



Press Release

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NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE TO BE OBSERVED

ON 15 SEPTEMBER

The International Day of Peace will be observed at Headquarters tomorrow, 15 September, with the traditional Peace Bell Ceremony. It will be linked with the Peace Messenger awards presentation, the opening of the Common Hope for Peace exhibit in the Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building and the observance of a moment of silence during the opening meeting of the forty-second session of the General Assembly.

The Peace Messenger ceremony will begin at 9:15 a.m. at the Peace Bell. Simultaneous ceremonies will take place in Geneva, Vienna and other United Nations offices around the world. The Peace Messenger awards are made in accordance with the programme for the International Year of Peace which was adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 40/10. Peace Messenger certificates will be presented to representatives of 312 non-governmental organizations and institutions. Their designation by the Secretary-General as Peace Messengers is an expression of appreciation for the contribution which each organization made to the observance of the International Year of Peace. Details as to the award procedure and recipients are contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the International Year of Peace (A/42/487).

Fifty-seven cities around the world have also been designated as Peace Messengers in recognition of their contributions to the Year. Presentations to the cities will be arranged separately in the next few months.

The Peace Bell Ceremony will begin at 9:50 a.m. with a performance of several musical selections by the United Nations Singers. Virendra Dayal, Chef de Cabinet, will deliver a message for the International Day of Peace on behalf of the Secretary-General. He will ring the Peace Bell and invite those present to observe a moment of silence. The reading of the message and the ringing of the Bell will be given a live audio transmission to the Peace Messenger groups assembled in Geneva and Vienna. Following the moment of silence, the President of the Security Council, James Gbeho (Ghana), will deliver a message on behalf of the Council.

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At approximately 10:15 a.m. Mr. Dayal will open the Common Hope for Peace exhibit in the General Assembly lobby. The exhibit provides a sampling of the many projects and activities that took place around the world in the context of the International Year of Peace. The exhibit will remain on display through the end of September.

At 3 p.m. the forty-second session of the General Assembly will open. At that time, the President of the Assembly will invite delegates to stand and observe a moment of silence in observance of the International Day of Peace.

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE TO BE OBSERVED

ON 12 SEPTEMBER

The International Day of Peace will be observed at Headquarters tomorrow, 12 September, with the traditional Peace Bell Ceremony. It will be linked with the Peace Messenger awards presentation, the opening of the Common Hope for Peace exhibit in the Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building and the observance of a moment of silence during the opening meeting of the forty-second session of the General Assembly.

The Peace Messenger ceremony will begin at 9:15 a.m. at the Peace Bell. Simultaneous ceremonies will take place in Geneva, Vienna and other United Nations offices around the world. The Peace Messenger awards are made in accordance with the programme for the International Year of Peace which was adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 40/10. Peace Messengers will be presented to representatives of 115 non-governmental organizations and institutions. * * * * * Their designation by the Secretary-General as Peace Messengers is an expression of appreciation for the contribution which each organization made to the observance of the International Year of Peace. Details as to the award procedure and recipients are contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the International Year of Peace (A/42/581).

Fifty-seven cities around the world have also been designated as Peace Messengers in recognition of their contributions to the Year. Presentations to the cities will be arranged separately in the next few months.

The Peace Bell Ceremony will begin at 9:50 a.m. with a performance of several musical selections by the United Nations Singers. Yvonne Dayal, Chief of Cabinet, will deliver a message for the International Day of Peace on behalf of the Secretary-General. He will ring the Peace Bell and invite those present to observe a moment of silence. The reading of the message and the ringing of the Bell will be given a live audio transmission to the Peace Messenger groups attached in Geneva and Vienna. Following the moment of silence, the President of the Security Council, James Coaker (Ireland), will deliver a message on behalf of the Council.

(more)

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INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/42/150.