



Programme E-Blast

December 2009
Information Sheet 4

Latest Information available on the Programme Blog found on the Soroptimist International Website

<http://siprogrammeblog.blogspot.com/>

AIDS leading cause of death globally in women of reproductive age

Please find information on the WHO report launched today which included important information on women and the AIDS epidemic. You may read the full story on their website www.womenandaids.net

The full report will also be available shortly.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and UNDP have launched an anti-corruption campaign in 2009 with the motto "Your 'No' Counts". Through a series of six posters and online material, the Your 'NO' Counts campaign highlights how corruption obstructs people's access to education, health and justice, limiting their opportunity to prosper and undermining democracy.

<http://www.unodc.org>
<http://yournocounts.org>

STOP THE TRAFFIK

'Start Freedom'
The new global campaign focusing on young people and those involved in teaching and youth work.

<http://www.stophetraffic.org/startfreedom/>

Resources are available too.

**A reminder from
APD Margaret Cook,
Please re-visit:**

*Security Council Resolution 1325 was passed unanimously on 31 October 2000.
Resolution (S/RES/1325) is the first resolution ever passed by the Security Council that specifically addresses the impact of war on women, and women's contributions to conflict resolution and sustainable peace.*

Important News for All on Supplement A

Assisting you in your work to help achieve the Programme Focus Goals 2007 –2011

Soroptimists are present at COP15 in Copenhagen!

(Notes from the first week of the COP 15)

The small state Tuvalu, consisting of 9 Islands east of Australia is fighting for its survival and created drama at the meeting in Copenhagen.

I attended the meeting in the plenary session on Wednesday, 9 December, and observed how Tuvalu dominated the summit by asking questions that most of the delegates wanted to avoid.

Tuvalu claims that if the rise of the global temperature exceeds 1.5 degrees, the islands will disappear in the Pacific Ocean! The proposal for the limit of the rise of the global temperature put forward by the rich countries is 2 degrees.

15000 Heads of States, delegates, press and NGOs continue to meet in the Bella Center, where the negotiations take place, so it really is a global platform, with all kinds of cultures and personalities.

A lot of side events are taking place. It is my impression that the developing countries have sent very strong delegates to promote their views. Yesterday I heard the Climate negotiator from Bolivia, Angela Navarro, who asked for support and understanding from the rich countries to show solidarity at the Climate Change conference and "pay their debt back" to the poor countries.

In the "alternative" Forum for NGOs in the center of Copenhagen the Danish stall has a lot of visitors, who are informed about SI climate activities and about Soroptimism.

I happened to meet a Soroptimist from the New York club, Natalia Kostus who represents the GGCA (Global Gender and Climate Action). Her organisation has worked actively for implementing the "Gender Perspectives" in the final Climate Declaration for more than two years and I gave them the full support of Soroptimist International.

It will now be exciting to see, how the meetings will go next week, where all the Heads of States will arrive.

Many activists have proclaimed their beliefs by demonstrating so I can see it will be a dramatic week, but hopefully a final declaration about the Climate Change will be agreed on to replace the Kyoto declaration, which runs out in 2012.

*Copenhagen 11 December 2009.
Hanne Jensbo
International President.*

Soroptimists at the NGO 'Top Table' at UNESCO—again!

For the 3rd time since 2003, Soroptimist International has been elected on to the Liaison Committee of NGOs at UNESCO. This committee consists of 9 members from a total of 391 NGOs who have official relations with UNESCO in Paris.

Three operational NGOs are part of the committee, seven applied and we came second. Dominique Mertz, who will attend all the meetings, ran a brilliant campaign and will take an active part in the committee's work with enthusiasm and competence.

The mandate is normally for 2 years - renewable once - but, exceptionally, will be for a period of 3 years, namely 2009-2012.

This election is an appreciation and recognition of the active participation of Soroptimist International in the strategy of UNESCO, as well as proof of our great visibility.



Programmes for preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV are still not reaching enough women

Says the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS (GCWA), a worldwide alliance of civil society groups, networks of women living with HIV, women's organizations, AIDS service organizations, and the United Nations system, committed to strengthening AIDS programming for women and girls. SI is supporting their mission to mobilize leadership and political will to influence laws, policies, programmes, and funding to promote action that gives girls and women the power to prevent HIV infection, and to live fulfilling and productive lives when living with HIV. For the latest information go to:

<http://www.womenandaids.net/resource-centre/violence-against-women.aspx>

To find more information about Soroptimist programme work visit:

<http://www.soroptimistinternational.org/>

http://www.soroptimistinternational.org/html/president_s_appeal.html

http://www.soroptimistinternational.org/html/quadrennial_project.html

http://www.soroptimistinternational.org/html/stop_the_traffik

<http://www.unifem.org/campaigns/vaw/>