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From the Secretariat

The Kicking AIDS Out Secretariat would like to thank the existing - and new members, associates and partners for the hard work and contributions in 2008. There are of course many individuals and consultants that also have added to this success and we want to say ‘Thank you to them as well. A special ‘thanks’ goes to our very good colleague, Ms. Mette Hesjedal, for her positivity, creativity, high competency and passion for sport and development cooperation. Mette is back in Norway and she had her last days now with NIF in Oslo. We wish her all the best and hope she can join us in future work! We would also like to welcome Ms Linda Torege and Mr George Nange who will come to Cape Town for overlap in January and lead the Secretariat from February 2009.

The Network has been done major development in many areas during this year and we all have a very exciting 2009 to go into, but first we all deserve a good and long Christmas holiday with our closest friends and family, and also maybe take some time to reflect on 2008..

Merry Christmas to you all and a Happy New Year!
From the Kicking AIDS Out Secretariat, Cape Town
Biennial Network Meeting, Gaborone, November 2008

The fourth Kicking AIDS Out biennial meeting that was held in Gaborone, Botswana, from 3rd to 6th November, 2008. The meeting was hosted by the Supreme Council of Sport in Africa (SCSA Zone VI) and co-hosted by South East District Youth Empowerment League (SEDYEL), Botswana. Over 50 delegates from 16 countries attended this meeting that consisted of: Member organizations, partner organizations and associates of the Kicking AIDS Out Network. The objective of the meeting was to:

• Refer to and follow up on the minutes from Dar 2006
• Meet each other, share, learn from one another
• Way forward

Bjørn Omar Evju (NIF partner) concluded the meeting Thursday afternoon by saying amongst other things: “Tremendous development in Kicking AIDS Out, we have been struggling with our identity and what we stand for, but we can now be proud of the new communication platform. It is also very positive to see that the old members are now more open to new members and partners.”

Minutes and all the presentations from this meeting is burnt on CDs that were sent to each organisation in the network by post from Cape Town 20th December.

LL2 Course, Cape Town Oct 2008

Between 20th and 24th October 2008, 21 participants from various organizations in the Kicking AIDS Out Network attended a Leader Level 2 course in Cape Town. Like last year the course was run by Community Development Resource Association (CDRA). The participants were representing the following organizations: Sport in Action (Zambia), SOCS/LiT (Swaziland), OYAP (Lesotho), EduSport (Zambia), SEDYEL (Botswana), MYSA (Kenya), SCORE (Namibia and Zambia), TTASPE (Caribbean), Football for All Vietnam, SRC (Zimbabwe), EMIMA (Tanzania) and CHRISC (Uganda and Kenya). Read more about the course on www.kickingaidsout.net.
World AIDS Day – 1st December

According to UNAIDS estimates, there are now 33.2 million people living with HIV, including 2.5 million children. During 2007 some 2.5 million people became newly infected with the virus.

1st December 2008 marked the 20th anniversary of World AIDS Day started in 1988. World AIDS Day is about raising money, increasing awareness, fighting prejudice and improving education. World AIDS Day is important in reminding people that HIV has not gone away, and that there are many things still to be done. (Reference: http://www.avert.org/worldaid.htm).

In the Kicking AIDS Out network several happenings took place on World AIDS Day. The organizations in the Network used the World AIDS Day to increase awareness and knowledge of HIV and AIDS and other related health and social issues amongst the youth as well as showing support and solidarity to and for people living with AIDS.

Doctoral Defense – Cyprian Maro, EMIMA, Tanzania

Kicking AIDS Out is taking this opportunity to congratulate Cyprian Ngilisho Maro, the Director of EMIMA in Tanzania, with his successful defense of his doctoral dissertation ”Using Sport to Promote HIV/AIDS Education for at-risk Youths: An Intervention using Peer Coaches“ for the degree Philosophiae Doctor at NIH, Department for Coaching and Psychology”. The primary aim of the present thesis was to investigate the effectiveness of an ongoing AIDS education intervention program (EMIMA) delivered by peers in a sport context. A secondary aim was to investigate a motivational strategy to enhance the educational effectiveness of peer coaches in the sport context.

Sport for Development Awards Ceremony, Zambia

Sport in Action (SIA) celebrated 10 years of existence on 20th November 2008. Sport In Action, in cooperation with Chairman and Management board of National Sports Council of Zambia (NSCZ), organised the first 'Sport for Development Awards Ceremony' (in Zambia) at Taj Palace Hotel in Lusaka. The Executive Director of SIA, Mr. Clement Chileshe on behalf of SIA and NSCZ invited the Kicking AIDS Out Secretariat to be a part of these celebrations and Award Ceremony. Sverre Aarsand, Secretariat, handed out three awards in the category: 'Kicking AIDS Out outstanding contributions and achievements in the use of sport to promote messages of HIV and AIDS'. The awards were handed over to representatives from UNICEF, Society for family health and Mrs Everlyn Namumba for their contributions in the fight against HIV and AIDS through sport. The Award Committee was made up of various top sports journalists in the country. The were many categories and awards.

Some of the awards: Mr. Kakuwa received one award for outstanding contribution and achievements in traditional and cultural games. NIF received one award for the financial contribution to Girls in sports and UK Sport received one for the contribution to sport as a tool for social change. Oscar Mwaanga also received an award. Former first lady Maureen also received a posthumous award for the late president Mwanawasa for his contribution to sport through the re-introduction of physical education in schools. There were more than eleven different categories and awards. The winners of these awards were children, youth and adults (males/females) individuals, schools, organisations and funders, reflecting grass root, school sport and elite sport. Special awards were also handed out!
Sport for Development Awards Ceremony, Zambia

There were approx. 300 participants attending the 'Sport for Development Awards Ceremony'. The ceremony went directly on Zambian television and a huge number of journalists/photographers covered the whole evening. Edusport and a huge number of other sports ngo’s were present at this ceremony. Dr. Kenneth Kaunda (first President of Zambia), Minister of Sports, former First Lady, British High Commission and British Council were present at this event. The President of Zambia was also invited, but could not come. The newspaper 'Saturday Post' on the 22nd November: Minister of sports said: "All stakeholders should contribute to the development of leadership and survival skills through contribution to sport. My ministry recognises SIA and NSCZ as major stakeholders in the quest to improve and develop sport. Clement Chileshe: "Finally, a huge thank you must go to both SIA and NSCZ staff for their tireless work in organising this event.

To all SIA staff and volunteers...we as an organisation would not be where we are today, celebrating 10 years of existence, if it wasn't for your dedication, commitment and invaluable work. You are wonderful, special people and it is an honour and privilege to lead our team. I would also like to encourage each one of us to apply the culture of thanking the hard working people in our communities, especially in sport for social change”

The Secretariat would like to thank NSCZ and SIA for the invitation, recognition and awareness/promotion of Kicking AIDS Out Network and concept.
Achievements

Kicking AIDS out congratulates SCORE’s LivingSport Programme Co-ordinator Lucinda van den Heever, (29) from Cape Town, who has been awarded a prestigious Chevening Scholarship to study for a Masters degree in Gender and Development at the University of Sussex, England. Lucinda has been a key person for the Kicking AIDS Out Network over the last years, she has gone through the Training Latter, from starting as a Peer Leader, going through as a Leader Level 1 and a Leader Level 2 and contributing a lot in working groups a Master Trainer.

“I have definitely grown and changed within the network. The kinds of opportunities that I have had have really added to my life and I feel that it has helped me to grow both professionally and personally.” Lucinda says.

Read more on www.kickingaidsout.net.

LL1 Course, Zimbabwe Nov 2008

26th - 30th November 2008 28 participants from Sport and Recreation Commission (SRC) attended a Leader Level 1 Course that was run in Zimbabwe. The facilitators for the course were Raymond Vries (SCORE, Namibia) and Kizito Mukaka Chilese (Sport in Action, Zambia) and four representatives from SRC were co-facilitating. One of them, Abigail Chipatiso expressed after the course:

“We are really exhausted. we had a good productive week and we had a nice time with Kizito and Raymond. The guys are good and really made the workshop worthwhile.

I have grown and have learnt a lot. We faced a lot of challenges but above we were victors in the end.”

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