

Greetings from Lebanon! We hope that my email will find you well.

Attached are a few items that you may find useful in your work with the international community, District committees, and District officers:

## **NEWS UPDATES**

### **President Tanaka in Peace Video**

Through the efforts of RI Rep Advisor Sylvan Barnet and UN Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury, President Tanaka has prepared a message encouraging support for International Peace Day on 21 September.

View the video and share it with those who might benefit from listening to it: <http://vimeo.com/49191370>

### **Rotary News Release highlights Rotary Centers**

In anticipation of the UN International Day of Peace, Rotary's media team has prepared a press release and broadcast quality "b-roll" footage highlighting the Rotary Centers and Rotary's efforts toward peace.

Please share the link with any relevant media and all who might be interested. English and language versions are available at:

<http://rotary.synapticdigital.com/Latest-Stories/rotary-fosters-peace-through-education-and-humanitarian-service/s/0d7eb8d6-f97c-4588-a94d-414e56164d3f>

### **Rotary launches interactive End Polio Now website**

Rotary recently launched [endpolionow.org](http://endpolionow.org), an interactive virtual home where people can come together to finish the fight against polio. While the website is currently available only in English, but other languages will follow. Key features of the site include:

- Compelling polio eradication stories
- Interactive, dynamic graphics that help tell the eradication story
- Information about how donations are used to fight polio
- Tips on how to use social media to share Rotary's polio story

Visit the site: <http://www.endpolio.org/>

### **President Tanaka and General Secretary at key World Economic Forum events**

President Sakuji Tanaka and General Secretary John Hewko were recently invited to participate in key meetings of the World Economic Forum (WEF). Earlier this year, President Tanaka was given an invitation to be the personal guest of Dr. Klaus Schwab, Executive Chairman and founder of the World Economic Forum, during their Annual Meeting of New Champions, 11-13 September in Tanjin, China. Known as the “Summer Davos,” the meeting is an opportunity for rising stars in business, academia and social entrepreneurs to meet key leaders from the international community. The meeting was opened by a presentation from Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao. As with other WEF meetings, President Tanaka had the opportunity to participate in private meetings with key leaders from industry and civil society as well as meet with senior leaders from the WEF itself.

Shortly before the meeting in China, General Secretary John Hewko participated in a WEF consultation meeting with other members of civil society on 3-4 September in Geneva. The meeting was an opportunity for 30-40 high level representatives of the WEF’s civil society community to come together and help shape the Forum’s agenda for the coming year.

### **Italian Rotary members work with UNICEF to fight Malaria**

Rotary members from district 2080 (Lazio and Sardinia) donated 50,000 Euros to help with UNICEF’s fight against malaria in Guinea-bissau. A Rotary delegation, led by District Governor Daniela Tranquilli Franceschetti, visited UNICEF’s offices in Italy. Giacomo Guerrera, Chairman of the Italian Committee for UNICEF, presented Governor Tranquilli Franceschetti a certificate of appreciation for his personal commitment and success in mobilizing the partners during his year as District Governor. In 2011, a delegation of Rotary members went to Guinea Bissau to see firsthand the work of UNICEF aimed at malaria prevention through the distribution of mosquito nets. A new mission in Guinea Bissau is scheduled for the end of 2012.

Read the full article (in Italian) at: <http://www.unicef.it/doc/4075/rotary-international-e-unicef-uniti-contro-la-malaria.htm>

### **Former Rotary Peace Fellow a defender of children**

Katia de Mello Dantas, a former Rotary Peace Scholar, is helping to stop sexual abuse of children, including pornography, human trafficking, and abduction. Dantas is policy director for Latin America and the Caribbean for the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children in Brasília, Brazil. Over the past year, she has focused on protecting children from sexual predators on the Internet.

Read the news story: [http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/120913\\_news\\_dantas.aspx?utm\\_source](http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/120913_news_dantas.aspx?utm_source)

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## **REPRESENTATIVE ACTIVITIES**

### **International Literacy Day**

Several of the RI Representatives in Washington DC attended the International Reading Association's (IRA) celebration of International Literacy Day on 7 September at the Library of Congress. Rotary has a cooperative relationship with the IRA and work closely on literacy projects. Richard Carson, Primary Representative to the Organization of American States (OAS) gave a few remarks about Rotary's literacy work and presented two Rotary clubs with the joint Rotary/IRA \$2,500 USD Literacy Prize sponsored by the Pearson Foundation.

Read the News

story: [http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/120904\\_news\\_literacy.aspx?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+rotary%2FPBqj+%28Rotary+International%29](http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/120904_news_literacy.aspx?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+rotary%2FPBqj+%28Rotary+International%29)

### **Michel Jazzar published in *Le Rotarien*, French magazine**

- "Peace Through Service" is the theme of RI President Tanaka during the 2012-13 Rotary year. In the September issue of *Le Rotarien* [pages 6 to 9] Michel P. Jazzar, RI Representative to the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, explains the problem of peace and provides solutions. To download the article:

<http://riescwa.hautetfort.com/archive/2012/09/01/la-problematique-de-l-entente-mondiale-et-du-rotary.html>

- Michel was also able to secure the participation of the Deputy Executive Secretary of **ESCWA** in a meeting of the Rotary Club of Kesrouan and has scheduled a speaking opportunity for the head of the **UNESCO** Commission for Lebanon in 11th of October.

- Michel has received a proposal project from ESCWA. He secured the approval of the DG 2012-13 Kevork Mahdessian and his Deputy in Lebanon.

Twenty four Rotary Clubs across Lebanon embarked on an ambitious project working in partnership with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia –ECSWA:

1. To enable high-school teachers to use the Arab MDG Report as their teaching material in public and private secondary schools in Lebanon.
2. To provide almost 1000 high schools in Lebanon with both hard and soft copies of the Arab MDG Report for their use.

The launching ceremony will be revealed on time.

### **Helen Reisler at Annual UN Youth Assembly**

Alternate RI Representative to the United Nations/ New York, Helen Reisler, attended the Annual Youth Assembly at the United Nations on 2-3 August. The conference focused on youth led development related to the success of the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The event brought together hundreds of young people from around the world who are interested in finding practical way for youth to contribute to the MDGs, seeking opportunities for networking and developing social entrepreneurship skills.

Learn more: <http://faf.org/main/youth-assembly-at-the-un/>

### **KEY UPCOMING DATES**

21 September - International Day of Peace

27 September - Our Commitment to the Next Generation: The Legacy of a Polio-Free World – Hosted by UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon with John Hewko and TRF Chairman Wilf Wilkinson in attendance

29 September – Global Festival: Concert in Central Park – RI General Secretary will be in attendance

16 October – World Food Day

24 October – World Polio Day/ United Nations Day

3 November – Rotary day at the United Nations

Please let me know if you have questions about the above

As always, thank you for your Rotary service.

Best regards,

Michel

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