic of South Africa shared his memories and reflections of the struggle and movements led by the Nelson Mandela in the areas of human rights, reconciliation, gender equality, the rights of children and other vulnerable groups, as well as the fight against poverty and the promotion of social justice.

Vlastimil Samek, Director a.i, United Nations Information Centre shared with the participants the message of the United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres and the message of the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Pakistan, Neil Buhne.

Nelson Mandela, whose successful struggle against South Africa's apartheid system of racial segregation and discrimination made him a global symbol for the cause of human rights and earned him the Nobel Peace Prize, would have turned 100 years old, today on 18 July 2018.

Our sincere thanks to the representatives of the civic society and diplomatic missions of



the United Nations member states including the Republic of South Africa, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Sudan for joining us on this important occasion.

The United Nations pays its special thanks and gratitude to the Pakistan Sweet Home for providing us with the opportunity to meet with the talented, inspiring and brilliant children.

Background:

Nelson Mandela was a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, politician and philanthropist, who served as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. He was a country's first black head of state and the first elected in a fully representative democratic election.

Nelson Mandela was awarded the World's Children's Prize 2005, and elected the WCP Decade Child Rights Hero 2009, for his lifelong struggle to free the children of South Africa from apartheid.

After 27 years in prison he became the first democratically elected president of South Africa. A country, where children of all the skin colours gained equal rights for the first time. Nelson continued to help South Africa's children and demands respect for their rights. He started his own children's foundation, the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund (NMCF), which helps children whose parents have died of AIDS, street children, disabled children, and poor children. (#)

Photos of the event are available here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmfmthaE>

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UN Habitat

Media Advisory

Launching ceremony of State of Pakistani Cities (SPC) report

When: Thursday, 19 July 2018, 9:00 am onwards till lunch

Where: Marriott Hotel, Islamabad

What: Launching ceremony of the State of Pakistani Cities (SPC) report and Habitat



Country Programme, Pakistan 2018-2022 followed by a Workshop organized by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) with the support of Australian High Commission, Islamabad under the auspices of the Ministry of Climate Change (MOCC) Pakistan.

Who:

- Mr. Muhammad Yusuf Shaikh, Federal Minister for Climate Change
- Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Federal Minister for Planning Development and Reforms
- Mr. Neil Buhne, UN Resident Coordinator
- Ms. Margaret Damson, Australian High Commissioner
- Mr. Khizar Hayat Khan, Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change
- Mr. Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui, Secretary, Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms

Background:

The State of Pakistani Cities report is spearheaded by the Ministry of Climate change with the technical assistance of the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN Habitat) funded by the Australian Government. The State of Pakistani Cities (SPC) report identifies the underlying socio-economic drivers contributing to the state of urbanization in the ten largest cities namely Karachi, Lahore, Faisalabad, Rawalpindi, Gujranwala, Peshawar, Multan, Hyderabad, Islamabad and Quetta and their efficacy to respond to the urbanization challenges. The State of Pakistani Cities report, 2018 provides the basis for continued collaborative action to develop common and consistent actions, policies and strategies which will ensure that the outcomes are pragmatic and reflect the ground realities across the country. UN-Habitat Pakistan is also launching its Habitat Country Programme (HCP), Pakistan 2018-2022 which lays down the roadmap for achieving SDG 11 and other crosscutting SDGs.

We look forward to your participation and coverage.

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