### Summary

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UN / Message from President Medvedev to the participants of the UN General Assembly session on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's flight into space

Russian President sent his greetings to the participants of the special session of the UN General Assembly on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the first human mission into space.

## UN / Ban Urges Greater Cooperation Between UN and Russia on Global Governance

The UN Secretary-General praised strong partnership between Russia and the United Nations at a meeting with the country's President Dmitry Medvedev on 22 April in Moscow and called for even greater cooperation on global governance issues, including climate change and sustainable development.

#### UNICEF / Ban Ki-moon: "Never Be Discouraged"

As part of his official visit to Russia on April 21-23, 2011, UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon visited the Centre for Curative Pedagogics in Moscow where the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has been implementing its project on social inclusion. "People living with disabilities, particularly children with disabilities, are a global problem," UN Secretary General said in his welcoming speech. "About 10 per cent of the world's people live with disabilities – whether it is physical, emotional or sensory." Mr. Ban Ki-moon expressed his gratitude to the staff of the Moscow-based Centre for Curative Pedagogics and UNICEF for their hard work promoting social integration of children with disabilities. Mr. Ban Ki-moon wished them success and said they should be patient. "Never be discouraged, he pointed out.

## UNICEF / "Youth in Russia - 2010" - a Unique Statistical Compendium

The statistical compendium "Youth in Russia 2010", released jointly by the Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), has brought together, for the first time ever, all the information covering key spheres of young people's lives, including demography, health status, education, economic activities, leisure, living standards and juvenile delinquency. The information is presented in a user-friendly format, broken into age groups, geographic areas, etc. The publication is unique because such full and detailed information on the above mentioned aspects of young people's lives, included in this collection of statistical data, has never been published in Russia before.

#### UNDP / Kamchatka Peninsula: Global Partnership for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development

Sodruzhestvo SME Support Fund set up within the framework of the UNDP GEF microfinance project component has gained a solid reputation in Kamchatka. The services offered by the fund include finance, training and business advice to local entrepreneurs in rural areas. The Fund invests in biodiversity-friendly income-generating projects, such as ecotourism, non-timber forest products and services.

## UNHCR / Civic Assistance Committee: We Will Think How to Help

The Civic Assistance Committee is one of oldest Russian NGOs providing assistance to refugees for over 20 years. Since 1998 the NGO's public reception room for refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, IDPs and migrants has been supported by UNHCR. During 13 years of cooperation between the Civic Assistance Committee and the UNHCR Refugee Reception Centre the parties developed a sustainable cooperation framework.

#### UNIC / What is Social Justice?

Social justice is one of key elements of the UN concept of security, development and human rights. While economy is striving to recover the United Nations has continued to promote the MDG approach for both developed and developing countries. A new UNDP and ILO report published in March 2011 demonstrates that systems of social justice contributed to stabilization of the economic situation in a number of countries.

# UNESCO / New Publications of the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education

IITE publications are a way of disseminating information about the results of the Institute projects, new concepts and approaches to application of ICT in education. A new publication series is devoted to the best practices and global tendencies of ICT use in education.

#### UNESCO / Youth and Social Transformations

On 2-3 March, the UNESCO Moscow Office and the International NGO Federation for Peace and Conciliation held a scientific and policy oriented conference "Youth and Social Transformations: Involvements and Initiatives" in the framework of the UN International Year of Youth.