



**Intergovernmental Institution for the use of Micro-algae Spirulina Against Malnutrition  
Intergovernmental Observer to the United Nations Economic and Social Council**

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**“There are people in the world so hungry that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread”  
Mahatma Gandhi**

**IIMSAM OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE**

**IIMSAM Secretary General’s Official Fact-Finding Mission  
to Haiti A Success**



Official IIMSAM Photos: From Lt to Rt: IIMSAM Official delegation Sp. Adviser N. Miller, French Youth Delegate Ms. A. Bonvalot together with Camp General Manager Mr. Luckner and IIMSAM’s Director of field operations Ms. Emma Hallberg. Ms. Bonvalot together with Mr. Luckner and Mr. Courtland Reeves.



People lining up outside the Camp Clinic to be received by the Camp’s only nurse. Bottom right: IIMSAM delegation Camp nurse trying to accommodate pregnant mothers and children. Until recently, the Non-Governmental organization “World Vision” *has been providing high protein supplements, however today this program has stopped due to lack of funds.* Ms. Bonvalot together with Mr. Miller, Mr. Reeves while visiting the school (OPEPB). Bottom right: Some school buildings are still in place and will be used.



Official visit to Camp Delmas 33 Cineas. Bottom right: IIMSAM Official delegation together with Camp General Manager Mr. Luckner. From the left: IIMSAM Adviser Mr. Noel Miller, Mr. Bobby Duval, IIMSAM Director of Field Operations Ms. Emma Hallberg, IIMSAM Youth Delegate Ms. Alexandra Bonvalot. IIMSAM delegation meeting with H.E. Major Ralph Lapointe of the city of Ganthier (second to the left)

**(IIMSAM Headquarters, New York, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2010)** Having successfully launched its programmes in **Kenya** in the period 2009-2010 to mainstream the use of Spirulina to eradicate malnutrition and hunger, The Secretary General of IIMSAM Dispatched an Official Delegation composed by **Ms. Emma Hallberg, Director of Field Operations and Special-Senior Adviser on Caribbean Affairs to the Secretary General, Mr. Noel Miller, and Ms. Alexandra Bonvalot, IIMSAM Youth Delegate (France)**, arrived in Port-us Prince on September 27<sup>th</sup> to carry out a five day long fact-finding mission exploring various ways that IIMSAM will assist the nation of Haiti to establish sustainable solutions to eradicate hunger and malnutrition by utilizing spirulina. The delegation actively participated in the United Nations food cluster as well as the cluster for Camp Management. Meetings also took place with potential partners and Emerging Market Funds to discuss the establishment of a main spirulina production unit that would provide local

employment among the Haitian population. Tens of thousands of children and families are still living in temporary "internally-displaced people" (IDP) camps, despite efforts to change this. The IIMSAM delegation visited among others the Camp Delmas 33 Cineas, located in Delmas, the suburb of Port-au-Prince, which currently is the permanent home for 18 000 displaced Haitians. Camp General Manager Mr. Luckner briefed the delegation about the needs and problems facing the camp that include malnutrition as well as various skin infections caused by contaminated water. One meal per day has been the standard, however due to lack of resources; this may be reduced within the near future.

The delegation was also received by Fr. Zucchi Olibrice, Executive Director of the School "Oeuvres des Petites Ecoles de Peres Bohnen" (OPEPB). Located in the La Saline slum in Port-au-Prince. The school is normally attended by 15 000 students, but during this upcoming school year, postponed for obvious reasons, the number of students will be reduced dramatically. One reason is the large number of earthquake victims among children in this area and another reason is the lack of funds for rebuilding some of the destroyed school buildings. UNICEF tents have been tried as a solution but this was not workable due to the heat. Fr. Zucchi Olibrice also addressed the big problems with malnutrition among students, and in particular at the affiliation school in Cite de Soleil, the most impoverished area of Port Au Prince.

Lengthy conversations took place between the IIMSAM Delegation and Mr. Bobbie Duval at the soccer field regarding Spirulina and how it would benefit his children and players. Mr. Duval is a genuine grassroots activist who has dedicated decades to helping children with education as well as development of soccer programs. He also has developed a professional team that was recently playing in Denmark. Two of his players received million dollar offers. IIMSAM also shared its experiences from spirulina cultivation in Kenya and Uganda with the H.E. Major Ralph Lapointe of the city of Ganthier. During an official visit at the Major's office, he briefed the IIMSAM officials about the present problems with malnutrition affecting the area. Major Lapointe also expressed his commitment in introducing soccer to the youth and told the delegation about the upcoming Sports for Development and Peace soccer event that is to take place this winter between the Dominican Republic and Haitian teams. IIMSAM hopes that a Team from the **CampMaradona® Kenya Programme** will be allowed to participate. To get a better understanding of the various needs facing different parts of the country, the IIMSAM delegation was invited by the **former Consul-General of Haiti to New York and the President of the Haitian Senate Honorable Joseph Ivon Feuille**, to visit the city of Les Cayes situated in southwestern Haiti. Several orphanages were visited and a discussion was held about the potential and benefits of implementing self-sustainable spirulina cultivation centers in this area.



**IIMSAM Secretary General Ambassador Remigio Maradona stated-** *"We must show, as we have done in the past, that we are indeed an I.G.O., able to find the resources (despite lack of resources and obstacles) we have managed to find a way to make our footprint in Haiti and the urgent need for Spirulina as our fact finding mission has demonstrated. Although The IIMSAM's-IMAP Relief experts we had sent earlier this year under the leadership of our GWA Dr. Alan Goldsmith in Haiti have strengthened the rest of the world's response capabilities on the ground by providing various assistance in the medical and non medical fields and the football benefit match organized by our GWA Diego Maradona whose part of proceeds went to the Haiti Fund. **"The people of Haiti can count on IIMSAM for a Spirulina Programme that will save thousands of lives from severe malnutrition."**"*

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