



# IFUNA *news*

Quarterly Magazine of Indian Federation of United Nations Associations



“ And I can tell you that here at the G20,  
When the Prime Minister speaks people listen ”

- President Barack Obama

**WE<sup>the</sup>  
PEOPLES**  
World Federation of United  
Nations Associations

a peoples'  
**MOVEMENT**  
in **SUPPORT** of the  
UNITED NATIONS

2nd & 3rd Quarter, 2010



## MAHARASHTRA UNA

### UN Charter Day – 2010

Report by **A.A. Syed**, Secretary General (MUNA)



*Seen in the picture Mr. Daniel Bood, Mr. Ashraf Ahmed Shaikh, Mr. Antonio Bullen, Mrs. Mohini Mathur, Mr. Dilip A. Shinde and Mr. A. A. Syed.*

**U**.N. Charter Day – 2010 was held on 26 June 2010 at 6:30 pm at Indian Merchant Chambers Mumbai – 400020. Mrs Mohini Mathur Chairperson of MUNA Welcome the guest and give brief history of MUNA.

Mr. Daniel Bood, Consul Political and Economic Affairs of Canadian Consulate in Mumbai Sport on the Topic – Canada in the U.N. the U.N. due to its unique international character and powers, The organization can take action on a wide range of issues, and provided a forum for its current 192 Members states.

Canada is mindful of the importance of reforming the Secretary Council. The council is our most powerful means of collective action. The United Nations is an indispensable global organization for a globalizing world. Through treaties, dialogue, negotiation, relationships and the capacity to implement decisions.

Advocate Dilip A Shinde spoke on the Role of Supreme Court in Development of Human Rights in India. He gave references on various issues where Supreme Court gave Landmark Judgments. This in reality Supreme Court uphold the values of Human Rights and democracy.

Consul General of Spain Mr. Antonio Bullen, explained the role of the U.N. in Maintaining security and peace in the World.

After the speeches, question / answer session was held and it continued for 30 minutes.

Mr. Ashraf Ahmed Shaikh Hon. Secretary (MUNA) compere the seminar. Mr. A. A. Syed Secretary General gave vote of thanks.



*A View of Audience*



## MAHARASHTRA UNA

### World Health Day - 2010

Report by **A.A. Syed**, Secretary General (MUNA)

A walkathon by United Nations Association of Maharashtra (MUNA), a local NGO, affiliated to Indian Federation of United Nations Association (IFUNA), which in turn is affiliated to World Federation of United Nations Association (WFUNA), was organized on Marine Drive starting at 7am on Sunday 11th April 2010 along with newly formed MUNA-Youth Wing.

At the registration desk, we had around 300 participants in all; about 150 school and university students, mainly from Bai Kabibai School, Anjuman English School, Colaba Municipal School, a part of Bhavishya Yaan: a project of Rotary Club of Bombay, Vidya and SIFE -HRC, students from SNTD University, various NGOs from SAGE Foundation, Members from Zonta Club and the rest included eminent personalities and citizens from all walks of life. The Chief Guest was Mr. Swadin S. Kshatriya, the Municipal Commissioner of Mumbai, Guest of Honour for the day being Ms. Indu Shahani, the Sheriff of Mumbai.

At 7am sharp, both the Municipal Commissioner of Mumbai Mr. Swadin S. Kshatriya and the Sheriff of Mumbai Ms. Indu Shahani and Mrs. Mohini Mathur Executive Chairperson MUNA jointly flagged the walkathon with a lot of fanfare against the backdrop of music from the guitar and the beating of the drums. A special boat with a banner of 'MUNA Walkathon' designed for the occasion synchronized sailing along the sea coast to the Islam Gymkhana. Besides the walkers, there were cyclists and children on roller skates. The participants carried banners highlighting the theme of World Health Day 2010: "Impact of Urbanization on Health". Midway, there was a halt on the Marine Drive promenade, where the students of Mumbai University enacted three street plays: "Clean Mumbai-Green Mumbai" on segregation of dry and wet garbage and using the vermiculture produce for growing the trees in the metropolis; a poster-cum-dance skit on "Health and Nutrition" depicting the importance of natural foods like walnuts, figs, carrots, tomatoes, olives, avocados, onions, garlic, kidney



*Mr. Swadheen S. Kshatriya, Municipal Commissioner, Mrs. Mohini Mathur and youths on World Health Day with MUNA Banner*

beans, grapes and oranges for the proper function of different organs in the human body and finally "Six Healthy Ways to prevent Cardio-respiratory Diseases and Diabetes Mellitus- no smoking, reduce salt intake, eat natural fiber rich food avoiding junk food, watch your waist line, proper 8- hour sleep, and regular walk and exercise. The enacting students received a grand ovation from one and all in the crowd.



*Mr. Swadheen S. Kshatriya, Municipal Commissioner, writing his Slogan on the banner of World Health Day*

At this juncture, the Chief Guest and Guest of Honor endorsed the theme of the day along with their remarks "Eat healthy-live healthy" and "Live a healthy life, walk at least 30 minutes every morning". In fact, this was the first peaceful walk on the occasion of the World Health Day 2010 in Mumbai as the participants trotted along in yellow caps and badges and white tee shirts to the Islam Gymkhana with the cool breeze from the blue Arabian Sea and a bright red sun above, a colorful visual delight to all.

At 8 am, the events at Islam Gymkhana started with the endorsement of the WHO theme 2010 by Mrs. Maya Shahani, SAGE Foundation, our Guest of Honor, RJ Neil of Red-FM and Mr. Mohan Jhangiani, an ardent supporter of MUNA who came dressed like Mahatma Gandhi for the peaceful march. In the luscious lawns of



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the Gymkhana, were 'Slogan Competition' and 'Picture Perception' for all the students. The best student's slogan was 'Paryavarnala Aai sarkha Zapa ani mula sarkha pala'. (Environment should be nurtured with constant love and attention like a mother and child) The best picture perception slogan was 'Dandi march got us freedom from the britz; morning walk would get us freedom from couch potatoes.' This was followed by a song "Give me some sunshine, give me some rain", a popular song from the Indian film '3 Idiots' depicting music as a de-stressing method when the entire audience joined in chorus in the melody. This was followed by another on the keyboard by the youth of Mumbai University. All the participants in the walkathon were presented with certificates of participation. There was a 'Health Exhibition' on food and nutrition, balanced diet, save water, water harvesting, garbage segregation and cleanliness. Simultaneously, there was free health check up camp on diabetes and blood pressure. Many in the audience partook of this. There was healthy food packet distribution for all the participants. The program concluded with a vote of thanks to all the Guests, Guests of Honor, all the sponsors and supporters to the cause of MUNA, Mr. Sanjay Barve, Jt. Police Commissioner of Mumbai Traffic Police and Mr. Hasan Gafoor, Director General of Police, Mumbai support enable us to perform walkathon on the Marine Drive walkway. Early morning walkers in large numbers joined us, appreciated and asked us to perform every year on the theme of WHO. Mrs. Mohini Mathur, Executive Chairperson, Mr. A.A. Syed, Secretary

General and Mr. Ashraf Ahmed Shaikh, Hon Secretary actively supported and participate from 6:30 am to 11:00 am. The main credit goes to Dr. G.N. Chainani Member of Governing Council MUNA who devotedly organized this programme, Zakauallah Siddiqui Treasure of MUNA and President of Islam Gymkhana who on most concessional charges allowed to use lawn of Islam Gymkhana. From our Youth Wing Members Mr. Mudi Singhvi, Mr. Krunal Mehta, Mr. Malhar Chaudhry, Mr. Nasir Engineer and all their colleagues efforts made the World Health Day a success. Photographs enclosed for your choice to publish in your next bulletin.



*Anjuman School girls participated on World Health Day*

Media both print and electronic, staff and members of Islam Gymkhana, MUNA members, MUNA youth and all the participants. This was followed by the playing of the National Anthem.

*Contd. from page 21*

### UN Needs to be Restructured

has been grappling with potentially the most important and politically charged reform issues facing the United Nations. The Security Council is the only UN body where the principle of one country one vote is not fully applied.

The pressure to revise the UN Charter has been building up for many years and is likely to increase. The framers of the Charter had envisioned a dynamic institution that would evolve over time. Article 109 provides for the convening of a 'general charter review conference'. Article 108 also allows a charter amendment after the approval of two-thirds-of the member states, including all five permanent members of the Security Council.

India officially announced her candidature for permanent membership of the Security Council during the 49th UN General Assembly in 1994. India was admitted to the UN on 30 October 1945 even before its

independence. It should seize the opportunity offered by the changing world order to develop policy activism at the UN. Its agenda should shift to a greater strategic management to project its own interests. Both the Indian free market and democracy are dynamic forces. Indian diplomacy should project itself as an Asian power to achieve an optimum global posture.

Recent developments, particularly signals from US and China indicating a bigger role for India in international affairs, seem to be a positive indication of growing support for India's claim to the permanent membership of the Security Council. The UN must reform itself and democratise its decision making process. The permanent members are expected to provide statesmanlike leadership, rising above narrow national interests. There is no alternative to the UN and a reformed UN is the best guarantor for world peace and development.



## MAHARASHTRA UNA



### Launch of the International Year of Youth

Report by  
**Adv. Ashraf Ahmed Shaikh**



*Launching of the International Year of Youth*



*Prof. Dr. Chandra Krishnamurthy lighting the ceremonial lamp flanked by Mrs. Mohini Mathur left and Dr. Madhu Madan right*

The Indian Federation of United Nations Association – (IFUNA), Maharashtra United Nations Association – (MUNA), United Nations Information Centre for India and Bhutan- (UNIC) New Delhi in collaboration with S.N.D.T. Women's University Mumbai have jointly launched International Year of Youth 2010-2011 in Mumbai along with Film stars, entrepreneurs, academicians, Lawyers, administrators and young Students.

The UN-proclaimed International Year of Youth was launched in Mumbai at S.N.D.T. Women's University on August 13, 2010 at the Auditorium of the University's Juhu Campus. The Launch was marked by a formal program followed by a cultural program organized and arranged by the students of the University. The University was chosen to launch the year because of its pan-India presence (National Jurisdiction) and so that a larger number of youth are reached.

The Vice-Chancellor of S.N.D.T. Women's University who is the guiding soul and extremely

encouraging human being, Prof. Dr. Chandra Krishnamurthy, Registrar, Dr. Madhu Madan, Executive Chairperson MUNA and Vice President IFUNAMs. Mohini Mathur, Assistant information officer of UNIC New Delhi, Ms. Rineeta Naik, campus in-charge, Dr. Chandrakant Puri, The Hon'ble Secretary MUNA and IFUNA Executive Committee Member, Adv. Ashraf Ahmed Shaikh graced the occasion by their inspiring speeches to encourage the young students to actively participate and contribute their part.

Film Actor Ruslaan Mumtaz and entrepreneur and Former Miss Morocco Imane Karouach, were special guest at the event who motivated students and young members of the society with their personal experience.



*Flag hoisting ceremony and playing National Anthem*

From Corporate world Mr. Gurminder Pal Singh Kalra and Mr. Abhishek Pai and Secretary of Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa Ms. Varsha Rokade were also felicitated as Youth Icons.

Advocate Ashraf Ahmed Shaikh Introducing the programme and mentioned in his address about the significance of the year and said that "The World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY), adopted by



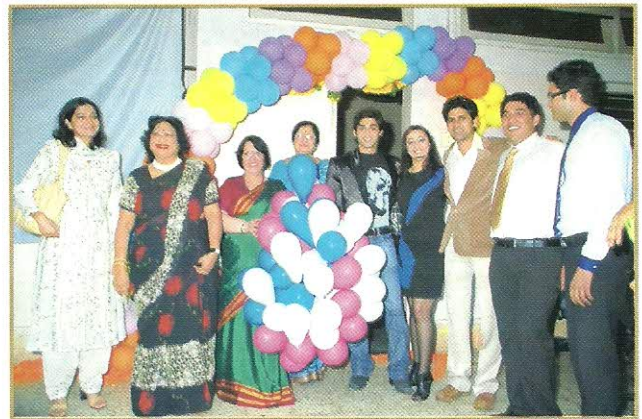
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the General Assembly, provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people around the world. The WPAY covers fifteen youth priority areas and contains proposals for action in each of these areas.

Each of the fifteen priority areas identified by the international community is presented in terms of principal issues, specific objectives and the actions proposed to be taken by various actors to achieve those objectives. Objectives and actions reflect the three themes of International Youth Year: Participation, Development and Peace; they are interlinked and mutually reinforcing.

The fifteen fields of action identified by the international community are education, employment, hunger and poverty, health, environment, drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, leisure-time activities, girls and young women and the full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making, as well as globalization, information and communication technologies, HIV/AIDS, armed conflict, and intergenerational issues."

The year commencing on 12 August 2010 and will end on 11 August 2011. It has been proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly as the International Year of Youth. The Year was initiated to harness the energy, imagination and initiative of the world's youth in overcoming the challenges facing humankind, from enhancing peace to boosting economic development. The theme for the Year is "Dialogue and Mutual Understanding" and is aimed to strap up the talents and energy of the world's young people to promote better understanding and dialogue between different generations, cultures and religions, and to promote the ideals of peace, respect for human rights and freedoms, and solidarity. More significantly, the theme also seeks to encourage young people to dedicate



*Balloons were released as mark of Peace and Integration of Youth all over the world.*

themselves to fostering progress, including the attainment of the UN Millennium Development Goals.

The cultural program started with Deep Yoga performed by the Sports Department students, a form of Yoga in which lit diya is kept on the forehead of the performer and the performer displays various startling poses. It is a very difficult form of yoga requiring tremendous concentration and flexibility at the same time. A Lavni Dance was performed by Kiran Tiwari, a second year student of S.N.D.T. Women's University's Law School. Also, there was a short skit highlighting the problems faced by the youth by the students of Human Development Department (HDD) which was coordinated by one of the faculty of HDD Dr. Reeta Sonawat

The fusion dance performed by young girls was greatly enjoyed by the audience. The song 'WE shall overcome' also saw the audience getting elated and joining the singers in singing the song and clapping. A parade of Law students dressed in saffron, white and green sarees draped in different ways depicting various cultures of India formed a human flag and ended the cultural program with the national anthem.



*Performance by a student*



*A view of Audience*

The audience along with the guests came out of the auditorium and released the balloons to mark the launch of the International Year of Youth. The launch was indeed full of energy and enthusiasm as is witnessed in any and every youth activity. The launch was a grand success and was well covered by Media with the effort of Director Jankidevi Bajaj Institute of Management Studies - **Dr. Gulnar Sharma**.