



The J8 Evening News - June 5, 2007

(produced on the bus returning from Berlin...)

J8 meets 007 – Press conference with Roger Moore in Berlin

(by Kritika Kailash & Rohit Nalamasu, USA)

Representatives from the J8 Summit met with the media in Berlin this morning to discuss what has been going on at J8 Wismar 2007. Kids were asked questions ranging from global issues to their personal opinions. We interviewed one of the talented kids chosen to

represent the J8 community, Steffen Parth from Germany.

Q: How did you feel about the media?

A: "I was really nervous, because we entered the room and there were 10 cameras. It was shocking!"

Q: What questions did they ask you?

A: "They asked us whether we could decide on these issues and our solutions independently, and I said that we definitely were and that our chaperones were not there. They also asked what advice we would give to other young people. We responded that

they should speak up and share their opinions with other people, to cause change."

Q: How do you feel about media involvement in J8?

A: "I think it is very good to talk to the media, because if you give opinions to media, there will be more pressure for change, but at the same time, you can avoid them if you don't like them. I also don't like TV crews, because they take too much time. I find it better to talk to a newspaper or radio reporter."

Steffen also mentioned his awe at the speeches of his peers and that of Sir Roger Moore, who was, as Steffen put it, "funny, and there for the kids."



*Salwa, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador
Sir Roger Moore, Olga and Steffen
at the press conference in Berlin*

Behind closed doors with German Chancellor Merkel

(by Adriana Solovei, Moldova)

Today a very important and very special event was on the Junior 8 agenda for us: The meeting with the German Chancellor Angela Merkel. The doors were closed for the national and international media, so this is the only media report about the meeting.

At the beginning, we made a group photo with Chancellor Merkel. It was amazing! Lots of flashes everywhere and the cameras focused only on us. We felt like stars.

After a few minutes of "star feeling", we all went into the round meeting room at the Chancellor's Office where the discussion started. After Chancellor Merkel's speech about how important the meeting with us is for her, it was our turn.

The J8 Master of Ceremony, Franziska Malsy from the German team, introduced us, talked a little bit about us and what we discussed at the plenary sessions in the Zeughaus. Then the two G8 and non-G8 delegates that we had chosen yesterday presented their three minute speeches about the issues we discussed at the Junior 8 plenary sessions.

Aminata from Sierra Leone made the start. Her speech about HIV/AIDS was very interesting and straight to the point. Then Lauren from Canada talked about IPR and CSR. Then I spoke about Climate Change and I was followed by the last presenter, Rachel from the USA who talked about Economic Prospects for Africa.

After that the German Chancellor asked some questions concerning each issue. She was really interested in what the G8 countries can do to help and support the developing countries in our opinion.

The German team then asked Mrs Merkel if it was possible that a non-G8 youth delegate could take their seat at the J8-G8 table in their place. The Chancellor said that she would like to have her country's representative next to her, but that she will allow an extra spot for a non-G8 youth delegate at the meeting on Thursday.

This is great news for all of us and we really appreciate this and want to say a big, big thank you to the German team for the suggestion and to the Chancellor Angela Merkel for making it possible.



The J8 team with the German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Berlin

Produced by the Junior 8 youth media team in Wismar, June 2007:

Julien Tremblay & Sophie Casgrain (Canada) – Stéphanie David & Cyril Gaillard (France) – Lisa Marie Ullrich & Hyeon Su Kim (Germany) – Claudia Turatte & Jenni Provenzi (Italy) – Michelle Nakajima & Yutaro Miwa (Japan) – Gleb Nikitin & Olga Peshekhonova (Russia) – Ellen Smith & Abbie Banczyk-Sturgeon (UK) – Kritika Kailash & Rohit Nalamasu (USA) – Ismahane Benamar (Algeria) – Isaya Yunge (Tanzania) – Adriana Solovei (Moldova)