

RI Representatives to United Nations activities and on some Rotary events.

Greetings from Lebanon! We hope that things are going well.

Here is below updates on RI Representatives to United Nations activities and on some Rotary events. Please share this email with all Rotarians of your District.

We would like to take a moment to recognize our Representatives to the United Nations/ New York, who despite the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy, still managed, in the best Rotary tradition, to conduct a successful "Rotary Day at the United Nations" on 3 November in New York. While most of the New York team avoided the worst of the damage, we wish they and their fellow Rotarians well -- and hope for the area's speedy recovery.

Read about and view photos from "RI-UN Day" at:

http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/121107_news_UNDay.aspx

Read the "Rotary Voices" blog entry on Interactors at UN

Day: http://blog.rotary.org/2012/11/09/un_day/

Read how Rotary members are responding to Hurricane

Sandy: http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/121109_news_hurricane.aspx

John Hewko, RI GS, FB page:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.359107144182530.82648.110964542330126&type=1>

Below are a few items that you may find useful in your work with the international community:

ENHANCEMENTS TO THE RI REPRESENTATIVE NETWORK

In follow-up to recommendations from a number of Representatives earlier this Rotary year, External Relations prepared an item on the Representative Network for consideration by the RI Board of Directors. The item largely asked the Board to reaffirm its commitment to the program and consider two enhancements:

1. Expansion of the Rotary Representative Network to **four** international institutions:

RI Staff will be working with President-elect Ron Burton to find qualified Rotarians to fill those positions for the 2013-14 Rotary year. Once appointed, I staff will work with those Representatives to secure official recognition/consultative status with each of those organizations.

2. Youth" RI Representatives where appropriate:

(Please note: at this time, only the United Nations/ New York offers special "youth" Representative opportunities.)

The United Nations Department of Public Information in New York has developed provisions within its credentialing process for the appointment of two additional "youth representatives" (ages 18-24). Traditionally, Rotary only permitted Rotarians to hold the status of RI Representative. With the RI Board's approval, External Relations will work with the

Representatives in New York to identify qualified Rotaractors for the President-elect's approval to fill the two additional "youth" positions.

POLIO OP-ED IN THE HUFFINGTON POST

Recently, RI General Secretary, John Hewko, and Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, jointly penned an op-ed titled "the Final Push to Eradicate Polio," published online via the *Huffington Post*. The piece details the work of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, provides and update on the current status of the eradication effort, and makes the case for finishing the job.

Read the full article here: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/john-hewko/final-push-polio_b_2023450.html

NEW POLIO WEBSITE

Rotary is inviting members and supporters everywhere to participate in the World's Biggest Commercial.

The interactive campaign gives everyone a chance to join Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Bill Gates, Jackie Chan, Amanda Peet and other international figures already participating in Rotary's "This Close" campaign in raising awareness and support for polio eradication.

Participants can upload photos of themselves to Rotary's polio eradication website, endpolionow.org, to be edited into the constantly expanding promotional piece. Participants will receive an email with a direct link to their image and comment within the commercial.

Almost 2,000 people from 92 countries have already joined the campaign and we ask that you encourage fellow Rotary members and the public to upload their photo and support the fight to end polio.

Visit the homepage: <http://thisclose.endpolio.org/en>

REPRESENTATIVE ACTIVITIES

- UNESCO

On 24-26 October, Representatives Serge Gouteyron and Cyril Noritin participated in UNESCO's NGO consultation for the Education for All Initiative. The event was led by UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova and the "Education For All" report was presented by Gordon Brown, UN Special Envoy for Global Education and former British Prime Minister. A translation of the Representative report is attached.

Additionally, Representatives Gouteyron and Noirtin have made themselves available as candidates for positions on the UNESCO-NGO Liaison Committee. We wish them success for their December election.

- ESCWA

Thanks to the efforts of Representative Michel Jazzar, the 24 Rotary Clubs of Lebanon will announce a collaboration with UN-ESCWA in December. The collaboration will focus on the development of teaching tools on the UN Millennium Development Goals, in Arabic, for use by 1,000 high schools, universities, and civil society organizations.

[ESCWA countries are now 17. Starting September 2012, ESCWA extended to 3 new countries in North Africa [Morocco, Libya, Tunisia], thus starting 1st of July 2013, three Districts will fall under my responsibilities: District 2451, District 2452 and District 9010. Which are those countries that belonged to ESCWA and Rotary?

Countries that belong to **D.2451**: Egypt

Countries that belong to **D.2452**: Bahrain, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, The Sudan, The United Arab Emirates

Countries that belong to **D.9010**: Morocco, Tunisia.]

- Council of Europe

Representatives Gérard Caen and François Goettelmann attended a day of discussions at the Council of Europe focusing on "A Europe of Human Rights." The goal of the meeting was to find way to unite to fight poverty. A copy of the final declaration from the meeting can be found at the following link:http://www.coe.int/t/ngo/articles/17_octobre_2012_declaration_en.asp?

- FAO/ IFAD/ WFP

Thanks to the efforts of the RI Representatives in Rome, Marco Randone and Antonio Lico, the Italian Rotary magazine was able to secure an interview with Dr. Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). He will discuss issues involving chronic hunger around the world.

The representatives also led a group of Rotaractors to the 10th Annual George McGovern Lecture held at the Food and Agriculture Organization on 18 October. The topic of the lecture was "The Changing Face of Hunger." A photo from the event is attached.

Finally, with the support of the Representatives, about 70 Rotary members, Rotaractors and friends participated in the Hunger Run sponsored by the UN Agencies in Rome on 21 October. The goal was to show that Rotary members in Italy are committed to working toward a world without hunger. A photo from the event is attached.

- UN/Geneva

On 16 October Representatives Peter Eichenberger and Francis Godel attended the Commemoration of World Food Day, in cooperation with Geneva University. About 300 participants were in attendance, among them many university students.

On 17 October the Representatives attended the Commemoration of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. The program featured live testimonials from migrant families in Switzerland and other parts of the world.

Please let us know if you have any questions about anything that you've read here.

As always, we thank you for your support.

Best regards,

Michel

Michel P. Jazzar

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