

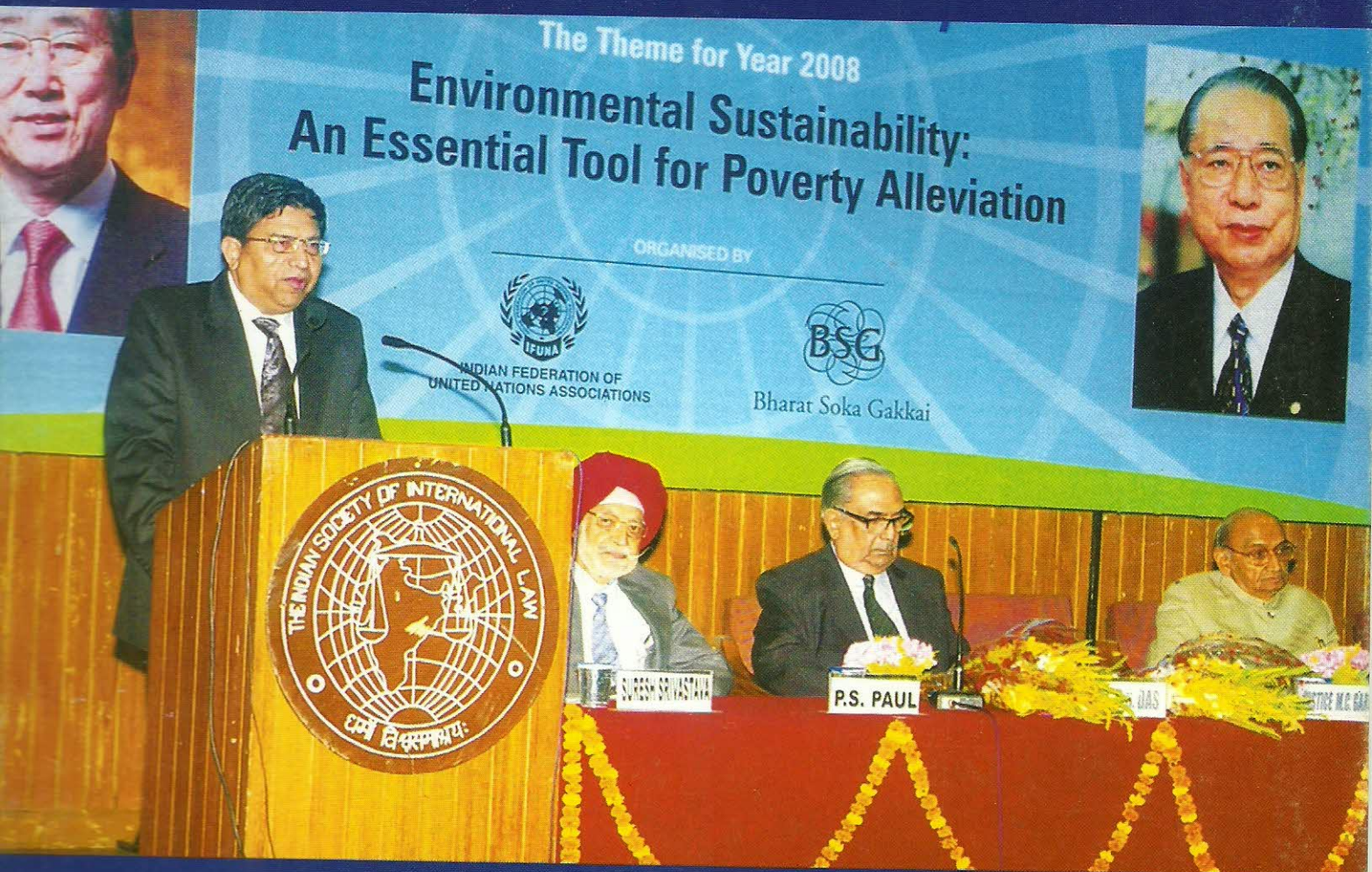


# IFUNA *news*

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**“WE<sup>the</sup>  
PEOPLES,”**

World Federation of United  
Nations Associations

*a peoples'*

**MOVEMENT**

in **SUPPORT** *of the*  
**UNITED NATIONS**



## **THE GLOBAL MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS SUMMIT 7-11 NOVEMBER 2008 AT MUMBAI, INDIA**

Report by: **Ms. Tushita Kochak**, Youth Programme Coordinator, IFUNA

**T**he Global MDG Summit – Mumbai 2008, organized by WFUNA, the Indian Federation of UN Associations and hosted by Jai Hind College, took place from 7-11 November in Mumbai. The Summit was organized with the intention of encouraging the youth to use their innovation, creativity and practical knowledge for achieving the MDGs by the year 2015.

UN Under Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information, Kiyotaka Akasaka and other UN officials sent video messages to the opening ceremony of the Summit. These were followed by congratulatory addresses from IFUNA Secretary General, Mr. Suresh Srivastava, Consul General of the US, Mr. Paul A. Folmsbee, and Mr. Rajiv Chandran from the UNIC and other officials from the partner and host organizations.



*Mr. Paul A. Folmsbee lighting the ceremonial lamp watching Shri Dilip Valse Patel, Hon'ble Minister of Higher and Technical Education, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mr. Sandeep Bhutoria, Mr. Suresh Srivastava, Prof. N.W. Shivdasani, Director, Jaihind College*

Over 300 participants from 13 countries representing every region of the world participated in a day of learning about the MDGs through various panel discussions and workshops on film-making, use of new communication technologies, the art of fund-raising and project management, followed by a strategy day wherein the students formed Eight Multidisciplinary groups focusing on their allotted Goals wherein their MDG teams then interacted with their respective Chairs. Ms. Tushita Kochak, Youth Programme Coordinator-IFUNA, Chaired the Sessions for Goal 8 wherein her teams discussed and understood issues pertaining to the topic of global



*Mrs. Mohini Mathur, Chairperson MUNA lighting ceremonial lamp L to R Shri Dilip Valse Patel, Hon'ble Minister of Higher and Technical Education, Mr. Sandeep Bhutoria, Mr. Suresh Srivastava, Prof. N.W. Shivdasani, Director, Jaihind College*

partnership for development through screening of documentaries, debates, reading out of solution papers prepared by delegates as well as brainstorming sessions to ideate on the format of shooting for the MDG films.

The next day, participants were required to make a 5 minute documentary based on the goals allotted to them and this was made possible to them through the opportunity of filming during the field trips, such that they were taken to various locations in and around Mumbai including places like paper mills and rural villages, depending on their goal and were given leave to shoot their documentary as well as spend a day interacting with local people and NGO's.

The resulting 16 student- made documentaries were presented at the closing ceremony which was attended by Secy-General of Maharashtra UNA, Mr. A.A. Syed, NGO activists and Bollywood personalities Juhi Chawla and Celina Jaitley, all of whom also judged the films and selected the eight best from the 16 films screened. These documentaries shall now be showcased at a specially organized film-festival at New York in January, 2009.

Overall, the Millennium Development Goals Summit was a productive experience for all, providing a platform for young people to join hands and create awareness at the grass roots level as well as assist in giving the MDG movement a mass appeal.



## MAHARASHTRA UNA OBSERVES WITH GOVERNOR



*L to R: Mr. Rajiv Chandran, Mr. Suresh Srivastava, Ms. Pheroza J. Godrej, Madam S.C. Jamir, Hon'ble Governor Maharashtra Shri S.C. Jamir, Mr. Hero Tsugu Hagiuda, Ms. M. Mathur, Mr. Paul A Floms bee and Mr. A.A. Syed at Governor House, Mumbai*

**T**he UN Day 2008, was celebrated by Maharashtra United Nations Association (MUNA) on Thursday 6th November 2008 at Darbar Hall, Raj Bhavan, Malabar Hill, Mumbai 40035.

At the outset, the ampere of the programme. Ms. Dolly Thakore, the Communications Consultant, Journalist, TV Newsreader, and Comperer/Moderator/Commentator was introduced by Adv. Ashraf Ahmed Shaikh, Hon. Secretary (MUNA).

The audience was in full attendance comprising of diplomatic corps, VIPs, dignitaries, eminent and distinguished personalities from the Society, various NGOs and student community. The event was covered by the print and electronic media.

The function started by a short play "Peace & Harmony" by children of the Royal Education Society, Raigad, choreographed by Mrs. Rehana Undre. It was tribute to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi: symbol of peace, secularism, non violence and its relevance in today's world.

The august audience was welcomed by Mrs. Pheroza J. Godrej, President, MUNA. This was followed by the presentation of plants to the Chief Guest H.E. Shri S.C. Zamir – Governor of Maharashtra, Mrs. Zamir, guest speakers, along with the signing of the visitors' book. A profile on MUNA, its aims, objectives, youth involvement and women empowerment was presented by Mrs. Mohini Mathur, Executive Chairperson, MUNA.

Secretary General of IFUNA and member executive WFUNA Mr. Suresh Srivastava, was one of the key Speakers on this occasion. The eight Millennium Development Goals of 2000 were highlighted by Mr. Suresh Shrivastava, with emphasis on its target achievement by 2015. He also informed about the Global MDG Youth Summit starting from 7th to 11th November 2008 at Jai Hind College, Mumbai, where Youth from various countries would be represented. They would be airing their views on the MDG along with their field projects. 8 films would be made and presented to the WFUNA.



## UN DAY - MUMBAI

Mr. Rajiv Chandran National Information officer, UN Information Centre for India and Bhutan, read out excerpts from the message of the Secretary General, UN on the occasion of the UN Day 2008. which reads as follows: Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon underlined that the financial crisis should not "become an excuse for deferring or backing away from our fight against climate change." He added that developing countries' efforts should be matched by developed countries, in particular through technology transfer. Outlining India's achievements in addressing climate change, he called for Indian leadership in moving towards a low-carbon future, consistent with its development aspirations. Underscoring the difficulties ahead, he called for "a win" to emerge from the climate meetings in Poznan, Poland, in December 2008.

Mr. Paul A. Folmsbee Consul General of USA explained the relevance of UN in today's context with advent of the first Afro-American President of the US. He highlighted the role of United Nations for the cause of Peace and Harmony of the world.

Mr. Hirotugu Hagiuda Consul General of Japan spoke of Japan's voluntary financial contribution to the UN and the urgent need for reforms in the Security Council. He spoke about good relations between India and Japan.

The Chief Guest Shri S.C. Jamir, Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra, laid stress of the India's role in relation to International Peace and Security, the green revolution and his personal contribution as an Advisor to the Indian contingent to the UN in the early 1960s.

The meeting terminated with a Vote of Thanks by Mr. A.A.Syed, Secretary General, MUNA. While thanking our Governor Hon. H.E. Shri S.C. Zamir, he informed the audience that H.E. S.C. Zamir is the most intelligent and powerful person when he was the Chief Minister of Nagaland. He was one of the signatory and key person while signing of the historical document between Nagaland and Union of India for merging. Mr. A.A. Syed while thanking Mr. Paul A. Folmsbee specially mentioned about the values of democracy in America that white President is replaced by an Afro-American and now the next turn will be from Black to Brown and that could be an Indian. He thanked Rotary Club, Zonta Club and other organizations for their support. The programme was followed by National Anthem by the Navy Band. He also thanked the Naval Headquarters Western India and the members of Media for their support. The event was followed by high tea in the luscious green lawns of the Raj Bhavan arranged by Mrs. Pheroza J. Godrej.

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

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Today we need that spirit to resolve the vast issues that confronts the world. The UN can play a vital role in reconstructing a new world.

My own perceptions is in transition that we are, the new order can be visualized as a balance of power emerging out of the present contradictions. Bilateralism is giving way to a multi-lateral, multi-faced balancing the order where common but vital issues linked to environmental

changes, a collapsing economic order and socio-economic disparities will force the nations large and small to evolve a structure where peace and stability will be the only answer. This peace will not be imposed

**: "O great king, the birds of air and the beasts have as equal a right to live and move about in any part of the land as thou. The land belongs to the people and all living beings; thou art only the guardian of it." —Buddhist King Arahata Mahinda, son of the Emperor Ashoka to King (Devanampriya Tissa (247-207 BC))**

by economic or military power but by an understanding of dependence on each other. And for this we would need an institution like the United Nations to protect

the new balance of equations through the instrument of SOFT POWER. There is no institution or mechanism other than the UN which can play such a role.

Mr. Suresh Srivastava Secy. General of IFUNA welcoming the guests dwelt upon the activities of IFUNA

and its progress. Mr. Charti Lal Goel Sr. Vice President presided over the function. Mr. Bharat Babbar read the message of Mr. Ban ki-Moon U.N. Secy. General, Mr. Sagar Ahluwalia proposed a Vote of Thanks.

## IFUNA - UN DAY





Ms. Fruzina Molnar, Sandeep Bhutoria, Ms. Meena Srivastava, Mr. Suresh Srivastava, Ms. Mohini Mathur, Mr. A.A. Syed, Mr. P.D. Bhatnagar, Mr. Ashraf, Mr. Rajiv Chandran and a Guest and Ms. Tushita Kochak at Inauguration ceremony of MDG Youth Conclave at Mumbai



A view of the audience and distinguished guests on the occasion of UN Day at Governor House, Mumbai



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