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ED I DIRITTI FONDAMENTALI  
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**WORLD UNION FOR PEACE AND THE FUNDAMENTAL  
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**UNION MONDIALE POUR LA PAIX ET LES DROITS  
FONDAMENTAUX DE L'HOMME ET DES PEUPLES**



**UNION MUNDIAL POR LA PAZ Y LOS DERECHOS  
FUNDAMENTALES DEL HOMBRE Y DE LOS PUEBLOS**  
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**MONDA UNUECO POR LA PACO KAJ LA  
FUNDAMENTALJ HOMAJ POPOLAJ RAJTOJ**

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# Osservatorio Onu

## Valerie Amos: Troppe crisi, l'Onu non ce la fa

New York, 3 gennaio 2014 - "Il 2013 ha davvero messo alla prova il sistema umanitario internazionale e niente lascia presagire che nel 2014 sarà diverso". E' quanto affermato in una conferenza stampa al Palazzo di Vetro, Valerie Amos, vice segretaria Onu per gli affari umanitari, precisando che il 2013 si è chiuso con tre gravi emergenze di crisi umanitaria, in Siria, nella Repubblica Centrafricana e nel Sud Sudan sconvolti dalla guerra civile/tribale, nonché nelle Filippine, dove 40 milioni di persone sono state colpite dal super-tifone Haiyan. Nella Repubblica Centrafricana, dove ormai lo Stato non esiste più, la popolazione deve far fronte, oltre che all'eterna povertà, alla violenza delle bande armate degli ammutinati islamici della Séléka e delle squadre di autodifesa cristiane, un centrafricano su 6 è profugo e circa 500mila persone patiscono la fame. Nel Sud Sudan gli scontri tra le due fazioni del partito al potere (Spla), hanno costretto ad abbandonare le loro case 194mila persone di cui 57mila hanno trovato rifugio nelle missioni Onu (Unmiss).

Le Nazioni Unite non sono ancora riuscite a dispiegare tutti gli effettivi previsti della Unmiss, ma si spera di poter aiutare più di 600mila persone nel primo trimestre del 2014. Valerie Amos, che è anche la coordinatrice dei soccorsi di urgenza dell'Onu, si è detta molto preoccupata per le notizie che arrivano dagli Stati sud-sudanesi dove sono in corso scontri tra lealisti e ribelli con gravi violazioni dei diritti umani. Per la Siria sarebbero necessari fondi per almeno 6,5 miliardi di dollari. Si tratta della richiesta di finanziamento più alta mai lanciata per una sola crisi e la Amos ha precisato che "questa somma servirà ad intervenire nei Paesi vicini che accolgono rifugiati siriani". Molto critica anche la situazione nel campo dei rifugiati palestinesi di Al Yarmouk, vicino a Damasco, dove le agenzie umanitarie non arrivano più da circa 4 mesi. Il 15 gennaio il segretario generale dell'Onu, Ban Ki-moon, presiederà la conferenza per gli aiuti ed i contributi in favore della Siria che si terrà in Kuwait. La Amos ha anche ricordato i grossi problemi per l'accesso degli aiuti umanitari in Sudan e la situazione della Repubblica democratica del Congo con i suoi 2,7 milioni di sfollati nelle province orientali, dove continuano i combattimenti tra esercito regolare e milizie armate che sempre più spesso coinvolgono i caschi blu dell'Onu.

Ma è Mogadiscio, capitale della Somalia, che presenta la situazione più incerta per una serie di sanguinosi attentati rivendicati dagli integralisti musulmani di Xarakada Mujaahidiinta Alshabaab. In tutto 3,2 milioni di somali hanno bisogno di aiuti e, secondo le stime delle agenzie Onu, nel 2014 almeno 570mila bambini sotto i 5 anni soffriranno di malnutrizione acuta, compromettendo il loro sviluppo fisico ed intellettuale. Infine, la Amos ha spiegato che nel Mali "liberato" dall'intervento francese contro gli integralisti vicini ad Al Qaeda, 2,7 milioni di persone hanno bisogno di aiuti alimentari e che nel Sahel sono in tutto 16 milioni di persone che rischiano di soffrire la fame a causa dei conflitti, delle condizioni climatiche estreme e della crescita demografica. In questa regione, l'Onu ha adottato "un approccio in due tempi che punta a fornire un aiuto alimentare rafforzando allo stesso tempo la resilienza delle persone agli shock e alle conseguenze della siccità".

## Multiple emergencies pose great test of the global humanitarian system, UN official says

New York, 2 January 2014 – An unprecedented number of people are beginning 2014 either internally displaced or as refugees, the United Nations humanitarian chief warned today, urging sustained support for millions who have been driven from their homes by violence and bloodshed or uprooted by devastating natural disasters. "2013 was a real test of the global humanitarian system, and there is no indication that 2014 will be any different," said UN Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos, briefing reporters in New York on the past year, which was marked by the international community's massive efforts to ease suffering in war-torn Syria and typhoon-hit Philippines, and the year ahead, which has opened amid sectarian fighting in both Central African Republic and South Sudan. "It is clear that the United Nations

and its partners will be needed more than ever," she said, noting that just a little more than two weeks ago, the Organization had launched its largest ever funding appeal – nearly \$13 billion – to reach millions of people with life-saving aid in 2014, with half of that sought for those affected by the deepening crisis in Syria. Tragically since then, inter-communal fighting has shattered the world's youngest nation – South Sudan – and bloody violence has spread throughout the Central African Republic, where a worrying crisis has been unfolding against a backdrop of abject poverty and a collapsing State. "The world's collective response capacity and resources are being stretched to the limit," she said, stressing that more funds will be needed to address emerging needs. In South Sudan, violence has driven an estimated 194,000 people from their homes in a matter of weeks with more than 57,000 seeking protection at UN missions. Some 107,000 people have been reached with assistance, Ms. Amos said, adding that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs ([OCHA](#)), which she heads, aims to reach over 600,000 people in the first three months on this year. She expressed deep concern about ongoing disturbing reports of gross violations of human rights and the lack of protection of civilians, "Aid organizations need access to affected communities to provide shelter, health care and clean water. People's lives depend on this." In Syria, where over 100,000 people have been killed since the conflict erupted in March 2011, Ms. Amos noted that the collapse of the country's infrastructure, ongoing targeting of civilians and militarization of schools and hospitals remain ongoing concerns, with some 6.5 million people displaced and more than 2.3 million seeking refuge in neighbouring countries. "We continue to stress the need for a political solution to the crisis. Every day that passes leads to further deterioration of the situation," Ms. Amos said adding that the funding need is "unprecedented". On 15 January, [Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon](#) is due to chair the second Pledging Conference for Syria, hosted in Kuwait City by Emir Shaykh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al Sabah. Plans are also underway for the long-awaited international conference aimed at achieving a political solution. The so-called Geneva II conference is due to begin in Switzerland on 22 January. On the Central African Republic, Ms. Amos noted that violence and unrest continue against the backdrop of abject poverty and the collapse of the State, with more than one of six residents internally displaced, an equivalent of more than 800,000 people, and a half-million hungry. "Aid agencies continue to scale up their response activities as fast as security conditions allow but it has not been easy," she said. In Sudan, aid workers continue to face challenges accessing South Kordofan and Blue Nile states, with limited access also to Darfur whose crisis is now entering its tenth year. Large-scale displacement is also a concern in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) where 2.7 million people remain uprooted, 65 per cent of them in the Kivu provinces alone. The surrender of the M23 rebel group in early November last year raised hopes of progress, "but security is volatile and the return of the displaced remains an elusive goal," Ms. Amos said. In addition to displacement, aid workers in the country are grappling with food insecurity. An estimated 6.3 million people do not have steady access to food, resulting in half of all children under five years of age in the country being considered chronically malnourished. Similarly, in Somalia, where a fragile political landscape and rampant insecurity continue to pose operational challenges for aid workers, 3.2 million people are in need of assistance with malnutrition rates topping some of the highest in the world. In Mali and eight other countries in the Sahel which are high on OCHA's agenda, around 16 million people are at risk of hunger due to fighting and rapid population growth. The UN relief arm is following a twin track approach in the region, delivering food and other assistance to vulnerable people, while working to strengthen the ability of the people and the Government to build resistance and absorb future shocks as a result of drought and other natural disasters. Among other countries cited, Ms. Amos also noted the ongoing crisis in Afghanistan, Haiti and Myanmar. She stressed that the reforms the UN put in place two years ago are delivering real results, but more work is needed to bridge its different elements - political, development, peacekeeping and humanitarian arms - in a way which delivers strategic and sustained support.

## BanKi-moon visita l'Iraq dilaniato da attentati

Baghdad, 13 gennaio 2014 - Una serie di esplosioni di auto-bombe ha provocato la morte di almeno 25 persone e il ferimento di altre 76 a Baghdad, ha riferito la polizia, nel giorno in cui la capitale irachena ha ricevuto la visita del segretario generale delle Nazioni Unite BanKi-moon per incontri con il premier al Maliki. L'attentato più sanguinoso è avvenuto a Shaab, in una zona commerciale del principale quartiere sciita nella parte orientale di Baghdad, dove

l'esplosione ha fatto 11 morti e 28 feriti. Per il momento nessuno ha rivendicato gli attacchi, ma le esplosioni sembrano rientrare nell'ambito della campagna offensiva condotta dai militanti sunniti legati ad al Qaeda contro il governo a guida sciita. BanKimoon ha auspicato la soluzione e lo sradicamento del terrorismo, e ha rinnovato il suo appello per una sospensione delle esecuzioni capitali nel paese. Le autorità di Baghdad affermano di non avere altra scelta di fronte alla violenza politica, con i ripetuti attentati e, nelle ultime due settimane, con l'offensiva dei miliziani qaedisti dello Stato islamico iracheno e del Levante nella provincia occidentale di Al Anbar.

## In Iraq, Ban says political leaders must fulfil obligations to ensure social cohesion, protect citizens

Baghdad, 13 January 2014 – Voicing concern about the deteriorating security in parts of Iraq, United Nations [Secretary-General](#) Ban Ki-moon today urged all political leaders to unite against terrorism and work together to stabilize the country and stop the “senseless deaths of Iraqi women, children and men.” “We agreed that the challenges facing Iraq require all political leaders to fulfil their responsibilities to ensure social cohesion, dialogue and progress over political obstacles,” Mr. Ban [said](#), speaking alongside Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki, following their meeting in Baghdad. He also met with the Vice-President, the Foreign Minister, the Speaker of the Council of Representatives and President of the Independent High Electoral Commission. “The people of Iraq are looking to their leaders for tangible benefits and a better future,” he added, noting that the parliamentary elections due to be held in April are an “opportunity” to deliver on these legitimate expectations. Urging Iraq’s leaders to address root causes of the current wave of unrest, ensuring that “nobody is left behind,” Mr. Ban encouraged measures to strengthen the country’s social fabric – through political participation, democratic processes and institutions, respect for the rule of law and human rights, and inclusive development. “Iraq’s leaders have always a grave responsibility to protect the security and welfare of the Iraqi people,” the UN chief said. He added that leaders must find common ground and that he counts on them to show “courage, wisdom, persistence and vision”. Last Friday, the Security Council in New York strongly deplored ongoing clashes in the cities of Ramadi and Fallujah in Anbar province, condemning attacks being carried out by Al-Qaida-linked militants and stressing the critical importance of continued national dialogue and unity. In its statement, the 15-member Council welcomed comments from Grand Ayatollah Sistani welcoming internally displaced residents of Anbar to Najaf and Karbala, as well as the commitment of a number of communities - Sunni, Shia and Kurd - to meet the needs of the displaced. In his remarks, Mr. Ban also welcomed the reinvigorated dialogue between Baghdad and Erbil, and agreements reached on revenue sharing and security arrangements with the Kurdistan region. “I hope leaders will seize this opportunity,” he said, emphasizing that there is “no alternative to a united, federal and democratic Iraq”. Mr. Ban is in the region ahead of a humanitarian pledging conference for Syria he will chair on Wednesday in Kuwait. The conference, hosted by Kuwait’s Emir Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, aims to raise \$6.5 billion through 2014 for displaced Syrians and those seeking refuge in neighbouring countries, including Iraq. Speaking at the press briefing, Mr. Ban thanked Iraq for its “general support” to the more than 220,000 Syrians in the country, and urged Member States to step up their funding and assistance to countries hosting refugees from the country. Since the conflict first erupted in March 2011, more than 100,000 people have been killed and millions driven from their homes, of whom 2 million are seeking refuge in neighbouring countries.

## Ban allarmato per gli scontri in Sud Sudan

New York, 15 gennaio 2014 - Il segretario generale delle Nazioni Unite, BanKi-moon, si è detto "allarmato" per il numero di persone rimaste uccise a causa dei combattimenti in Sud Sudan, e per la notizia dei 200 civili in fuga dalla guerra annegati nel fiume Nilo. In una nota, Ban si definisce inoltre "profondamente preoccupato" per il crescente numero di sfollati nel Paese africano, che questa settimana ha superato quota 400mila persone.

## UN chief strongly condemns South Sudan, rebel forces for stealing humanitarian aid

New York, 15 January 2014 – As the conflict escalates in South Sudan, where fighting has now driven more than 400,000 people from their homes and left twice as many in dire need of aid, [Secretary-General](#) Ban Ki-moon has strongly condemned anti- and pro-Government forces for stealing food and vehicles used by the humanitarian community, reiterating that the United Nations will continue to actively protect civilians applying strict impartiality. In a [statement](#) issued last night, his spokesperson said Mr. Ban is “alarmed by the rising number of fatalities resulting from the continuing fighting in South Sudan”. He also noted reports received on 14 January of about 200 people civilians who had drowned in the Nile River while fleeing hostilities in Malakal in the Upper Nile State.

Mr. Ban also expressed deep concern about the rising number of displaced people in the country, which surpassed 400,000, according to UN figures, since the conflict erupted on 15 December between President Salva Kiir’s forces and those of former deputy president Riek Machar. According to the statement, the UN chief “strongly condemns the commandeering of humanitarian vehicles and the theft of food stocks and other relief items by both Government and anti-Government forces.” He also reiterated that the people responsible for attacks against civilians, humanitarian workers and UN personnel will be held to account. The Secretary-General repeated again his calls on all parties to cease hostilities and to do their utmost to prevent civilian casualties, uphold principles of International Humanitarian Law and respect human rights. He also urged both sides to engage constructively in talks being held in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa under the patronage of the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD). Meanwhile, the UN peacekeeping mission in South Sudan ([UNMISS](#)), reports a “fluid” situation in Malakal, Upper Nile state, after its base in the city was fired on last night. In that incident, a civilian seeking shelter on the base was killed. Dozens of civilians and a UN military officer suffered gunshot wounds inside the base and received medical attention at the Mission’s hospital. “The Mission said that peacekeepers fired multiple rounds of gunfire to deter anyone engaged in fighting from coming too close to its base, in order to protect civilians,” a UN spokesperson told journalists in New York. Some 20,000 civilians continue to seek refuge at the compound. According to the UN Mission, while the fighting has stopped, sporadic gunfire can be heard in Malakal, and near its base in Bor, which is protecting 9,000 civilians. An additional 6,000 civilians are seeking shelter in Bentiu.

## Kuwait City, 2. Conferenza dei donatori per la Siria

Kuwait City, 15 gennaio 2014 - In corso di svolgimento a Kuwait City la seconda “Conferenza internazionale dei donatori per la Siria”, presieduta dal Segretario generale dell'Onu, BanKi-moon, e ospitata per il secondo anno consecutivo dall'Emiro del Kuwait, lo Sceicco Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah. La Conferenza mira a ottenere il sostegno finanziario internazionale per soddisfare i bisogni umanitari fondamentali di oltre 9 milioni di siriani, tra cui 6,5 milioni sfollati all'interno del proprio paese e più di 2,2 milioni rifugiati nei paesi limitrofi. Per l'Italia è intervenuto il Vice ministro degli esteri Lapo Pistelli che ha annunciato un contributo di 38 milioni di euro. L'Italia accresce così il suo sostegno per fronteggiare l'emergenza umanitaria del 70% rispetto al 2013, quando furono stanziati 22 milioni di euro. Con il contributo annunciato in Kuwait, l'Italia si presenta alla nona posizione tra i donatori mondiali e al terzo posto – dopo Germania e Gran Bretagna – tra gli Stati europei. Da aggiungere che in occasione della riunione del Gruppo “Amici della Siria”, svoltasi a Parigi, il ministro degli Esteri Emma Bonino ha annunciato che il 3 febbraio si terrà a Roma una Conferenza umanitaria sulla Siria, su invito del Sottosegretario all'Onu per gli Affari umanitari, Valery Amos. “Come Paese abbiamo insistito che la parte umanitaria non sia disgiunta dal processo politico”, è stato il messaggio lanciato dalla titolare della Farnesina, secondo la quale “non si può parlare del futuro se non si riesce a dare un presente alla popolazione siriana”.

Nel gennaio 2013, la prima edizione della Conferenza a Kuwait City, ha visto la partecipazione di 43 Stati membri e lo stanziamento di 1,5 miliardi di dollari per gli sforzi umanitari in Siria. I fondi sono stati destinati ai servizi assistenziali di base, quali razioni alimentari, assistenza medica d'emergenza e vaccinazioni, fornitura d'acqua potabile e servizi igienico-sanitari.

## Heeding UN call for funds, donors pledge \$2.4 billion to assist Syrians in need

Kuwait 15 January 2014 – Donors at a conference in Kuwait today pledged more than \$2.4 billion in response to appeals by United Nations officials for urgent funds to assist millions of people inside Syria and in neighbouring countries affected by the conflict that has raged for nearly three years. “These pledges prove that the people devastated by this conflict are not forgotten,” UN [Secretary-General](#) Ban Ki-moon [said](#) during the Second International Humanitarian Pledging Conference on Syria. “It is also sending a strong signal to the neighbouring countries – that we appreciate their generosity, and that they will not be left to shoulder the burden alone.” The conflict in Syria, which began in March 2011, has produced “unprecedented” demands for humanitarian and development agencies, Mr. Ban told the gathering earlier, noting that \$6.5 billion is needed this year. An estimated 9.3 million people in Syria, many of them stranded in hard-to-reach and besieged areas, urgently need help, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs ([OCHA](#)). Nearly half of them are children, who do not have adequate access to health care or education. More than 3 million people have fled Syria and are taking refuge in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt, causing great hardship and raising tensions throughout the region. In January 2013, the First Pledging Conference for Syria saw 43 Member States pledge \$1.5 billion towards humanitarian efforts. Those funds were used to provide life-saving assistance for millions of people in Syria and surrounding countries, including emergency food rations, mobile medical care and vaccinations, clean water and sanitation, and basic shelter. “Humanitarian aid is the difference between life and death, hope and despair. It has already assisted millions of people affected by this crisis,” said Mr. Ban. “I count on you to show the Syrian people that the world is here to help.” Hosted by the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and chaired by the UN Secretary-General, the conference offers the international community to continue supporting the humanitarian response to help the millions affected by the Syria crisis. It comes ahead of next week’s talks in Switzerland aimed at finding a political solution to the civil war that has already claimed well over 100,000 lives amid fighting between the Government and various groups seeking the ouster of President Bashar al-Assad. “This is the biggest humanitarian crisis we face today,” UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Valerie Amos [told](#) the conference. “We all hope that the political talks due to begin next week will deliver a positive result. In the meantime, every child, every woman, every man affected by this crisis deserves our continued support. Ms. Amos, who recently carried out her seventh visit to Syria in nearly two years, said that “the very fabric of the society has unravelled, and sectarianism has taken hold.” There are persistent reports of people running out of food in besieged communities, public health is in crisis and nearly one-fifth of Syria’s schools are either damaged or being used as shelters. Despite the constraints, humanitarian operations are making a difference to millions of people’s lives every day, she noted, adding that agencies were able to increase response activities across the country throughout the past year. “We know that we must do all we can to continue to scale up our activities this year if we are to keep pace with the growing needs,” stated Ms. Amos. António Guterres, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, noted in his [remarks](#) that within a few years, Syria has gone from being the world’s second largest refugee-hosting country to becoming its fastest refugee-producing country. “It breaks my heart to see the people of Syria, who for decades generously welcomed refugees from other countries in the region, now forced into exile themselves,” said Mr. Guterres. The agency which he heads ([UNHCR](#)) has registered over 2.3 million Syrians as refugees in the region, and governments estimate the total number of those who fled at over 3 million, including many who have not asked for assistance. Countries in the region – Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt – have received an unrelenting stream of fleeing Syrians and have provided them protection, at enormous cost to themselves, Mr. Guterres said. “Few refugee influxes have ever generated this profound an impact on their host countries, with such dramatic demographic, economic and social consequences. The pressure is felt heavily in all areas of daily life, as budget deficits are increasing, growth suffers and jobs, salaries and price levels are affected across the region, leaving local families struggling to make ends meet.” He stressed that the generosity of Syria’s neighbours needs to be matched by massive international support, and that countries in the region need not only strong financial assistance, but also need others to help carry the burden of actually taking in and protecting refugees. “My appeal to all countries – including those beyond the region – is therefore to keep their borders open for those who are forced to flee and seek protection elsewhere,” he stated, adding that there is something “fundamentally wrong” in a world where asylum-seekers drown

at sea or are pushed back from land borders. While in Kuwait, Mr. Ban met separately with several leaders, including Prime Minister Najib Mikati of [Lebanon](#) and [United States](#) Secretary of State John Kerry, as well as officials from [Kuwait](#), [Jordan](#) and the [International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies](#).

## Attacco a Kabul, 17 morti fra cui 4 dipendenti Onu

Kabul, 17 gennaio 2014 - Un attacco armato condotto da kamikaze talebani afghani contro il ristorante la "Taverne duLiban" nel centrale quartiere di Wazir Akbar Khan, a Kabul, ha causato la morte di 17 persone, compresi tre attentatori. Un primo kamikaze si è fatto esplodere davanti all'ingresso del ristorante, mentre gli altri due hanno aperto il fuoco riuscendo ad introdursi all'interno del locale. Si tratta di un ristorante, meta fissa della comunità internazionale della capitale afghana, che si trova nello stesso isolato dell'ambasciata della Norvegia, e in prossimità di altre sedi diplomatiche occidentali e del quartier generale della Forza Onu di assistenza alla sicurezza (Isaf). Quattro dipendenti dell'Onu sono rimasti uccisi. L'Fmi ha comunicato che un suo rappresentante, Wabel Abdallah, è perito nell'attacco.

L'operazione è stata rivendicata da un portavoce dei talebani secondo cui "nel corso di un attacco suicida in un ristorante dove stavano cenando molte persone è stato ucciso un gran numero di stranieri, fra cui un importante ufficiale tedesco". Il capo della polizia di Kabul, generale ZahirZahir, ha confermato ai giornalisti che le vittime, a parte gli attaccanti, sono 14, senza però poter precisare quanti siano gli afghani e quanti gli stranieri. Lo scontro a fuoco, ha detto "è durato almeno due ore". Fra le vittime il proprietario, il manager e una guardia privata della Taverne. Il segretario generale delle Nazioni Unite, BanKi-moon, ha condannato "nei termini più forti" l'ennesimo attentato a Kabul, esprimendo vicinanza alle famiglie dei dipendenti Onu caduti nell'agguato.

## Four UN personnel among those killed in Afghan suicide bombing

Kabul, 18 January 2014 – Top United Nations officials and the Security Council have strongly condemned a suicide attack at a restaurant in the Afghan capital, Kabul, on Friday evening that killed 21 people, including four UN staff members, and injured many more. [Secretary-General](#) Ban Ki-moon described as "horrific" the attack against the Lebanese restaurant, for which the Taliban has reportedly claimed responsibility. "Such targeted attacks against civilians are completely unacceptable and are in flagrant breach of international humanitarian law. They must stop immediately," Mr. Ban's spokesperson said in a [statement](#). In remarks on Saturday, Mr. Ban said it was "another sad moment" for the UN as it mourns the four colleagues killed in the attack – Basra Hassan of the United States, Nasreen Khan of Pakistan, Khanjar Wabel Abdallah of Lebanon and Vadim Nazarov of Russia. "All the perpetrators must be held accountable," he stressed, while adding that as the UN mourns the victims of this latest attack, it remains committed to work for the peace, stability and development of Afghanistan. "We fully support the transition of Afghanistan toward a better future in peace, development and security." Basra Hassan and Nasrin Jamal worked with the UN Children's Fund ([UNICEF](#)) in Afghanistan. "The depth of our shock and sorrow at receiving this news – and the magnitude of our outrage over this senseless violence – is difficult to measure," the agency said in a statement. "These colleagues were an integral part of the UNICEF team in Afghanistan and the larger community of international staff, some of whom also perished yesterday in Kabul, who are dedicated to improving the lives of others and building a better, safer world for all. "The loss of our colleagues is therefore not only a personal one; it is a loss to that indispensable cause. We honor their sacrifice, and deeply mourn their deaths." Khanjar Wabel Abdallah was the representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Afghanistan and Vadim Nazarov was the Senior Political Officer at the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan ([UNAMA](#)). The Mission deplored the bombing and reiterated its condemnation of attacks that deliberately target civilians as gross violations of international humanitarian law. "This violence is unacceptable and must stop immediately," the Secretary-General's Special Representative and UNAMA head Ján Kubiš said in a [statement](#). "I strongly condemn the targeting of civilians in any form, and, in particular, the continued use of suicide bombers." The Mission extended its



condolences to the families of those killed and its wishes for a speedy recovery to all those injured. The members of the Security Council issued a statement to the press in which they condemned the terrorist attack "in the strongest terms," and reiterated their steadfast support for the role of the UN and UN-affiliated organizations in Afghanistan.

## Berlino, Summit mondiale dell'agricoltura

Berlino, 17 gennaio 2014 – Intervenendo al summit mondiale dell'agricoltura, il direttore generale della Fao, José Graziano da Silva, e il ministro dell'agricoltura tedesco, Ilse Aigner, della sede ospitante, hanno formalmente chiesto un aumento significativo degli investimenti nel settore, al fine di sradicare la fame e nutrire una popolazione globale in costante crescita. Gli investimenti in agricoltura sono ancora troppo bassi specialmente in quelle regioni dove la povertà rurale e la fame sono più radicate. Secondo le ultime stime 870 milioni di persone nel mondo soffrono la fame non avendo un accesso adeguato al cibo. La maggior parte di loro vive in aree rurali dei paesi in via di sviluppo. Graziano da Silva ha invitato i governi a contribuire allo sviluppo di linee guida per gli investimenti agricoli puntando al miglioramento delle condizioni di vita dei poveri che vivono nelle zone rurali di questi paesi. Gli investimenti dovrebbero inoltre contribuire a rendere i sistemi agricoli e alimentari meno vulnerabili, più equi, meno dispendiosi e più rispettosi dell'ambiente. Più di un miliardo di agricoltori dovranno essere al centro delle nuove strategie di investimento. Particolare attenzione deve essere rivolta anche ai piccoli agricoltori, che hanno bisogno di un sostegno per superare le barriere che impediscono loro di produrre più cibo, risparmio e di investimento, e far fronte alle nuove sfide e rischi legati ai cambiamenti climatici.

## Healthy and sustainable food systems are crucial to fight hunger and malnutrition

**Berlin, 17 January 2014** - Creating healthy and sustainable food systems is key to overcome hunger and malnutrition around the globe, said Helena Semedo, FAO Deputy Director-General at the Green Week in Berlin today. "Food production has tripled since 1945 and average food availability per person has risen by 40 percent," Semedo said at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2014. "But there are still huge flaws in how the globe's food systems operate, and we have to increase our efforts to fix these problems. The international community is facing several nutrition-related challenges, Semedo said. The health of more than half of the world's 7 billion is affected by under- and overconsumption. Despite the abundance of food supplies, there are still 840 million people that go hungry every day. This affects their ability to work, it negatively impacts the development of their children, exposes them to illness and leads to premature deaths. The health of another two billion is compromised by nutrient deficiencies. On the other hand, another 1.5 billion people are overweight or obese, consuming more food than their bodies need and exposing them to greater risk of diabetes, heart problems and other diseases. Semedo also underlined that much of the high food output achieved in the past has placed great stress on natural resources. It has degraded soils, polluted and exhausted fresh water supplies, encroached on forests, depleted wild fish stocks and reduced biodiversity. "Intensive farming systems, combined with food wastage on a massive scale, have also contributed to greenhouse gas emissions," she said.

### Healthy food systems for healthy people

"Our common approach to food production is simply not sustainable today, or in 2050, when we will have to provide food for a population of 9.6 billion people. Fortunately we have the means to drastically change our production systems and consumption patterns, that means creating healthy food systems for healthy people," she said. "Creating strong and resilient food systems, that take into account the special needs of women, is the most practical, cost-efficient and sustainable way to address and prevent all forms of malnutrition." "We need to produce nutritious food for all people today while also protecting the capacity of future generations to feed themselves. Nutrition must become one of the primary objectives of food system policies and interventions, ensuring a diverse, balanced and adequate combination of energy and nutrients." The priorities for agricultural research and development must become more nutrition enhancing, with a stronger focus on nutrient-dense foods such as fruits,

vegetables, legumes and animal-source foods, as well as local biodiversity and diversified farming systems. At every stage along the way, from farm to fork, resources must be used efficiently, Semedo emphasized. Getting the most food from every drop of water, plot of land, speck of fertilizer and minute of labour saves resources for the future and makes food systems more sustainable. An additional challenge is to manage livestock production sustainably. Demand for livestock products will grow 70 percent by 2050. Consumption of meat, milk and eggs is growing rapidly in developing countries, providing nutritious diets to previously food insecure populations. "The livestock sector improves livelihoods and creates economic growth and incomes in rural economies. However, livestock is also associated with its contribution to climate change, land use change, and disease transmission. Managing the livestock sector sustainably is crucial. Building an international coalition of stakeholders committed to working together to improve the environmental performance of the livestock sector is therefore key," Semedo said.

### **Better governance**

"All key sectors and players throughout the food system must be involved to make better use of food systems for improved nutrition. This requires better governance, based on sound data, a common vision and, above all, political leadership." Consumers need help to make healthy food choices. Promoting behavior change through nutrition education and information has proved effective. Behavior change can reduce food waste and contribute to the sustainable use of resources. Investing in better nutrition also leads to strong economic returns, the FAO Deputy Director-General stressed. "If the global community invested \$1.2 billion per year for five years on reducing micronutrient deficiencies, the results would be better health, fewer child deaths and increased future earnings. It would generate annual gains worth around \$15 billion - a benefit to cost ratio of almost 13 to 1."

## **Conferenza di pace per la Siria aperta a Montreux**

Montreux, 22 gennaio 2014 - La conferenza internazionale per la pace in Siria, promossa dalle Nazioni Unite, si è aperta oggi a Montreux, in Svizzera. Grande assente l'Iran, in quanto il leader dell'Onu, Ban Ki-Moon, ha ritirato l'invito al Paese islamico dopo la minaccia dell'opposizione siriana a boicottare la conferenza se vi avesse preso parte Teheran "principale sostenitore del regime di Damasco". Le parti siriane sono rappresentate a Montreux da una delegazione del governo di Bashar al Assad e da una delegazione della Coalizione nazionale siriana delle forze dell'Opposizione e della rivoluzione, l'organo riconosciuto dall'Occidente come rappresentante dei ribelli, ma non da gruppi estremisti come al Nusra e l'Isis, che si ispirano ad al Qaeda e sul campo contano molto. Oltre all'Onu e alla Lega Araba partecipano alla Conferenza altre trenta nazioni,. Sono presenti i principali sostenitori dei ribelli, ossia Qatar, Arabia Saudita e Turchia, e i paesi arabi confinanti come il Libano e l'Iraq, molto provati dalla crisi dei profughi siriani. Tra gli sponsor di Assad, è presente la Russia, con il ministro degli esteri Sergej Lavrov, il grande artefice dello smantellamento delle armi chimiche siriane. La delegazione degli Stati Uniti è guidata dal capo della diplomazia John Kerry. Tra le nazioni europee, Francia, Spagna, Regno Unito e Italia. Secondo gli analisti non sarà facile negoziare la fine di tre anni di sanguinosa guerra civile che ha diviso il Medio Oriente e le potenze mondiali. Tuttavia la presenza di organismi internazionali e di specifiche rappresentanze di area inducono ad un cauto ottimismo.

## **On eve of Syria peace conference, Ban holds intensive talks with participants**

Montreux , 21 January 2014 – [Secretary-General](#) Ban Ki-moon arrived in Switzerland today on the eve of a United Nations-led conference on ending the nearly three-year-old civil war in Syria, and he immediately held talks with participants from various countries and regional organizations involved, as well with a delegation from the Syrian opposition. Mr. Ban, who will tomorrow open the high-level part of the conference in Montreux, held discussions while still in Geneva with the High Representative of the European Union (EU) for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, [Catherine Ashton](#), on various aspects of the crisis, including efforts to bring humanitarian relief to a country where millions have been driven from their homes and many

suffer from lack of food and medicines. He then flew by helicopter to Montreux, where representatives of some 40 countries and regional organizations began gathering for tomorrow's meeting. This will be followed on Friday by talks between the Syrian parties at UN headquarters in Geneva in what will be the first time the Government and opposition meet at a negotiating table since the conflict started in March 2011. In Montreux, Mr. Ban met with [Nabil Elaraby](#), the Secretary General of the League of Arab States. They discussed the high-level segment of the Conference and subsequent intra-Syrian negotiations in Geneva. They shared concerns about the impact of the crisis on the region, in particular on the neighbouring countries, and discussed the issue of blocked humanitarian access, according to a note issued by Mr. Ban's spokesperson in New York. Later in the day, the spokesperson issued a readout of the UN chief's meeting with [Ahmad Al Assi Jarba](#), head of the Syrian opposition delegation and President of the National Coalition of Syrian and Revolution Forces, along with other members of the official opposition delegation in Montreux. Mr. Ban welcomed the delegation and they all discussed various aspects of the conference. The Secretary-General also met today with [Iyad Madani](#), Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). They discussed the role the OIC can play politically and in terms of humanitarian assistance in ending the crisis in Syria. It was noted that all regional powers here at Montreux for the High-Level Segment of the Geneva Conference are also OIC members, a potential asset for helping to find a solution. Also today, Mr. Ban met today with [His Royal Highness Prince Saud al-Faisal](#), Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They discussed the conference and the need to end the conflict in Syria. They also spoke about Yemen and applauded the National Dialogue, which is now concluding. They also spoke about Lebanon and the need to support its stability. The Secretary-General thanked Saudi Arabia for its support to the Lebanese Armed Forces. The basis of these talks is full implementation of an action plan adopted in the so-called Geneva Communiqué of 2012, which calls for a transitional government to lead to free and fair elections. Participants will also seek to make arrangements for humanitarian aid to flow into a country where well over 100,000 people have been killed and more than 8 million others driven from their homes since the conflict erupted between the Government and various groups seeking the ouster of President Bashar al-Assad. The Montreux meeting is designed to give international support to the efforts to resolve the deadly conflict that has torn Syria apart, while the Geneva talks will be restricted to the two Syrian delegations and the UN-Arab League Joint Special Representative Lakhdar Brahimi, who is organizing the conference.

## Ban a Davos, investire sul clima per risparmiare domani

Davos 24 gennaio 2014- Il segretario generale delle Nazioni Unite, BanKi-Moon, è intervenuto al Forum economico mondiale durante la sessione dei lavori dedicata al tema "clima, crescita e sviluppo". Rivolgendosi ai rappresentanti del mondo della finanza li ha esortati a mettere in cima alla propria agenda la lotta al cambiamento climatico: "Investite oggi - ha detto - perché vi servirà per risparmiare domani. Abbiamo bisogno di investimenti per trilioni di dollari in modo che da "marrone" si passi a una "green economy". Il leader del Palazzo di Vetro ha citato quattro aree di intervento. La prima: "Abbiamo bisogno di investitori, capaci di far confluire i finanziamenti verso l'energia a bassa concentrazione di carbonio". Il secondo passo: lavorare affinché si punti di meno sulle tecnologie ritenute ormai obsolete, quelle ad alta concentrazione di carbonio. Il terzo punto riguarda la trasparenza: "Le banche e tutti gli investitori dovrebbero lavorare per aumentare la trasparenza delle attività, in merito all'emissione di gas serra, portate avanti dalle imprese che finanziano". Infine: "Banche e autorità di regolamentazione devono lavorare insieme per assicurare che le regole che governano i mercati finanziari siano favorevoli allo sviluppo sostenibile". BanKi-Moon ha quindi ricordato a tutti l'appuntamento di settembre all'Assemblea generale dell'Onu sul cambiamento climatico: "Il summit ad alto livello - ha rimarcato - sarà la vostra opportunità per mostrare cosa potete fare e per lavorare insieme ai governi in modo da affrontare uniti la sfida". Ha concluso lanciando un appello a tutti gli attori dei settori pubblico e privato, per individuare alcune azioni chiave intese a trovare "soluzioni concrete da portare al vertice sul clima".

### **Rohani a Davos, l'Iran è aperto alla collaborazione**

"Affermo con forza e chiarezza che non c'è posto per le armi nucleari nella nostra strategia per la sicurezza e che l'Iran non ha motivo di muoversi verso quella direzione". Lo ha dichiarato il presidente iraniano, HassanRohani, nel corso del suo intervento al World Economic Forum, a

Davos, in Svizzera. Rohani ha quindi ribadito che "il popolo iraniano non è disponibile a rinunciare alla tecnologia per scopi pacifici". L'accordo con la comunità internazionale sul programma, continua Rohani, "normalizzerà i rapporti con l'Europa". Rohani ha quindi affermato che "nel prossimo decennio l'Iran sarà una delle prime dieci economie al mondo. Intendo preparare il terreno per un miglioramento del mio Paese, fino a quando rimarrò in carica", ha aggiunto sottolineando l'"impegno costruttivo" del suo governo nei confronti dei partner internazionali. Il governo iraniano, secondo Rohani, "è pronto a collaborare" con la comunità internazionale "in tutti i campi" e adotterà un "nuovo modello per i suoi contratti petroliferi" internazionali a partire dal prossimo settembre.

## At Davos Forum, Ban seeks business help to fight gender inequality, climate change, hunger

Davos, 24 January 2014 – In a whirlwind of events at the World Economic Forum in Davos today [Secretary-General](#) Ban Ki-moon highlighted the vital need for Governments, business and civil society to cooperate whether in erasing gender inequality and harnessing "girl power" to reach development goals, combatting climate change, or eliminating hunger. He appealed to the investment instincts of his listeners at the annual Forum in the Swiss Alps and their desire for good returns to get behind efforts to release the potential of over half a billion adolescent girls in developing countries currently held back by poverty, discrimination and violence, calling them key to achieving a crucial raft of development goals. "Investors tend to rate opportunities based on their potential for returns," he [told](#) a group of eminent persons from the private sector, academia, Governments and civil society dedicated to achieving the eight United Nations anti-poverty Millennium Development Goals ([MDGs](#)). "The United Nations gives girls a 'gold rating.' When you invest in their future, you are guaranteed results that multiply across society – on health, education, peace and the welfare of future generations," he said, highlighting the returns on "girl power." Addressing a lunch of his MDG Advocacy Group on the sidelines of the Forum, he stressed that investing in girls was vital in the "final push for success." The MDGs, adopted by the UN Millennium Summit of 2000 aim to slash extreme hunger and poverty, boost access to health care and education, achieve gender equality and environmental stability, reduce maternal and child mortality and the incidence of HIV/AIDS, all by the end of 2015. "We are in a race against time. The MDG deadline is just over 700 days away," Mr. Ban warned. "You understand that when we give a girl better health, education and well-being, we see results far beyond that individual. A girl is as valuable to our world as a tree is to a forest. When a tree grows up straight and strong, the whole environment benefits. When a girl grows up straight and strong, her family, her community and even her country can feel the positive effects." He noted that every year a girl stays in primary school boosts her eventual wages by up to 20 per cent, and women and girls reinvest the vast majority of their income – 90 per cent – back into their families. When female education goes up, so does economic growth. "Today I urge you to keep girls at the centre of all of your strategies," he declared, stressing that this is more than a philanthropic issue. "This is a challenge to do business better. It is a chance to change your institutions so they reflect more enlightened attitudes about girls and include strategies to improve their lives... "When we support girls, they reward society with enormous contributions in creativity, compassion and – yes – girl power." Mr. Ban set up the Group in 2010 to help him build political will and mobilize global action to achieve the MDGs. It is currently co-chaired by Rwandan President Paul Kagame and Norwegian Prime Minister Erna Solberg. At a later [news conference](#), he singled out climate change as another issue where Governments, business and civil society must cooperate closely to ensure that a 2015 summit in Paris reaches a global legal agreement on a new accord to limit greenhouse gasses and other factors behind the warming, floods, droughts and violent storms that are now occurring more frequently. The goal is to limit the global temperature rise below 2 degrees centigrade. "I am asking Government, business, finance, and civil society leaders to come with bold announcements and actions, because achieving an ambitious and legal climate agreement will require political leadership and clear signals," he said, referring to a preparatory summit he is convening at UN Headquarters in New York in September. "Many people may have jokingly said this is going to be another talk shop. This is going to be [an] action summit, not [a] talk summit, which will generate much spur in the area of sustainable energy and mobilizing climate financing, and also promoting resilient urban development, cities and transport," he said following talks with European Commission President José Manuel Barroso and World Bank President Kim Yong Kim. He commended Mr. Barroso for the 28-member European Union's (EU) recently announced goal of cutting carbon emissions by 40 per

cent and producing at least 27 per cent of energy from renewable sources, both by 2030. "The European Union has set a standard that all need to follow," he said. "We are now at a critical stage in the global conversation on climate change." At UN World Food Programme ([WFP](#)) dinner, Mr. Ban again [stressed](#) the need for public-private cooperation in achieving the goal of zero hunger. "You might wonder if that is too ambitious, but I have seen such progress with my own eyes, in my own country, in my own lifetime," he said, noting also that the number of hungry people in China has dropped by 114 million since 1990, 10 million Brazilians are no longer hungry, and over 30 other countries have already met or exceeded the MDG to halve the proportion of their populations who are hungry. "This success has been achieved through political will, concerted action and private sector engagement. Each country has chosen their own path, but they all made ending hunger a political priority. It has been a joint effort – involving governments, farmers, civil society, academia and the private sector. From small-scale farmers who trade their surplus at the village market to billion-dollar multinational corporations, business has played a vital role. This is needed now more than ever."

Mr. Ban wrapped up the themes at a dinner of the UN Global Compact, the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative, with the participation of 8,000 companies and 4,000 civil society organizations from 145 countries, which seeks to link business engagement with global priorities, including poverty and disease eradication, climate change mitigation, women's empowerment, children's and labour rights, and fighting corruption. He again stressed the imperative of business participating in the efforts to combat climate change, achieve the MDGs and define a post-2015 development agenda for eradicating extreme poverty and protecting the planet's resources. "Lives are at risk; businesses, small and large; economies; the security of nations," he [said](#) of climate change. "The evidence is all around us. We need to act. Now. Together." "If you have not yet joined the Global Compact, I encourage you to do so," he added. "Today, I appeal to each of you to become advocates for climate action and the post-2015 agenda and sustainable development."

## Siria, colloqui separati tra regime e opposizione

Ginevra, 25 gennaio 2014 - Alla presenza del mediatore di Onu e Lega Araba per la Siria, Lakhdar Brahimi, si è svolta nella sede delle Nazioni Unite di Ginevra la sessione congiunta di colloqui tra le delegazioni del regime di Bashar a-Assad e delle forze di opposizione. Brahimi ha affrontato le questioni relative allo scambio dei prigionieri e all'apertura di un corridoio umanitario. Il dialogo sarà "un lungo processo", sostiene la Coalizione, che chiede una transizione senza Assad. Ipotesi esclusa dalla Russia che continua a sostenere il regime siriano. Brahimi ha fatto sapere in conferenza stampa che le delegazioni del governo siriano e dell'opposizione hanno accettato i principi sanciti a Ginevra 1, la prima conferenza internazionale sulla Siria che si tenne nel luglio del 2012. "I risultati dei colloqui separati sono stati incoraggianti" ha detto Brahimi. I colloqui andranno avanti per il fine settimana, ma la strada verso l'accordo è tutta in salita. Il regime infatti rifiuta categoricamente le richieste dell'opposizione ovvero un esecutivo di transizione e la rimozione di Assad voluta anche dagli Stati Uniti. Da Davos il segretario di Stato Usa ribadisce che il futuro della Siria è senza l'attuale presidente che ha ormai perso credibilità.

## Syria: first face-to-face talks off to a 'good' start, UN-Arab League envoy says

Geneve, 25 January 2014 – Representatives of the Syrian Government and opposition groups today discussed humanitarian issues and tomorrow will focus on release of prisoners and kidnapped victims, the Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States today said following the opposing sides' first ever meeting at a negotiating table. "We haven't achieved much, but we are continuing," Lakhdar Brahimi [told](#) reporters at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. "The situation is extremely complex, it is a very difficult situation, and we are moving not in steps but even in half-steps," the joint envoy noted after two sessions with both groups. He said getting an aid convoy into the city of Homs topped the agenda of today's afternoon meeting which lasted roughly two hours. "We hope that ultimately that some convoy of aid, goods, both food and non-food items, and some medical supplies will be allowed to go into the old city," said Mr. Brahimi. The governor of Homs, who has been

speaking to the UN team in Damascus, is expected to meet with his security advisor tomorrow about the convoy, the joint envoy added, "if it's allowed tomorrow, maybe it will go in on Monday". Well over 100,000 people have been killed and nearly 9 million others driven from their homes since the conflict erupted in March 2011 between the Government and various groups seeking the ouster of President Bashar al-Assad. More than 9.3 million people within the country need humanitarian aid, the UN has said, with over 2.5 million of them living in areas where access is seriously constrained or non-existent, such as Homs. "If we achieve success on Homs, we hope that this would be the beginning for us to discuss other issues," he told the journalists. Today was the first time that both sides met in the same room where "one delegation is on the left, one is on the right, and they face one another". No direct words have been exchanged but the two sides talk through Mr. Brahimi with one another. "This is what happens in civilised discussions," he said, where sides address each other through a chairperson. "I think it's a good beginning." The goal of the conference is to achieve a political solution to the three-year-long conflict through a comprehensive agreement between the two sides for the full implementation of the Geneva communiqué, adopted after the first international meeting on the issue on 30 June 2012, and since endorsed by the UN Security Council. The communiqué lays out key steps in a process to end the violence. Among others, it calls for the establishment of a transitional governing body, with full executive powers and made up by members of the present Government and the opposition and other groups, as part of agreed principles and guidelines for a Syrian-led political transition. Mr. Brahimi said he expects to resume talks with both sides again tomorrow morning to discuss "prisoners and people that have been kidnapped and see if something can be done to secure the freedom of not all but at least some people who have been deprived of their freedom".

## Le Giornate internazionali

### **2014 Anno di solidarietà con il popolo palestinese**

New York, 17 gennaio 2014 - Il segretario generale delle Nazioni Unite, Ban Ki-moon, ha ufficialmente lanciato oggi l'Anno internazionale della Solidarietà con il popolo palestinese, in base ad una risoluzione adottata, il 26 novembre dello scorso anno, dall'Assemblea generale dell'Onu, chiedendo al Comitato sull'esercizio dei diritti inalienabili del popolo palestinese di organizzare attività per celebrare la ricorrenza durante tutto l'anno, mobilitando e in cooperazione con governi, sistema Onu, organizzazioni intergovernative e società civile.

### **2014 Anno internazionale della Cristallografia**

Parigi, 21 gennaio 2014 - Nella sede centrale dell'Unesco si è svolta oggi la cerimonia del lancio ufficiale dell'Anno internazionale della Cristallografia che prevede una serie di iniziative nel 2014 in occasione del centenario della diffrazione dei raggi X. Con una risoluzione adottata il 3 luglio 2012, l'Assemblea generale dell'Onu ha proclamato il 2014 Anno internazionale della Cristallografia, in occasione dei cento anni dalla scoperta della diffrazione dei raggi X - che ha permesso lo studio dettagliato del materiale cristallino - e del 400° anniversario dell'osservazione da parte di Keplero della forma simmetrica dei cristalli di ghiaccio (1611). Gli obiettivi dell'Anno internazionale della Cristallografia sono: introdurre l'insegnamento della cristallografia laddove è ancora assente; aumentare la consapevolezza del modo in cui la cristallografia sottende la maggior parte degli sviluppi tecnologici nella società moderna; favorire la collaborazione internazionale tra gli scienziati di tutto il mondo.

### **Giornata in memoria delle vittime dell'Olocausto (27 gennaio 2013)**

Il tema di quest'anno per la Giornata internazionale di commemorazione in memoria delle vittime dell'Olocausto è: "Viaggi attraverso l'Olocausto". La scelta di questo tema serve a ricordarci i percorsi delle vittime, durante questo periodo oscuro della storia, dalla deportazione alla libertà, e a porre l'attenzione su come questa esperienza abbia trasformato la vita dei sopravvissuti. Quest'anno si riportano alla luce storie di dolore e sofferenza, che sono però anche storie di trionfo e di rinnovamento, affinché quest'occasione sia da esempio per le

future generazioni. Le Nazioni Unite, in collaborazione con l'Holocaust Memorial Museum, hanno prodotto un video a scopo educativo, fruibile dagli insegnanti di tutto il mondo e disponibile nelle lingue ufficiali delle Nazioni Unite: arabo, cinese, inglese, francese, russo e spagnolo.

## International days

### **International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**

The following statement by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon was issued for the International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People:

Today marks the launch of the International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. This will be a critical year for achieving the two-State solution, bringing an end to the occupation that started in 1967, and securing an independent, viable and sovereign State of Palestine living in peace and security with the State of Israel where each recognizes the other's legitimate rights.

I call on all members of the international community and, in particular, Israelis and Palestinians, to work together for justice and a durable peace. Israel and Palestine need to live up to their commitment to a negotiated two-State solution and resolve all permanent status issues, in accordance with Security Council resolutions, the Madrid principles, the Road Map, the 2002 Arab Peace initiative and existing agreements between the parties.

The leaders of Israel and Palestine will need political will, a sense of historic responsibility and a clear vision for a better future for this and future generations. I pledge to do my utmost in support of their efforts.

### **Year of Crystallography (20 January 2014)**

Following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's message on 20 January for the Year of Crystallography:

This year marks the centenary of the birth of modern crystallography. We celebrate 100 years of ground-breaking advances.

Crystallography is fundamental to understanding the structure of matter. It is critical for materials science, health care, agriculture and biotechnology.

Today, crystallography is at the core of structural sciences, revealing the constitution of minerals and the molecules of life, helping scientists to design new-generation materials and life-saving medicine.

In recognition of these important contributions, the United Nations General Assembly designated 2014 as the International Year of Crystallography. The goal is to raise awareness about the power of crystals, deepen cooperation and create new partnerships across the globe.

Crystallography has an important place as we work for inclusive sustainable development — policies that are good for people and the planet.

I thank United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), along with the International Union of Crystallography and all other partners. Thank you for working to help societies harness the full power of sciences for sustainable development. Let us make the Year a great success!

## **International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Holocaust (27 January 2014)**

Following is the text of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's video message for the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust, observed today:

Mr. President of the General Assembly, Excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Welcome to the United Nations.

I especially thank filmmaker Steven Spielberg for attending this observance. His ShoahInstitute for Visual History and Education has done landmark work in preserving survivor testimony. I would also like to recognize Mrs. Rena Finder, a Holocaust survivor whose name was on Oskar Schindler's famous list.

Every year, on the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp, we gather in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. We recall the suffering of millions of innocent people and highlight the perils of anti-Semitism and hatred of any kind. This year, we focus on journeys through the Holocaust, and I recall a recent journey of my own.

Last November, I walked through the infamous "*arbeit macht frei*" gate at Auschwitz-Birkenau. I will never forget my visit. I saw the horrific remnants of the machinery of genocide, as well as moving images of European Jewish life in the 1930s — weddings, family meals, rituals, simple daily life — all extinguished through systematic murder, unique in human history. I saw the barracks where Jews, Roma, Sinti, homosexuals, dissidents, prisoners of war and persons with disabilities spent their final days in the most brutal conditions.

The United Nations was founded to prevent any such horror from happening again. Yet, tragedies from Cambodia to Rwanda to Srebrenica show that the poison of genocide still flows. We must be ever vigilant against bigotry, extremist ideologies, communal tensions and discrimination against minorities. And we must teach our children well.

Standing near the crematorium at Auschwitz, I felt deeply saddened by all that had happened within. But, I was also inspired by all those who liberated the death camps for all humanity.

Let us join forces today on a shared journey to a world of equality and dignity for all.



# Unione Europea / European Union

## AMBIENTE / ENVIRONMENT

### Rifiuti di plastica: il Parlamento lancia l'allarme

**Nella risoluzione approvata martedì, il Parlamento afferma che le plastiche più pericolose e alcuni sacchetti di plastica dovrebbero essere banditi entro il 2020, secondo la strategia dell'Unione europea per ridurre i rifiuti di plastica nell'ambiente. Inoltre, l'UE dovrebbe introdurre obiettivi vincolanti per il riciclaggio dei rifiuti di plastica.**

Nel documento, i deputati sottolineano che i rifiuti di plastica sono dannosi per l'ambiente a causa della carente applicazione della normativa UE sui rifiuti e per la mancanza di leggi comunitarie specifiche in materia di rifiuti plastici.

I deputati propongono che nella legislazione comunitaria dovrebbero essere inclusi obiettivi specifici vincolanti per la raccolta e la separazione fino all'80 % dei rifiuti. I criteri obbligatori per la riciclabilità e i criteri armonizzati per la raccolta e la separazione dei rifiuti devono essere formulati in modo da garantire una concorrenza leale. Infine, dovrebbe essere rivista la direttiva UE in materia di rifiuti di imballaggio.

#### **Priorità al riciclaggio e al compostaggio**

Il Parlamento invita la Commissione europea a presentare, entro il 2014, proposte per eliminare progressivamente, entro il 2020, lo smaltimento in discarica dei rifiuti riciclabili e recuperabili, senza tuttavia incentivare l'incenerimento di questi rifiuti. Si chiede inoltre che i rifiuti di plastica non siano utilizzati per il recupero di energia, a meno che tutte le altre possibilità siano state esaurite.

I deputati ritengono che le plastiche più pericolose dovrebbero essere eliminate dal mercato. Ove possibile, l'utilizzo di sacchetti di plastica monouso dovrebbe essere progressivamente eliminato. Essi chiedono inoltre misure più ambiziose per far fronte alle esportazioni illegali e allo scarico abusivo di rifiuti di plastica.

#### **Solido potenziale economico non ancora sfruttato**

I deputati sottolineano che il potenziale economico del riciclaggio di materie plastiche è ancora in gran parte non sfruttato e, attualmente, solo il 25 % dei rifiuti plastici sono riciclati. Se ben applicata, entro il 2020 la normativa UE sui rifiuti potrebbe portare a un risparmio di 72 miliardi di euro l'anno, incrementare il fatturato annuo dell'UE di 42 miliardi di euro nel settore della gestione e del riciclaggio dei rifiuti, nonché creare oltre 400.000 posti di lavoro.

### Plastic waste: Parliament sounds the alarm

**The most hazardous plastics and certain plastic bags should be banned by 2020, as part of an EU strategy to reduce plastic waste in the environment, says the European Parliament in a resolution voted on Tuesday. The EU should also introduce binding plastic waste recycling targets, MEPs add.**

The resolution, a call for action further to a European Commission green paper, was passed by a show of hands. In it, MEPs stress that plastic waste is damaging the environment due both to weak enforcement of EU legislation on waste and to the lack of specific EU laws on plastic wastes, despite their particularities.

MEPs propose that specific binding targets for collecting and sorting up to 80% of waste should be included in EU legislation. Mandatory criteria for recycling, and harmonised ones for collecting and sorting waste, should be framed to ensure fair competition, they say, adding that the current EU directive on packaging waste should also be reviewed.

### **Priority to recycling and composting**

Parliament calls on the European Commission to make proposals by 2014 to phase out the landfilling of recyclable and recoverable waste by 2020 and discourage the incineration of this waste. It also urges that plastic waste should not be used for energy recovery unless all other possibilities have been exhausted.

MEPs believe that the most dangerous plastics should be withdrawn from the market. The use of single-use plastic bags should be phased out wherever possible. They also call for bolder steps to tackle illegal exports and dumping of plastic waste.

### **Solid economic potential, still unexploited**

MEPs stress that the economic potential of recycling plastics is still largely unexploited. Only 25% of plastic wastes are currently recycled. Fully enforcing EU legislation on waste could save €72 billion a year, boost the annual turnover of EU waste management and recycling firms by €42 billion and create over 400,000 jobs by 2020, say MEPs.

## Emissioni di CO2: veicoli commerciali più puliti entro il 2020

**In base al progetto di legge approvato dal Parlamento martedì, il limite di emissioni di CO2 per i nuovi veicoli commerciali leggeri venduti nell'UE dovrà essere ridotto entro il 2020 dagli attuali 203 g/km a 147 g/km. Il testo, già informalmente concordato con i ministri dell'UE, chiede l'introduzione di metodi più affidabili per i controlli delle emissioni di CO2.**

L'obiettivo di 147g/km, da raggiungere entro il 2020, rappresenta la media delle emissioni massime autorizzate per i produttori di veicoli commerciali immatricolati nell'UE, con un peso fino a 2.610 tonnellate senza carico e 3,5 tonnellate a pieno carico. I deputati e il Consiglio hanno concordato che tale obiettivo sarà applicabile a tutte le aziende che producono più di 1.000 veicoli l'anno.

Le aziende dovranno quindi produrre abbastanza modelli più puliti per superare i veicoli più pesanti o più inquinanti, al fine di raggiungere un "equilibrio" complessivo di 147 g/km entro il 2020, in caso contrario, saranno sanzionate.

### **Basta ai "supercrediti" dopo 2018**

Per raggiungere i loro obiettivi, i produttori devono poter contare su un sistema di "supercrediti", che dia più peso ai veicoli che emettono meno di 50 g/km di CO2. Questo sistema, già esiste, non verrà rinnovato e scadrà nel 2018.

### **Verso metodi di controllo più affidabili**

Nel documento approvato vengono indicate lacune nell'attuale protocollo di controllo delle prestazioni ambientali, che i produttori hanno sfruttato per fornire cifre sui consumi e sulle emissioni che sono quasi impossibili in normali condizioni di guida quotidiane.

I deputati hanno cercato di far sostituire al più presto l'attuale protocollo con nuova Procedura World Light Duty Test (WLTP), definita dalle Nazioni Unite. Nel corso dei negoziati hanno concordato l'impegno da parte della Commissione europea di rendere operativa la WLTP al più presto.

## CO2 emissions: cleaner vans by 2020

**The CO2 emission limit for new light commercial vehicles sold in the EU is to be reduced from 203 g/km today to 147 g/km by 2020, under draft legislation approved by the European Parliament on Tuesday. The text, already informally agreed with EU ministers, also calls for the introduction of more reliable CO2 emission testing methods.**

The 147g/km by 2020 target is for maximum average emissions authorised for the entire fleet of models made by each manufacturer registered in the EU of vans of up to 2.610 tonnes unladen and 3.5 tonnes laden. It will apply to manufacturers producing more than 1,000 vehicles per year.

Manufacturers will therefore have to produce enough cleaner models to outweigh heavier or more polluting vehicles in order to achieve an overall "balance" of 147 g/km by 2020, on pain of penalties.

### **No more "super credits" after 2018**

To achieve their targets, manufacturers are to rely on a system of "super credits" which gives extra weighting to vehicles emitting less than 50 g/km of CO<sub>2</sub>. This system, which already exists, will not be renewed and will expire in 2018.

### **Towards more trustworthy testing methods**

The approved text points to loopholes in the current environmental performance test protocol, which manufacturers have exploited to produce consumption and emission figures that are almost impossible to achieve under normal daily driving conditions.

MEPs sought to have today's protocol replaced as soon as possible by the new World Light Duty Test Procedure (WLTP), defined by the UN. In negotiations, they won an undertaking from the European Commission to bring the WLTP into effect at the earliest opportunity.

## **SICUREZZA ALIMENTARE / FOOD SAFETY**

**Frode alimentare: i deputati chiedono misure per arginare le debolezze nella catena di produzione**

**Nella risoluzione non vincolante approvata martedì si evidenzia che i recenti casi di frode alimentare, compresa la vendita di carne di cavallo spacciata per manzo dovrebbero spingere l'UE a rafforzare i controlli e a rivedere sia il funzionamento della catena di produzione sia la legislazione di etichettatura alimentare.**

Il Parlamento esprime la sua preoccupazione per l'aumento dei casi di frode alimentare, che sfruttano la debolezza strutturale all'interno della catena di produzione. I deputati sostengono che i rischi di frode alimentare sono aggravati dalla natura complessa e transfrontaliera di questa catena, unitamente al carattere prevalentemente nazionale dei controlli, delle sanzioni e delle misure di applicazione.

### **Test del DNA e indicazione del paese di origine**

Nel testo si richiede una definizione armonizzata di frode alimentare a livello europeo e si invita la Commissione a potenziare l'Ufficio alimentare e veterinario dell'UE (UAV) che conduce le ispezioni. Si richiede inoltre la creazione di una rete europea contro la frode alimentare, proponendo un utilizzo più ampio del test del DNA per impedire qualsiasi tipo di frode.

I deputati chiedono controlli più approfonditi sui prodotti alimentari congelati e la stesura di un progetto di legge che renda obbligatoria l'etichettatura di carne e pesce. La tracciabilità sarebbe migliorata, rendendo obbligatoria l'indicazione del paese di origine, inclusi tutti i prodotti trasformati a base di carne.

### **Sanzioni dissuasive**

I deputati ritengono che gli Stati membri dell'UE debbano fissare sanzioni per la frode alimentare che corrispondano almeno a un importo doppio rispetto a quello del vantaggio economico previsto con l'attività fraudolenta e sanzioni penali per i casi di frode che mettano a repentaglio la salute pubblica.

### **Contesto**

Tra i recenti casi di frode alimentare evidenziati dai deputati figurano la commercializzazione della carne equina come carne bovina, del sale per disgelo stradale come sale alimentare, ma anche l'utilizzo di alcol al metanolo nei superalcolici e del grasso contaminato da diossina nella produzione di alimenti per animali, oltre alla scorretta etichettatura delle specie ittiche e dei prodotti del mare.

Food fraud: MEPs call for measures to fix weak links in the production chain

**Recent food fraud cases, including the sale of horse meat as beef, should prompt the EU to review the functioning of the food production chain, step up checks and revise labelling legislation, says a non-legislative resolution approved on Tuesday.**

The European Parliament voices concern at the growth in food fraud, which it says exploits structural weaknesses in the production chain. MEPs argue that food fraud risks are aggravated by the complexity and cross-frontier nature of this chain, coupled with the essentially national nature of inspections, penalties and enforcement measures.

#### **DNA tests and stating the country of origin**

The text calls for an EU-wide harmonised definition of food fraud and calls on the European Commission to strengthen the EU Food and Veterinary Office (FVO), which carries out inspections. It also calls for the establishment of a European network to combat food fraud and proposes that DNA tests should be used more widely, to eliminate any species fraud.

MEPs call for more thorough inspections of frozen foodstuffs and for a draft law to make labelling mandatory for meat and fish. Traceability would be improved by making it mandatory to state the country of origin, they observe, including for all meat-based processed products.

#### **Dissuasive penalties**

MEPs consider that EU member states should fix food fraud penalties of at least twice the estimated economic gain sought by the fraudster, and criminal law penalties for cases in which fraud endangers public health.

#### **Background**

Recent food fraud cases include horse meat sold as beef, road salt sold as food salt, the use of alcohol containing methanol in spirits, dioxin-contaminated fats discovered in animal feed, labels that state the wrong species of fish and the mislabelling of seafood, MEPs note.

## GIUSTIZIA E AFFARI INTERNI / JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Per il Parlamento, la cittadinanza europea non dovrebbe essere in vendita a nessun prezzo

**La cittadinanza europea non deve avere un "prezzo " ha affermato il Parlamento europeo in una risoluzione. I deputati sono preoccupati per i regimi istituiti da vari Stati membri dell'UE e, in particolare, da Malta, che si traducono nella vendita della nazionalità e, quindi, della cittadinanza europea. Il Parlamento invita la Commissione a indicare chiaramente se questi sistemi rispettano la lettera e lo spirito dei trattati UE e le norme UE in materia di non discriminazione.**

Alcuni Stati membri hanno introdotto programmi che comportano "direttamente o indirettamente" la "vendita " della cittadinanza europea a cittadini di paesi terzi, anche se ogni Stato membro dovrebbe agire responsabilmente per preservare i valori e i risultati comuni dell'Unione. Questi sono inestimabili e "non possono avere un prezzo", ribadisce la risoluzione. La cessione a titolo definitivo della cittadinanza europea mina la fiducia reciproca su cui si fonda l'Unione.

Il Parlamento sottolinea inoltre che i diritti conferiti dalla cittadinanza dell'Unione, come il diritto di circolare e soggiornare liberamente all'interno dell'UE, non devono essere trattati come un "prodotto commerciale". La cittadinanza europea implica un interesse nell'Unione e dipende dai legami personali con cittadini dell'UE e con i suoi Stati membri.

Inoltre, la cittadinanza per un programma di investimento, permette "di ottenere la cittadinanza dell'UE soltanto ai cittadini più ricchi di paesi terzi", senza che vengano presi in considerazione altri criteri.

### **Malta è invitata a riallineare il suo programma di cittadinanza con i valori europei**

Il documento evidenzia che Malta ha di recente adottato misure volte a introdurre un programma di vera e propria vendita della cittadinanza maltese, "che comporta automaticamente la vendita della cittadinanza dell'Unione, senza imporre alcun requisito di residenza".

Inoltre, non è nemmeno chiaro se i cittadini maltesi beneficerebbero di questa nuova misura, ad esempio tramite la riscossione delle imposte, dal momento che gli investitori stranieri non saranno tenuti a pagare le tasse. I deputati sottolineano che la cittadinanza "non comporta soltanto diritti ma anche responsabilità".

Il Parlamento invita Malta ad allineare il suo attuale programma di cittadinanza ai valori europei. Gli altri Stati membri che hanno adottato programmi nazionali che consentono la vendita diretta o indiretta della cittadinanza dell'UE dovrebbero fare altrettanto.

### **Questi programmi sono compatibili con le norme UE?**

Il Parlamento invita la Commissione europea a indicare chiaramente se questi programmi rispettino la lettera e lo spirito dei trattati dell'UE e il codice frontiere Schengen, nonché norme UE in materia di non discriminazione. Si chiede alla Commissione di formulare raccomandazioni per evitare che tali programmi pregiudichino i valori su cui si basa l'Unione europea, nonché orientamenti per l'accesso alla cittadinanza europea attraverso programmi nazionali.

## **EU citizenship should not be for sale at any price, says European Parliament**

**EU citizenship must not have a "price tag" attached to it, says the European Parliament in a resolution voted. MEPs are concerned about schemes established by various EU member states and in particular Malta, which result in the sale of national, and hence EU, citizenship. Parliament calls on the Commission to state clearly whether these schemes respect the letter and spirit of the EU treaties and EU rules on non-discrimination.**

Some member states have introduced schemes which "directly or indirectly" result in the "sale" of EU citizenship to third-country nationals, even though every member state is expected to act responsibly in preserving the Union's common values and achievements. These are invaluable, and "cannot have a price tag attached to them", says the resolution.

Outright sale of EU citizenship undermines the mutual trust upon which the Union is built, it points out.

Parliament also stresses that the rights conferred by EU citizenship, such as the right to move and reside freely within the EU, should not be treated as a "tradable commodity". EU citizenship implies having a stake in the EU and depends on a person's ties with the EU and its member states or on personal ties with EU citizens, says the text.

Furthermore, citizenship-for-investment schemes "only allow the richest third-country nationals to obtain EU citizenship, without any other criteria being considered", which implies discrimination, Parliament notes.

### **Malta urged to bring its citizenship scheme into line with EU values**

Malta has recently taken steps to introduce a scheme for the outright sale of Maltese citizenship, "which automatically entails the outright sale of EU citizenship as a whole without any residency requirement", notes the text.

Also, it is not even clear that Maltese citizens will benefit from this scheme, e.g. through extra tax revenue, as the foreign investors concerned will not be required to pay taxes, it notes. "Citizenship involves not only rights but also responsibilities", MEPs underline.

Parliament calls on Malta to bring its current citizenship scheme into line with EU values. Other member states that have introduced national schemes which allow the direct or indirect sale of EU citizenship should do likewise, it adds.

**Are these schemes compatible with EU rules?**

Parliament calls on the European Commission to state clearly whether these schemes respect the letter and spirit of the EU treaties and the Schengen Borders Code, as well as EU rules on non-discrimination. It asks the Commission to issue recommendations to prevent such schemes from undermining the EU's founding values, as well as guidelines on granting access to EU citizenship via national schemes.

# Unipax

## Stanza: "Sport per la pace"

### Introduzione

La pace non consiste soltanto nella fine dei conflitti armati, ma include il rispetto dei diritti umani e delle libertà fondamentali, lo sviluppo economico e sociale, la protezione dell'ambiente e il buon governo. ... Per porre fine all'intolleranza e alla disumanità e per costruire un mondo più pacifico possono svolgere un ruolo mezzi meno tradizionali della diplomazia ufficiale: lo sport è uno di questi. ... Lo sport è uno strumento di comprensione tra i popoli. E' un veicolo di educazione attraverso il mondo intero. Può essere particolarmente efficace nell'infondere nei bambini e nei giovani valori universali come il rispetto e la tolleranza. E' un'arma formidabile per combattere contro la discriminazione ed il razzismo. ... (Kofi Annan)

L'educazione ad una cultura di pace attraverso lo sport, l'educazione fisica e l'olimpismo possono svolgere un ruolo chiave nello stabilire gli ideali di pace nelle menti degli uomini e delle donne, ... , e possono utilmente contribuire agli scopi e ai principi (della Carta) delle Nazioni Unite. (Appello Conferenza mondiale CIO-Unesco)

Allo sport è stata riconosciuta, da sempre ed universalmente, la funzione di palestra di vita, di tutela e promozione della salute, di strumento di educazione civica e di educazione al rispetto di se stessi e degli altri; nello stesso tempo è stata riconosciuta allo sport anche la funzione di strumento di incontro e di civile convivenza tra le genti e quindi di pace.

Tutto ciò è ancora valido? O è necessario adoperarsi per il pieno recupero dei valori e della corretta funzione sociale, educativa ed etica dello sport?

### Indice degli argomenti previsti:

Di seguito trovi gli argomenti che la stanza "Sport per la Pace" intende trattare nel corso dei propri lavori, ai quali si possono aggiungere altri argomenti da te segnalati.

**Segnala tre argomenti che desideri siano affrontati prioritariamente (sarà data la precedenza a quelli più richiesti compresi quelli da te suggeriti):**

- Sport e divertimento
- Sport e salute
- Sport amatoriale per la pace
- Sport professionistico per la pace
- Sport come strumento di incontro e di dialogo
- Sport veicolo di turismo e scambio interculturale
- Sport e valori etici
- Sport ed educazione civica
- Sport contro razzismo e discriminazione
- Sport nella scuola come fattore di formazione e di educazione
- Sport ed interessi economici
- Sport e violenza
- Sport ed alimentazione
- Sport e doping
- Sport e rispetto di se stessi e degli altri

Dá il tuo contributo di idee per migliorare questa ipotesi iniziale di lavoro o formularne una nuova:

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# Room on: "Sport for Peace"

## Introduction

Peace ... encompasses not only an end to armed conflict, but ... includes respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, economic and social development, environmental protection and good governance. ... There are other means, less traditional than official diplomacy, which can play a role in ending intolerance and inhumanity, and in building a more peaceful world... Sport is one such path. ... Sport ... is an instrument of understanding among people. It is a vehicle for education about the world at large. It can be especially powerful in instilling in children and young people universal values such as respect and tolerance. It is a formidable weapon in the fight against discrimination and violence. ... (Kofi Annan)

Education for a culture of peace through sport, physical education and Olympism can play a key role in the establishment of the ideals of peace in the minds of men and women ... and could usefully contribute to the aims and principles of the UN Charter. (Appeal of the UNESCO/IOC World Conference)

It has always been universally recognised that sport is a training-ground for life, a means of safeguarding and promoting health, a tool for civic education and for teaching respect for oneself and others; at the same time it has also been recognised as a tool for gathering people together and promoting civilised coexistence between them, and therefore, as a tool for peace.

Is all this still true? Or do we need to do work fully to reclaim sporting values and sport's proper role in society, education and ethics?

Below you will find the issues which 'The Environment' Room plans to discuss as part of its work. (Please feel free to add to the list)

**Choose three themes which you would like to see tackled as a matter of urgency (priority will be given to the themes which receive the highest number of votes, including the themes suggested by you)**

- Sport and recreation
- Sport and health
- Amateur sport for peace
- Professional sport for peace
- Sport as a tool for gathering people together and promoting dialogue
- Sport as a vehicle for tourism and inter-cultural exchanges
- Sport and ethics
- Sport and civic education
- Sport against racism and violence
- Sport in schools as a component part of education and training
- Sport and economic interests
- Sport and violence
- Sport and food
- Sport and drugs

Set out your ideas for improving this initial working premise or suggest a new one:

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