



Solidarity song of volunteers

Volunteer, volunteer...

Raise your hands volunteer
Knocking centuries first year
Proclaim before the globe again
Nothing the end but begin
Volunteer, all the years in future
Yours year... yours year... yours year

Though hiss the seas with blackish hood
All devouring cyclones mood
Raging war ices and fire
But your hands still so upper
Volunteer, volunteer...

Keep your hands so up volunteer
Knocking centuries first year
Volunteer, all the years in future
Yours year... yours year... yours year

Let's win the century with love and care
Let's peace on the earth free of war
Let's globe for share and care
Make a chain on planate all over
Keep your hands raise volunteer
Knocking centuries first year
Volunteer, all the years in future
Yours year... yours year... yours year
Volunteer, volunteer...

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Editorial

At the outset of VOLUNTEER, I do not have anything to say only but to congratulate you to be a prospective reader, writer as well partners of this initiative.

Please act positively feeling that the VOLUNTEER is Your Newsletter and your volunteerism can make it better day by day.

I admire with humble and express my gratitude to UNV and Team IYV, without their sources bringing out the Volunteer was possible. Thanks to all.



National Strategic planning workshop: Bangladesh

In 1997 the United Nation's General Assembly accepted a resolution to declare the year 2001 the International Year of Volunteers. This action was taken in recognition of the important role volunteers play in national development and in response to the need for increased volunteer effort in the face of such global issues as environmental degradation, drug abuse, disaster preparedness, social welfare and poverty eradication. In addition, volunteerism was seen as being a serious component to the enhancement of caring societies, identified as important to national development in the UNDP Human Development Report 1999.

The UN General Assembly has designated UNV as the International focal point for the year 2001. Therefore, the UNV programme is supporting the development of a network of governments, international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs), universities and associations, as well as large knowledge on the field of volunteerism.

In Bangladesh Service Civil International-Bangladesh (SCI-BD)- a branch of Service Civil International took the initiative to observe the International Year of Volunteers (IYV) 2001 collectively and accordingly SCI-BD organized a meeting on 2nd August 2000 where the major actors of the volunteer sectors including UNV were invited. The meeting resulted a Preparatory Committee for IYV 2001 named **PrepCom** On IYV towards forming the National committee. In November 2000 the government of Bangladesh formed the **National Committee** and the PrepCom remained functioning in the name "**Committee of Volunteer Organizations on IYV 2001-Bangladesh**" considering their role to support the **National Committee**.

The official IYV kick-off took place on 5th December 2000 under the leadership of the **National Committee** where **Committee of Volunteer Organizations on IYV 2001-Bangladesh** played a key role involving volunteers and civil society. After the kick-off there was no initiative until April 2001 for further development and planning to promote the IYV objectives by the **National Committee**.

Considering the situation the **Committee of Volunteer Organizations on IYV 2001-Bangladesh** took the initiative to organize a planning workshop on May 12, 2001.

The workshop was opened by Mr. Manik Lal Somaddar, Chairman-IYV National Committee and Secretary Ministry of Youth & Sports as Chief guest. Speeches by the honorable special guests Mr. Carlyse A Hessic, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP, Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed, eminent educationalist and Mr. Shamsul Huda, Director, Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) underscored the need for social mobilization, participation and partnership to highlight the role of volunteers in social change and sustainable livelihoods and to recognize volunteers as an important part of civil society.

Objectives of the workshop

- a) to create a common understanding on the working definition of Volunteerism for Bangladesh.
- b) to plan the activity for the Year 2001
- c) to identify the role for the National Committee, UNV/UN and for the Committee of Volunteer Organizations

Recommendations:

The participants of the workshop proposed the following role for the three key Player's for IYV 2001.

For National Committee

- To prepare national plan of action and its implementation immediately.
- To form local committee at district and upazila level and include local volunteer organization, NGOs and Civil Society leaders.
- Introduce awards for best Volunteer and Volunteer Organizations at National, District and Upazila level.
- Publicity in the media to popularize volunteerism and volunteering.
- Declare National Volunteer week
- Prepare National Volunteer Policy
- Inclusion of volunteer actions as extra curriculum activities in schools and colleges.
- Coordinate the IYV 2001 activities at National level.



- Arrange financial support from government to support volunteer activities.

For UNV/UNDP Bangladesh

- Facilitate the National Committee activity.
- Coordination between Volunteer sector and National Committee
- Prepare and disseminate promotional materials and training kits for volunteers
- Moral, technical and logistic support
- Support the training of volunteers
- Arrange exposures and exchanges of volunteers
- Recognition of volunteers from UN System
- Establish a volunteer center in Bangladesh.

For Committee of Volunteer Organizations on IYV 2001-Bangladesh

- Liaison with National Committee and UNV/UN system
- More interaction and cooperation among civil society
- Disseminate information on IYV and volunteerism to the members
- Assist member organizations in performing program and whenever necessary.
- Keep close liaison and follow up activities of member organizations
- Advocacy and lobbying with National Committee and other Govt. agencies to promote volunteerism.
- Organize National level program to facilitate volunteerism at all level.

IYV INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON VOLUNTEERING IN GENEVA

Under the patronage of the Swiss President, Moritz Lenenberger, iyv-forum.ch (the Swiss national committee) and the UNV programme, an International Symposium on Volunteering will be organized from 18 to 21 November 2001 in Geneva.

National committees will have the opportunity to gather and discuss questions pertaining to the future of IYV 2001. The event is an informal preparation meeting where all national

committee members will gather to share, evaluate and assess IYV 2001 activities. The discussions and outputs received during the event will result in a final document (book/CD ROM) that will be submitted to the Secretary-General's report, to be presented at to the 57th session of the General Assembly in 2002 on the outcomes of IYV 2001.

Possible issues to be explored in Geneva include the transformation of national committees into permanent volunteer commissions or UNV commissions, the continuing of encouragement for government legislation on volunteerism and the possible production of an annual Volunteer Development Report. To contribute to the Symposium and to register on-line please visit: <http://www.icvolunteers.org/symposium.html>.

Volunteers launch IYV National Committee, mark first World Day of Refugees in Bosnia and Herzegovina

BONN, 20 June 2001 -- Volunteers in Bosnia and Herzegovina have marked the first World Day of Refugees in Mostar by launching the country's International Year of Volunteers 2001 (IYV) National Committee. Many members of the new committee work to assist refugees.

The three-day launch, from 19 to 21 June, kick-started with a roundtable discussion on volunteering as well as a pop concert, promoting the talent of eight local bands. Other activities include a reception as well as a Bosnia Women's Initiative exhibition on volunteers. The event is being sponsored jointly by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV).

Members of the Bosnian National IYV Committee include UNHCR, the Bosnian Peace Corps, the Federal Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Crescent Society. In addition, there are three UN Volunteers working as part of the national IYV committee in the cities of Mostar, Tuzla and Banja Luka to serve as the IYV coordinators of events in the regions.



Volunteer IYV Bhutan Stamps Launch - June 15, 2000

The UNHCR is a strong supporter of the International Year of Volunteers 2001. In the spirit of the Year, the commission awarded its prestigious Nansen Medal on 14 December 2000 to UNV on behalf of the 1,500 UN Volunteers who served with UNHCR over the past 10 years.

The Bosnian IYV National Committee, along with Swaziland in Africa, is one of the latest launching ceremonies for IYV 2001. Currently there are 121 National IYV Committees worldwide with another 75 state and six city committees.

The UNV programme is the volunteer arm of the United Nations and acts as focal point for the International Year of Volunteers 2001. It has helped to establish 121 national IYV committees worldwide with over 15,000 constituents working for the promotion, recognition, networking and facilitation of volunteers.

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For more information on IYV National Committees, visit: <http://www.iyv2001.org>
Information about the pop concert can be found by visiting:
<http://muzika.bosnia.ba/>

AWARD

If you think, you are serving Humanity. You have an outstanding contribution to the society as the volunteer. Please nominate yourself, or nominate other person if you think he or she has an outstanding contribution for Humanity. Please send nomination within 25 of October 2001 attached the followings.

1. Cover letter
2. Justification
3. Action and output
4. Resume
5. Two recommendations

Award Committee

Forum for Culture and Human Development
823/A, Khilgaon, Dhaka-1219, Bangladesh

Four IYV2001 Stamps issued by Bhutan Post in collaboration with IYV-UNV Bhutan, are being officially launched on June 15. The stamp designs are the result of a nationwide contest on the theme of Volunteerism in which more than 800 school children participated.

For Jerusha Tamang of Changzamtog Jr. High School, "Volunteerism is like a small plant that can only survive if we nurture it" as his painting illustrates, and for Kumar Gazmer of Lhuentse Jr. High School, the concept fills him with optimism. "We can make our planet a paradise through volunteerism," he says.

From cleaning the school playground, to organizing a charity show, whatever the level of the school student, both are "demonstrations of volunteerism and team work" explains Kinley Zam of Phensum Primary School. For Azita Gazmer, of Khuruthang Jr. High School, the word "Volunteer" represents people who "contribute to human need in the community or worldwide."

These four young winners, will be attending the official launch of the IYV Stamps on June 15, 2001 at VAST (Voluntary Artists Studio in Thimphu) which perfectly illustrates volunteerism, arts and youth for this event.

Mr. Gem Tshering, General Manager of Operations at Bhutan Post launch the stamps and guest speaker will be Mr. Pema Wangda, Secretary of NEB and member of the IYV Steering Committee.

The International Year of the Volunteer (IYV) was officially launched on the last December 5.

The Bhutanese IYV National Steering Committee comprised of high level government, international agencies and private sector representatives, have been addressing policy and institutional levels in support of voluntary sector development. In parallel, the IYV Task Force has undertaken various advocacy activities to promote the concept of volunteerism from a nationwide essay contest, to publications and a television series production.

The set of four IYV 2001 stamps (Nu. 3, Nu.4, Nu. 10 and Nu.15) is available for sale at Bhutan Post.

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