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JOURNAL 8 – a monthly bulletin on follow-up action by the J8 community of young people

Introduction

The J8 Summit has over these last four years resulted in a "J8 community of young people" from both industrialized and developing countries.

At each J8 Summit the children and young people discuss and agree on some of the actions they will undertake on return to their own countries, based on the themes discussed and the recommendations they presented to the G8 leaders.

This "Journal 8" is a continuation of the newsletter prepared by the young people during the last Junior 8 Summit in Japan in July 2008. It aims to document the local and national actions that some of the children have undertaken back in their home countries, and some of their plans to continue to be engaged and followup on their action plans.

-What is the Journal 8?

The "Journal 8" is a forum for the J8 participants to talk about their follow-up advocacy efforts back home in their own countries on the **Chitose Declaration and Action Plan**, with support from their respective NatComs and Regional and Country Offices, as well as the ADAP team at HQ and colleagues at DoC.

-How often is it going to be released?

The Journal 8 is a monthly newsletter that is prepared by ADAP-HQ.

-Who are we targeting?

The J8 community, including G8 and Non G8 participants, chaperones, facilitators and youth facilitators.

National Updates:



South Africa: Nondumiso, the South Asia child delegate, developed a bottom-up action plan. The focus of this plan is on three key areas: HIV/AIDS, Children with disabilities and establishing "cell" (peer) groups to carry the messages to wider groups.

Nondumiso will be involved in Children's Day activities in Mpumalanga Province on the 1st of November. Nondumiso will also submit pictures and stories from her follow-up activities to be posted on the UNICEF website.

Name of the Participant: Nondumiso Thandeka Nkosi



Germany: After the J8 summit Alexander, the Germany child delegate, had the chance to give some interviews on human rights and child rights. He also was asked to cooperate with an educational center in Sri Lanka and share his thoughts and ideas.

UNICEF Germany asked Alexander to speak on behalf of child rights at two events. On September 22nd at a plenary discussion to make child rights part of our constitution and in November, at a workshop on child rights, in order to motivate young people to get active. He is also going to attend an international boarding school for the last two years of school. At his new school he will try to work on his initiative 'Youth-4-Unity' and he will work with past German J8 participants to raise money for a projects against HIV/AIDS.

Name of the Participant: Alexander Wegner

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Germany: The most important point for Julika is to go on with her team's project: to educate young people at school about the rising up climate change and about methods to prevent it. Julika and the German team wrote Mrs. Merkel a letter, in which they have asked for a meeting, as she has promised in Japan, and they are waiting for an answer.

To inform schoolmates about her experience in Japan, Jasmin and her team designed a poster full of information and photos. They have also painted every flag of our 15 countries and continents to make it more imaginable from which countries we came from.

1. To inform them more intensely, Julika held a presentation at the student council. She showed all interested pupils the composition of the German's team project and some pictures, texts and their final application.
2. Then Julika presented them the claims they have made to the Chancellor at the summit with reference to climate change and global warming.
3. She asks for support for this project, to make it more famous and to get supported.
 - She has hold the same presentation as the headgirl at the teachers's conference.

After the autumn holidays, Julika will go on with our project and she is hoping to get much support.

Name of the Participant: Julika Prantner Weber



Canada: The Canadian team will be part of a Global Youth Conference, with other Junior 8 applicant teams across British Columbia, to emulate J8 experience. They will be present at the Richmond School Board meeting and they will attend the Richmond District Leadership Conference in

Nov. Possibly they will also try to spread the Net campaign with a micro-credit organization in the month of October. The Canadian team is also preparing presentations to be used for possible speaking engagements. The team is planning to add J8 articles quarterly into the "youthink" newspaper. They are also thinking of a potential meeting with Prime Minister, Provincial, or Municipal governments in May/June of the next year.

International students will use Facebook as a means to communicate with the Workspace -draft letters and will be eager to write a quarterly newsletter with the intention of promoting the summit.



Iraq: Iraqi young delegate, Areen Jihad Midhatm, participated in the J8 in Japan, representing Iraqi young people and her peers of MENA Region. During the summit Areen was approached several times by Japanese media and gave interviews around the situation of young people in Iraq and the significance of her participation in the J8 summit. As part of the follow-up to the participation of the J8, UNICEF Iraq is scheduling a meeting between Areen and the Minister of Sport and Youth in Kurdistan; an event on the International Youth Day where Areen will present to her peers her experience and media interviews in Kurdistan media channels. Areen will also organize and facilitate focus group discussions with her peers to discuss the main topics of the summit to galvanize awareness and action around those issues and provide feedback for the Voices of Youth and J8 Workspace. When she came back from the Summit, the governorate of her city (Duhok), Mr. Tamar Ramadan invited her for a meeting to hear about the summit. Areen has also being interviewed by the aerospace channel "Zagros". About the activities that she plans in the near future, Areen is about to go to a touristic place in her city (Duhok) with some of her tennis team to plant some trees and to take some pictures to be sent to the governor. They will try to organize a monthly trip to encourage schools and students to plant trees.

Areen will also give a one-hour presentation on October 20 during a youth participation training in a Kurdistan region in Iraq. The training will be held by the UNICEF office in Erbil Right now she is getting ready to participate in the journalist championship in VOY, which will give her the opportunity to express herself in her native language: Arabic.

Name of the Participant: Areen Jihad Midhatm

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Italy: Tuesday, September 2nd,

Marco represented the J8 Italian team by participating in the TV program, UNO MATTINA (RAI 1 9.00 A.M), RAI 1, Rubrica "Fai la Cosa giusta" with President of the Italian Committee of UNICEF, Vincenzo Spadafora.

You can see the video by following this link:

<http://www.rai.tv/mpplaymedia/0,,News-Tg1%5E17%5E123218,00.html>

Name of the Participant: Marco Zabai



Japan: On Aug.15th in Shingawa,

Tokyo, UNICEF organized an event for Japanese junior and senior high schoolers; there were several participants (100 in total, from ages 12 to 18) that have been informed about UNICEF activities. This year, members of the J8 were invited to make a short report of 15 minutes. Other activities were a video about UNICEF and a workshop held by a Nepali exchange senior student in the National University of Yokohama, about raising the level of elementary education in Nepal. The J8 presentation covered the context of the J8, activities and the process of writing up the declaration, content of the declaration & action plan, decorated with pictures. The Japanese team made a similar presentation for a program held by UNESCO in mid-July.

Shiro and Yohei went to see an exhibition by Volvic on its "1liter for 10 liter" CSR program. They talked with the person in charge of the campaign and informed him about the J8 and how the J8 community is looking to support companies like Volvic.

Name of the Participants: Japanese Team: Shiro Kuriwaki, Yohei Oka, Miho Kikuchi, Haruna Shino



Mongolia: Munkhjin Sukhaatar,

the Mongolian participant, after the Junior 8

2008, entered in Mongolian State Police Academy and went to a one month training.

She had made a report about J8 at high school and organized a debate about Climate Change and Global Warming between two high schools. Her future projects are to get involved in other activities which are being organized by the Union of Mongolian Pupils.

Name of the Participant: Munkhjin Sukhaatar

Special Projects



USA: "Disney Declaration" As part of this year's

J8 summit, the American team worked on a youth action plan to correspond with the Chitose Declaration, the "Disney Declaration", a document in which they made suggestions for what the G8 leaders could do to address the issues of Climate Change, Poverty and Development, and Global Health in their respective countries.

They would like to focus on raising awareness within their age group about UNICEF, the work that it does, and ways that youth can get involved. One of their ideas for a way to accomplish this is a partnership between UNICEF and a popular young people's TV channel, Disney Channel. The Disney Channel is a socially active company, and it is always looking for opportunities to involve youth in their communities. The American team feels that it would be very beneficial to communicate with Disney Channel regarding advertisements for UNICEF on their channel, or having UNICEF links on their web sites.

Name of the Participants: US Team: Avani Jariwal, Jamie Vellinger, Manogna Manne, Matthias McCoy-Thompson



Germany: "Stention" the German delegates, who participated at the Junior8-summit 2007 in Wismar, Germany supported Isaya Yunge, a Tanzanian boy, which is engaged for children's rights and HIV/AIDS prevention in his country and regularly moderates a radio program, informing about HIV/AIDS. Mainly, however, he organizes workshops and seminars, working together with young people and professional teachers. They are also keen to support other projects related to HIV/AIDS, poverty and children's rights. They plan to establish a non-profit association in a few

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months in order to have a better basis to act; since not being only the J8-Group, we can reach more people in a greater circumference.

Name of the Participants: German Team: Jasmin Astaki-Bardeh, Nora Zech, Alexander Wegner, Julika Prantner-Weber

Related Global advocacy Event

4TH WORLD YOUTH CONGRESS 2008, QUEBEC, CANADA

The meeting took place in August 2008 at which a workshop was organised attended by about 25 participants.

The session was jointly facilitated by Junior 8-2007 delegates and ADAP-HQ.

The meeting opened with a video of the previous Junior 8 summits, following that the facilitators presented the agenda and objectives of the session. The purpose of the session was to enable participants to discuss issues, actions, follow up and impact of young people's engagement as advocate and active citizens in Junior 8.

The 4th World Youth Congress represented a precious opportunity to learn from each other and share practices and exchange skills and tool to promote young peoples involvement in civic engagement by discussing with young people issues, actions, follow up and impact of young people's engagement as advocate and active citizens in Junior 8.



AREEN, participant from Iraq. On her right hand side the Governor of her hometown and on her left hand side her father, during her speech on Junior 8 Summit 2008.

Sources:

- Personal emails from J8 Participants
- Extracts from J8 Workspace (<http://workspace.j8summit.com/>)

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