



UNITED NATIONS  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Wok Bung Waintaim

# WanWok

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## UNHCR Celebrates 2008 World Refugee Day



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) celebrated the annual commemoration of World Refugee Day, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June under the theme 'Protection', with an Exhibition of refugee children's drawings and photos of the East Awin refugee settlement in Western Province at Crown Plaza, Port Moresby.

The theme 'Protection' was chosen to remember the plight of millions of refugees living with urgent need of material, social and legal protection.

Papua New Guinea is a signatory to the Refugee Convention (since July 1986) and has shown great generosity in accepting refugees onto its territory in a spirit of true burden-sharing with other state parties to the Convention. The country has two main groups of refugees or displaced populations of concern to UNHCR. The first group comprises about 10,000 West Papuans/Melanesians who are located along the rural border and in urban areas. Of those, about 2,500 are settled in the East Awin settlement in Western Province and a small group of non – Melanesians living in Port Moresby and other urban areas.

UNHCR in PNG is focusing on a Two Pillar Strategy aimed at improving refugee protection - through capacity building for refugees protection management and supporting conditions for possible local integration of refugees in Papua New Guinea.

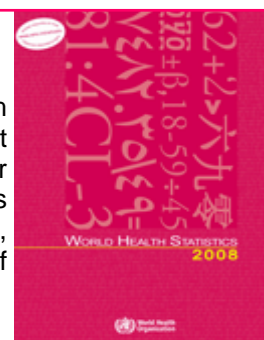
### UPCOMING EVENTS

June 28—National Family Day

July 7-International Day of Cooperatives

### World Health Statistics 2008

World Health Statistics 2008 Report can now be downloaded from WHO web site: <http://www.who.int/whosis/whostat/2008/en/>. The report presents the most recent health statistics for WHO's 193 Member States. This fourth edition includes 10 highlights in health statistics, as well as an expanded set of over 70 key health indicators. It includes, for the first time, trend data where the statistics are available and of acceptable quality.



## COMMON ADVOCACY CORNER



**UN Secretary General—Ban Ki-moon**

**“No one should be stigmatized or discriminated against because of their dependence on drugs”**

**Message on the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, 26 June 2008**

Today, drugs continue to destroy lives, generate crime and threaten sustainable development. But we also have a better understanding of how to confront drug abuse and trafficking. Policymakers can draw on a growing body of evidence about drug dependence and drug-use trends. International cooperation and technical assistance are improving law enforcement capabilities. Increased development assistance is helping to reduce poverty and the sale of illicit crops by giving farmers sustainable alternatives. A stronger focus on prevention and treatment is putting health at the centre of drug-control strategies and helping to slow the spread of HIV/AIDS. And there is a growing consensus, both within communities and among states, that drug control is a shared responsibility in which we all play a part.

We still have much work to do to reduce our vulnerability to drugs. States with weak criminal justice systems and limited law enforcement capabilities need assistance to reduce illicit drug trafficking, which spreads crime, corruption and instability, and which ultimately endangers the successful realization of the Millennium Development Goals.

As we mark the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, I remind all Member States of their responsibility to fully respect the rights of prisoners who are drug dependent or are in custody for drug-related crimes, especially their rights to life and a fair trial. I also call on Member States to ensure that people who are struggling with drug addiction be given equal access to health and social services. No one should be stigmatized or discriminated against because of their dependence on drugs.

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**UN COMMUNICATIONS TEAM**