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ITEM 1: UNICEF DEPLORES KILLING IN EGYPT

ExDir sent condolences to family of UNICEF consultant, Labib Ibrahim, killed in crossfire between Egyptian militant group and police near Luxor on 17 Sept. Hana Singer another UNICEF staff member was slightly wounded. UNICEF car also carried UNICEF Rep Namazi and Senior Programme Officer Tobin who were unharmed...In statement shortly after incident, Minister of Local Administration, Mahmoud Sherif addressing UNICEF Rep and staff said: quote Despite this sad occasion...I wish you good stay in Egypt and hope that this incident, despite its tragedy, does not have an impact on you. All whom you have met admire you. You have always been subject of appreciation and respect...May your feelings towards Egypt and Egyptians remain as it is unquote.

ITEM 2: RWANDA UPDATE

For 1st time since civil war, primary schools opened doors in Rwanda beginning in Ruhengeri. Official inauguration included Education minister, UNESCO and UNICEF Officials. Quote Opening of primary schools represents most significant step yet taken towards normal life returning to this country unquote said UNICEF Rep Fisher. Schools opened with UNESCO/UNICEF quote schools in box unquote. To date 600 schools in box distributed with 250 teachers trained in their use... World Bank and UNICEF signed agreement this week providing for USD 10.5 million WB grant to UNICEF for nutrition and household food security, health and watsan programmes in Rwanda. Quote World Bank grant symbolizes concern with UN family of need to commence reconstruction and development within Rwanda unquote said ExDir.

ITEM 3: UNICEF EXPANDS OPERATIONS IN HAITI

Following recent events UNICEF preparing expand efforts for children and women in Haiti. ExDir who released USD 350,000 from ERF to start off emergency contingency plan said quote It is important to restore democracy in Haiti, but it should come as part of overall process which sees international community supporting govt able to deliver basic social services to its people, especially women and children who have suffered most in country's tragic decline unquote.

ITEM 4: EXDIR RECEIVES U THANT PEACE AWARD

ExDir received U Thant Peace Award at interfaith prayer breakfast commemorating opening 49th session GA. Award presented by Sri Chinmoy, cited ExDir's lifetime of exceptional world service. Award, named after late SecGen, honours individual or organization working for world peace in tradition reflecting U Thant's lofty spiritual ideals. Event in UNICEF House (20 Sept) organized by Peace Meditation at UN and hosted by Monaco Perm Rep Jacques Boisson attended by ambassadors and UN staff.

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