



*25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
World Food Day  
and  
FAO 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

**OFFICE OF THE WORLD FOOD SUMMIT FOLLOW-UP AND ALLIANCES  
(OFA)**

**Global Summary Report:  
World Food Day Activities for 2005  
on the occasion of  
FAO's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**

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## **Introduction**

The purpose of this report is to provide a brief summary of selected World Food Day (WFD) 2005 activities and to illustrate the range and extent of the activities implemented to celebrate World Food Day worldwide, following the theme of the year. A large variety of events inspired by this year's theme, "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue", were carried out by FAO member countries, particularly with the tireless efforts and efficient support of the FAO Representations, as well as by those countries where only focal points or UNDP Representatives are on site to promote WFD.

WFD has been included in the calendars and work programmes of almost all Ministries of Agriculture. On the basis of the annual theme, they promote and organize WFD through standing or ad-hoc committees, which plan and coordinate activities at local and national levels. Civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations and private sector organizations, play an equally important role in the WFD celebrations.

Regional and Sub-regional Offices and FAO Representations are given the possibility to directly submit and update their WFD plans of activities using the News and Events Management System (NEMS). This system allowed a worldwide exchange of information and proved to be very well appreciated by member countries. Reports from 134 countries are available for viewing through NEMS on the WFD website or summaries are available from the secretariat.

WFD activity reports were sent to Headquarters also in the traditional manner that is, through in-depth and detailed reports, supported by attached samples of photos or press cuttings, or brief summaries, based on the reporting form provided by GIDN. It may be noted that the available information is limited primarily to the data fields as available on the reporting forms.

Although brief, this report serves the purpose of providing a tapestry of what was done through a broad overview of the FAO stakeholders' involvement in WFD activities, at the country level, while avoiding the listing of all the rich details contained in some of the reports received.

## **Background**

The Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference mandated, through Resolution 1/79, the celebration of World Food Day on 16 October on a yearly basis, to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of FAO. Subsequent Conference resolutions on WFD were introduced in 1981, 1983, and 1987 and, on the occasion of FAO's Fiftieth Anniversary, in

1993 and in 1995. Another resolution was issued in 1997 with the introduction of TeleFood. The United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution (35/70) in 1980 to support the annual observance of World Food Day at various levels. The year 2005 marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of WFD celebrations and the 60th anniversary of the Organization.

### **WFD activities**

Over the years, more than 150 countries have been involved in WFD observance at national and international level. For 2005, as an annex to the issuance of this report, data from some 134 countries have been received so far and included in this global summary report. The various activities have been summarized into the following topics:

- Ceremonies at presidential and/or ministerial levels;
- Roundtables, seminars, workshops, colloquia, panel discussions on the theme;
- Recognition awards for best food producers, etc;
- Agricultural/food exhibitions/fairs, including demonstrations of processed foods;
- Preparation of special meals for increased nutrition;
- Field visits to project sites or demonstration plots or field learning centres;
- Media coverage, press briefings, radio and TV talk shows including the WFD Teleconference from USA;
- The launching of projects or other food production activities;
- Tree/vegetables-planting & demonstration activities;
- Distribution of agricultural seeds and tools;
- The use of internet for provision of information, including NEMS;
- The organization of cultural programmes, e.g. traditional songs and dances, ballet;
- The dedication of sporting events, e.g. soccer, handball, walks or runs;
- Student/youth competitions, e.g. essays, posters, oratory;
- The promotion of home or school gardens;
- Book fairs on FAO publications;
- The organization of WAICENT demonstrations;
- Involvement of FAO Goodwill Ambassadors;
- Promotion of Alliances Against Hunger (IAAH/NAAH).

## **WFD Material**

The outputs on this year's theme included:

- A Circular State Letter to FAO members;
- An Information Note on the theme;
- A WFD/TeleFood 2005 poster on the theme;
- An issues leaflet on the theme;
- A video feature on the theme;
- A print Public Service Ad;
- Guidelines for WFD 2005;
- The FAO Director-General's WFD/TeleFood message and address;
- Audio features;
- The WFD 2005 website;
- A WFD message for the UN Secretary-General.

## **WFD Headquarters Observance**

This year's 25th ceremony of World Food Day at FAO Headquarters was held in the Green Room and included a WFD address by FAO Director-General, Dr. Jacques Diouf, who opened the ceremony and a speech by the Minister of Agricultural and Forestry Policies of the Italian Republic, His Excellency Giovanni Alemanno. The Permanent Observer of the Holy See, His Eminence Renato Volante read the Papal Message on WFD from His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI.

After a screening of a video feature on the World Food Day/TeleFood theme, the Director-General awarded the World Food Day Year 2005 medals to the first prize winners of the World Food Day poster competition organized by the United Nations Women's Guild.

The Director-General introduced Paraguay's First Lady, Her Excellency Ms. María Gloria Penayo de Duarte, nominated first Extraordinary Ambassador of FAO for her active role in several agricultural and food security initiatives in Paraguay, and two newly appointed FAO Goodwill Ambassadors: the world athletics champion, Ms. Beatrice Faumuina, from New Zealand and the Irish singer Mr. Ronan Keating.

The internationally-renowned Albanian violinist Anyla Kraya performed two masterpieces: "Meditation from Thais" by J. Massenet and "Kuiawiak" (mazourka) by H. Wieniawski. Pianist Fabiana Biasini accompanied the violinist. Paraguay's harpist, Ismael Ledesma, performed three folkloristic pieces from his country. Mr. Ronan Keating performed "a capella" an Irish folk song.

### **FAO Staff Coop Event**

The FAO Staff Coop realized several activities on Sunday, 16th October 2005 at Stadio delle Terme di Caracalla, Rome. This event was attended by about 2000 people. In the morning the FAO Staff Coop Athletics Club in collaboration with Gruppo Sportivo Bancari Romani organized sports/races for children (aged 5 – 13 years). The prizes were presented to children winning their races by the newly appointed FAO Goodwill Ambassador, world athletics champion from New Zealand, Ms. Beatrice Faumuina. Ethnic food, drinks and lunches, in particular Ethiopian/Eritrean, Caribbean, Sri Lankan, Indian, Chinese and Italian characterized the lunch. In the afternoon a multicultural show was realized. The participants came from Scotland, City of Rome Pipe Band (Scottish music), Sri Lanka, Pratiba Kala Institute (child dancers), Italy, FAO Coop Italian Dance Group, Philippines, Kayumanggi Dance Group, Africa, Wamde (music with drums, percussion, dancers and vocalist), Spain/L. America: Ñ Chorus, Panama, Ballet Internacional Viva Panama, Gianluca Romanazzo and Simbi Rugabira (duet), (International), Drums Jam Session Wamde (Italian/African).

A piano concert was another event organized by FAO Staff Coop on Friday, 21 October 2005 in the Hall of Flags with Maestro Jourdann Oboza Petalver from Philippines who played masterpieces from Bach, Beethoven, Debussy, Molina, Mussorgsky, among others.

### **Civil Society Forum on “Agricultures: our common heritage”**

A Civil Society Forum on “Agricultures: our common heritage” was held on Sunday, 16 October at 15.00 hrs in the Green Room after the World Food Day ceremony. The event was opened by Henri Carsalade, Assistant Director-General, Technical Cooperation Department. Other speakers were Sergio Marelli, President of the Association of Italian NGOs, Carol Kalafatic, International NGO/CSO Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) / Indigenous Peoples, Felice Mazza, Responsabile Dipartimento Salute e Sicurezza, Federazione Lavoratori Agro Industria, FLAI- CGIL, Paolo Rozera, Ad-Hoc Group of INGOs, Alvaro Mendez, International Youth Forum, Maschia Volodina, World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and Antonio Onorati, International Planning Committee on WFS Follow-up (IPC) International Focal Point. A short film on the food industry “Meatrix” was screened. The Director-General participated and intervened in this event.

### **FAO's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremony**

On Monday, 17 October 2006, a ceremony to mark FAO's 60th Anniversary was held in the FAO Plenary Hall. The following were the main speakers:

His Eminence Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Secretary of State of the Holy See  
H.E. Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, President of the Republic of Italy  
H.E. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil  
H.E. Ivo Miro Jovic, President of Bosnia and Herzegovina  
H.E. Festus Gotenbanye Mogae, President of the Republic of Botswana  
H.E. Oscar Nicanor Duarte Frutos, President of the Republic of Paraguay  
H.E. Janez Drnovsek, President of the Republic of Slovenia  
H.E. Hugo Chávez Friás, President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela  
H.E. Robert Gabriel Mugabe, Executive President of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

During the 60th Anniversary ceremony, the Director-General conferred the FAO Agricola medal to H.E. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil. In the afternoon, statements were made by other countries attending the ceremony as well as by representatives of Regional Economic Organizations invited for the occasion.

### **Brazilian Embassy Event on Fighting Hunger: the Brazilian Experience (*Fome zero*)**

Brazilian Embassy Event on Fighting Hunger: the Brazilian Experience (*Fome zero*), was held on Monday, 17 October in the Iran Room. Mrs. Eva O. Clayton, Assistant Director-General and Special Adviser to the Director-General of FAO opened the event and Ambassador Flávio Perri, Permanent Representative of Brazil to FAO made the introduction of this event. The speakers were:

Mr Fernando Haddad, Minister of Education of Brazil, Mr Miguel Rossetto, Minister of Agrarian Development of Brazil, Mr Patrus Ananias, Minister of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger of Brazil, Mr Andrew Macmillan, Director of the Field Operations Division of FAO. The event was preceded by a signing ceremony with Haiti and the African countries: Angola, Cape Verde and Mozambique on FAO and Brazil collaboration.

### **Northeast India Community Alliance Against Hunger Seminar**

The Northeast India Community Alliance Against Hunger Seminar was realized in two days: 24-25 October 2005 in the India Room. Welcoming remarks were held by Mrs Eva Clayton, Assistant Director-General, Special Adviser to the Director-General for World Food Summit Follow-up and the International Alliance Against Hunger (IAAH), FAO, with the following speakers: Mr. Moses Chalai, Project Director of the North-eastern Region Committee, Mr Dominic Jala, Archbishop of Shillong , Mr William "Willie" McCulloch, Presbyterian Church of Scotland, Mr Mark Lancaster, Coordinator, Hunger Project, Presbyterian Church of the USA, Mr Eckhard Hein, FAO, Chief, Resources and Strategic Partnerships Unit (TCDS), Mr Abdul Kobakiwal, FAO, Chief, TCOS, Mr Brian Thompson, FAO, Senior Officer, Nutrition Programme Service, ESNP, Mr Phrang Roy, IFAD Deputy President, on IFAD mandate and pillars activities, Dr. Francisco Espejo, WFP, Food for Education Mission , on WFP School Feeding Program, Mrs Eve Crowley, FAO, Senior Officer, Rural Institutions and Extension Service on IPGRI mandate and major activities, Mrs Magdalena Kropiwnicka, Action Aid International, Food and Hunger Policy Adviser on a survey on Women and access to land, Mr Peter Bazeley, Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya, Shillong, Mr. Pariat, Development Commissioner, Government of Meghalaya, Mr. Wahlang, IAS Agriculture Production Commissioner, Government of Meghalaya.

### **Ghana Alliance Against Hunger Meeting**

A Joint Meeting with International Alliance Against Hunger (IAAH) partners was realized on Friday 28 October 2005 in the Mexico Room. The welcoming remarks were given by Ms Eva Clayton, Assistant Director-General/Special Adviser to the Director-General for World Food Summit Follow-up and the International Alliance Against Hunger (IAAH), FAO. The speakers were Mrs Carla Benini, Representative of the US Mission to the UN agencies for Food and Agriculture,

Dr Amoako Tuffuor and Mrs Beatrice Serwahbonsu from Ghana, Mr Abdul Kobakiwal, Chief, SPFS - Managing and Coordination Service, Mrs Valeria Menza, Nutrition Officer, Nutrition Programmes Service, ESNP, Mr Phrang Roy, IFAD Assistant President.

## **WFD Observance at the United Nations**

The Liaison Office at the United Nations in New York (LONY) organized an Exhibit at the United Nations Headquarters from 10 to 21 October 2005, on the occasion of World Food Day. A short photo-Op was arranged at the Exhibit with special invitations to Canada as the country in which FAO was founded, to New Zealand as the country which was holding the Presidency of the FAO Conference and to Morocco as the country which held the Chair of FAO Council, whose Permanent Representatives participated in the event. As part of the Exhibit the special video produced for World Food Day was played continuously on a large screen and viewed by many. The message of the Director-General was also played. Many delegations, United Nations Staff, NGOs and others visited the Exhibit over the period.

## **Overview of World Food Day Selected Activities by Region**

This year was the 25th Anniversary of World Food Day and it was successfully observed in all the regions of the world based on reports received from 134 countries. Many countries celebrated the WFD as well as the 60th Anniversary of FAO by organizing a variety and quantity of activities: fora, symposia, conferences, workshops, colloquia, debates, fairs, exhibits, competitions, field visits, artistic performances, cooking demonstrations, awarding ceremonies among others. Support for WFD was provided by governments, ministries, UN Agencies, NGOs, universities, schools, other sectors of civil society, private sector and donor organizations. The donor organizations either participated or financed the WFD activities in several countries. They include the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) which participated in the ceremony of World Food Day in Guinea-Bissau, the World Bank and West African Development Bank (WADB) in Cameroon, the Nigerian Agricultural, Cooperative and Rural Development Bank (NACRDB) in Nigeria, representatives of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), EC Delegation, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Turkish International Cooperation Administration, the CNFA (Citizen Network for Foreign Affairs) in Georgia, EC Food Security Programme, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Moldova, the International Financial Organizations in Afghanistan, the Director General of RABOBANK International participated in a meeting in Spain. Among the financial institutions that provided resources for World Food Day activities include the International Bank for Development of ECOWAS and ECOBANK in Togo, the Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank, Sonali Bank, Janata Bank, Agrani Bank, Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC), the Bank of South Pacific (BSP) in Niue, the Scotiabank in Chile. The U.S. Agency for International Development (which is a member of the NAAH in Honduras) also provided resources.

## **World Food Day Activities in Africa**

National Alliances Against Hunger (NAAH) were promoted during the activities of World Food Day in some African countries including: Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Gambia. Many varied events were realized in Africa by the important action of the governments, ministries, UN Agencies, NGOs, and civil society: press conferences, awarding ceremonies, gala evenings, launching of projects, field visits, conferences, fairs, exhibits, various expositions, and discussions on several topics, including the fight against HIV/AIDS, a variety of competitions for students, debates such as that of the students at the College of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences of the University of Ghana, marches and parades, cultural concerts, shows, round tables, etc. Rural women's issues were also mentioned in some countries such as in the Republic of Congo. The World Food Day was also supported through extensive media coverage: the press, national and regional radios and TVs which produced a large variety of programmes.

### **Angola**

The World Food Day was celebrated at Uige, presided over by the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Dr. Zacharias Zambeny. During the celebration, the FAO Representative read the FAO Director-General's message. Outstanding activities were organized, such as agricultural fairs with exposition of several agricultural products from the harvest of the local crops, mainly banana, banana plantain, palmoil, smoked and dry fish, cassava, taro, fruits, etc.; messages related to the Rural Women's Day and the World Food Day were delivered among others, in front of the Government Palace; the gala night had the participation of national authorities (Vice-Ministers) and local authorities (Governor and Vice-Governors). An outstanding African musician, Mr Samangwana composed various songs for WFD, and a CD was realized in Portuguese, with translations into French, Spanish and English currently under preparation. Launching of TeleFood projects and field visits were part of the celebration. Angola Popular Television headquarters realized an open window which consisted of live TV discussions on rural women and food security and intercultural dialogue. Also, the 4<sup>th</sup> Forum on Rural Women at Luanda South, two expositions of agricultural and fishery products, discussion on HIV/AIDS by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) in collaboration with other ministries and musical/cultural concerts were organized. The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Eng. Gilberto Buta Lutucuta opened the Agriculture Fair in Luanda where all the provinces displayed their prominent crops and processed products. Along the WFD/TeleFood Campaign, courses on micro-finance were realized with the participation of the National Committee, and

field visits by Ministry of Fisheries to the Green Land project and to the Aquaculture complex. The WFD celebration was also a good opportunity for an active preparation for the National Alliance Against Hunger to be launched in the coming year.

### **Benin**

On the eve of World Food Day, the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries held an important press conference on the theme, "Agriculture and the dialogic of cultures." The official WFD ceremony was held at Oporto-Nove (capital of Benin). In addition to the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, the Foreign Minister, and the Trade Minister, the city officials and other notable guests attended the celebration together with the FAOR. An agricultural mini-fair was organized with the participation of farmers, exemplary producers and those involved in the rural development project of the Special Programme for Food Security. This was followed by a field visit at Djrègbè, some six kilometres from the capital, where the authorities and other personalities could appreciate the work by the water manufacturing plant which had introduced aromatic water by adding the essences of local plants to the water. The FAO Director-General's WFD message was broadcast widely through rural radios on the occasion of the ceremony.

### **Botswana**

The commemorations were held under the theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". Tlokweng village, in the South East, was chosen as the venue. This is one of the major villages in Botswana with four local authorities; namely, the District Administration, the Tribal Administration, the District Council and the Land Board. WFD 2005 commemorations were organized through a three-level committee structure. These were the National Steering Committee (NSC), the REC (the Regional Events Committee) and the Organizing Committee (OC). The commemorations of the WFD 2005 were officially opened by the Chairman of Ntlo ya Dikgosi, Kgosi Seepapitso IV. The official opening was performed in the presence of the Assistant Minister of Agriculture. Also, present were the Assistant FAO Representative in Botswana, the Deputy Kgosi Kgolo ya Batlokwa who welcomed all the guests and Kgosi Mosadi Seboko of Balete, Members of Parliament for Letlhakeng West and South East North, the Deputy Council Chairman for South East, various Heads of Departments in the district. At National level, the Department of Crop Production and Forestry, the Botswana Vaccine Institute (BVI), Department of Agricultural Research (DAR), the Department of Water Affairs, were represented. The observance was initiated with farm visits in piggery, beekeeping, poultry and horticulture. At the venue in Tlokweng, there were exhibitions of field crops such as maize, cowpeas and sorghum. Other exhibitors were the Department of Agricultural Research, Tomato 2000, Adams Apple and Bee products. The venue for the WFD events

are rotated among the six Agricultural Districts in Botswana. Each year, a village, town or city in a district is identified as a host for the WFD commemorations.

### **Burkina Faso**

The technical coordination of WFD/TeleFood 2005 National Committee was in the hands of the National Alliance Against Hunger (ANCF) with the support of the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Arts. On 16 October, the National Alliance Against Hunger organized WFD/TeleFood 2005 celebration at Park BÂNGR-WEOOGO in Ouagadougou in the province of Kadiogo. Private sector and agricultural professional organizations were involved in the manifestation. Mr Konaté Tiémoko, Minister of Animal Resources was the Chairman of the official ceremony. The mayor of Nongr-Masson district, the president of Koom Association, the president of the National Alliance Against Hunger and the Minister of Animal Resources gave their statements. Also, the FAO Director-General's WFD message was read by the FAOR. During the agricultural and forestry produce exhibition, prizes were awarded to the best exhibitors. Posters, the information note and leaflets on WFD/TeleFood 2005 theme: "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" from the FAO headquarters were distributed by the National Alliance Against Hunger and the FAOR to governmental and municipal technical services, as well as to the embassies and UN Agencies, NGOs and civil society organizations in Ouagadougou. TV, radio channel, newspapers and magazines covered the WFD/TeleFood 2005 ceremony. On 17 October 2005 a press conference was held in the "Salon International of Tourism and Hôtellerie" (SITHO). This press conference was animated by the president of SITHO and the National Alliance Against Hunger president. On 21 October, there was a public conference held in the press room of UNDP in Ouagadougou. The conference was animated by Prof. Basile L. Guissou, General Delegate of the National Centre of Scientific and Technologic Research (CNRST) on "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". The WFD/TeleFood celebration in Burkina Faso was a great success with the participation of women and youth.

### **Burundi**

The celebration was organized by the Minister of Agriculture, civil society, FAO and United Nations Agencies (WFP, UNICEF, UNESCO). The national press covered the launching of the food week on 11 October 2005 and the WFD official celebration on 18 October. During the field visits, the second Vice-President of Burundi planted potatoes. In her short speeches, she urged Burundi people to fight against forest fires. The official ceremony took place at the stadium of Rutana Region with the participation of important guests. The Administrator of Rutana, the Governor of the Region, the FAOR in Burundi and the second Vice-President of the Republic made their respective WFD statements. Bicycles, agricultural fertilizers and sugar were given to 18 good farmers from 6 different localities of Rutana. In the garden of the "Musée Vivant National" there was an

International food competition. The Science Agronomic Institute arranged 150 000 plants while the Ministry for the Territory Management and Environment provided 600 000 plants.

### **Cameroon**

Cameroon celebrated WFD/TeleFood 2005 together with the public sector, private sector, civil society and NGOs. The Responsible for the NAAH was present at the WFD ceremony. From 5 to 16 October there was a public awareness campaign in the entire country. The launching of the official observance was on 10 October at the locality of Mbankomo, Yaoundé. On this occasion, the mayor of Mbankomo read her message. During the celebration there was a parade of rural women. The Farmer's organization of Mbankono received agricultural materials as gifts from the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development. In the conference room of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, a press conference was held on the WFD/TeleFood 2005 theme: "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". A round table was organized on 13 October on the National TV (CRTV). Officers from the Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Development, Ministry of Fisheries and Animal Industries, and NGOs attended the round table. There was an exhibition of agricultural produce. On 16 October, the executive Director of WFP read his message. Also the FAO Director-General's message was read by the FAOR. The Primer Minister of Cameroon was at FAO Headquarters in Rome with the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for the ceremony on the occasion of the 60th Anniversary.

### **Central African Republic**

On the occasion of WFD 2005 celebration the message of FAO Director-General was read by the FAOR. The Minister of Agriculture made a statement. The President of the Central African Republic inaugurated a bridge at Boda to assist in infrastructure development and make the agricultural production of the area easily accessible to the local markets.

### **Chad**

The WFD/TeleFood National Committee under the supervision of the Minister of Agriculture celebrated WFD 2005 in several localities of the country. On 14 October 2005, the messages of the Minister of Agriculture and the FAO Director-General were read during the official celebration. There were demonstration booths on FAO projects, the fight against HIV/AIDS and on agricultural projects. This year the WFD/TeleFood National Committee selected the region of Kélo, with the Minister of Agriculture and the UNAIDS Programme among the main organizers of WFD. More than 2 500 visitors were registered during their participation in WFD activities such as debates, conferences,

cultural activities (theatre, films, folkloric dance) and site visits to projects and agricultural companies. The official ceremony was held in Kélo region school. There were 57 stands and 250 participants taking part in the demonstration. Also His Excellency the Prime Minister and Head of Government of Chad, Mr Pascal Yoadimnadj, in the name of the Head of State proceeded on launching of WFD/TeleFood 2005 with visits to the agricultural exhibit together with other officials of the government. Four women's groups were awarded as good producers: the rice production women's group (ORA), the mixed vegetables women's group (Drani Tanzou) and two poultry breeders (Ting-Zu de Zok-Goom) and (Souang Tabéré). TV, radio, newspapers and magazines provided media coverage for the ceremony.

### **Côte d'Ivoire**

During the celebration of WFD 2005, the FAOR read the FAO Director-General's message. Also speeches were made by the Mayor, General Council President, Organization Committee President, and representatives of the Ministry of Animal Production and the Ministry of Agriculture. An important round table was held on "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. There was a presentation of agricultural products by women farmers. There was also a field visit related to the theme of this year.

### **Democratic Republic of Congo**

On 17 October 2005, the Rep. Democratic of Congo organized the WFD/TeleFood celebration. Paul Musafiri, Minister of Agriculture made his statement. Also the FAO Director-General message was read and broadcasted on radio and TV. On the occasion of the official celebration, several VIPs from the World Bank, the was participation from the World bank, the African Development Bank, UNDP, UNHCR and FAO as well as the private sector, NGOs and Government agencies. There was food distribution to old people and also to 200 children. The Gardening Association organized a demonstration of folk dances by a multi-ethnic local group with respect to the WFD/TeleFood 2005 theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". There was an exhibition of market garden produces and breeding (poultry, pig). TV, Radio Channel, Newspapers and magazines covered all the ceremony. Activities were organized in all the 11 regions of the country with the support of the Agricultural Emergency Operation and Coordination Office. There was conference on the theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" and field visit. On 19 October 2005 the UN Agency Mission in the Democratic Rep. of Congo celebrated the 60th Anniversary of FAO within UN Week. The WFD TeleConference was planned to be shown at a suitable occasion.

## **Djibouti**

On 16 October 2005, WFD was celebrated in Djibouti with a ceremony organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and FAO in the presence of many important personalities, including the representatives of WFP and UNDP, as well as the presidents of cooperatives working in the field of agriculture, fishing and fish marketing. During the ceremony held at the Department of Agriculture, ten cooperatives were awarded with agricultural tools and accessories as well as materials for the hygienic treatment and maintenance for the fish vendors at the central market and at Balbala. These materials were provided through the Special Programme on Food Security project and a marketing project supported by FAO and the Islamic Bank. Furthermore, the Representative of FAO awarded a Certificate of Merit to the President of the agro-pastoral cooperative of Ali Faren, Mr Omar Bouh in view of the successful example demonstrated by a TeleFood project in terms of excellent water management use for integrated agricultural development in an arid environment.

## **Equatorial Guinea**

The main activity, in Malabo, was a gala dinner with musical and fashion show and awarding of certificates. The main focus of the celebration was to raise awareness on the problem of hunger in the world and on the fight against hunger and malnutrition. An agricultural fair was organized in Malabo with local foods prepared by the following ethnic groups: Anabones, Bisio, Bubi, Fang, and Ndowe.

## **Eritrea**

The commemoration of the ceremony was organized by the World Food Day Organizing Committee in Selam Hotel. The Minister for Agriculture gave the keynote speech, the FAO Representative delivered the message of FAO's Director-General, the UN Resident Coordinator in Eritrea delivered the message of Kofi Annan, UN Secretary General. Banners, posters, pictures, handouts, brochures and food display, etc., were produced and distributed on WFD and on the theme of the year. The Chairman of the WFD Organizing Committee gave a full page interview on the World Food Day event published in the weekly newspaper.

## **Ethiopia**

The celebration on this year's World Food Day theme was organized at the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR), which comprises 56 nationalities with various cultural interactions with diverse cereal crops. The celebration was conducted at Awassa Green Wood commercial farm and it was hosted by the owner, Ato Tadesse Belay. Awassa, the capital of the Southern Region is 275 Km from the nation's capital, Addis Ababa. The celebration was attended by the State President of SNNPR, the State Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD), the FAO Representative to AU and ECA, staff of FAO, staff of official guests, Ambassadors, staff from different UN agencies, NGOs, farmers from surrounding areas which numbered around 600 people (majority being surrounding farms). After a tour of the host farm, an exhibit was opened at the venue, for the invited guests and farmers. Various publications, brochures and products were demonstrated and on display with regard to nutrition, irrigation, food security, HIV/AIDS, gender equality. A highlight of the display was introducing different products derived from sweet potato, such as chips, bread, porridge, injera, salad. On the occasion, the translated speeches were distributed in Amharic. The event was broadcast through Ethiopian Television in Amharic, Tigrigna and English. Addis Zemen, the most circulated daily Amharic newspaper, provided an English version. The Ethiopian Herald had an article on its front page on this year's World Food Day event which was organized at Awassa.

## **Gambia**

The National Government and partners were the organizers of the activities: "Luncheon Sale" consisted of food and drink, fund-raising, an exhibition of products by various groups and organizations, a parade by school children and government staff, panel discussions, a video show and interview. The National Alliance Against Hunger (NAAH), participated in the World Food Day celebrations. TV and radio programmes broadcast all the events.

## **Ghana**

The Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) organized a discussion on "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue – Our Common Heritage: the Ghanaian Experience" at the MOFA Information Resource Center. The key speakers were Mr A.A. Osei Frimpong, Director, Extension Services Directorate (MOFA) and Dr Kyei, the guests were MOFA, FAO, university students, high school students, NGOs, farmers and research institutions. Mr Kwaku Owusu-Baah, Chief Director, Ministry of Food and Agriculture chaired this

event. The College of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences of the University of Ghana hosted a debate between students from the University of Ghana, Legon, Accra and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi. The flag raising ceremony to celebrate the World Food Day 2005 and the 60th Anniversary of FAO was held at the Forecourt of the State House, in Accra. The Ministers of Food and Agriculture and of Fisheries (Hon. Ernest Akobuor Debrah and Hon. Gladys Asmah) jointly officiated the ceremony. The WFD had wide radio coverage through a talk show programme on the University of Ghana's Radio Universe and the Ghana Television Breakfast Show with the guests from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA), Ministry of Fisheries and the FAO Representation.

## **Guinea**

The celebration of WFD/TeleFood 2005 was held in the Region of Boke on 16 October 2005. The FAO Director-General's message was read by the FAOR. There was another message read by the Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture who was the President of the WFD/TeleFood 2005 Campaign in Guinea. During the celebration, there were demonstrations by a local comedian group and awarding of prizes to the best regional agricultural producers. More than 30 stands were visited by those taking part in the celebration. The official launching of the WFD/TeleFood Campaign was on 2 September by the Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, at Conakry. FAO Goodwill Ambassador Mory Kanté (Singer and "kora" player) and Bangoura Balafon (comedian) participated in the activities by demonstrating their talents. The rural radio of Boke and the communal radio of Kamsar FM broadcasted all the manifestation. There was an agricultural exhibition from farmer's organization of Boké. Also the national press and two web sites disseminated all the activities. Banners, in which the International Alliance Against Hunger was mentioned, were produced.

## **Guinea-Bissau**

The Bafata region was the official place for the celebration of this year's ceremony in Guinea-Bissau. Mr João de Carvalho, the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, chaired the ceremony. There was a visit to the village of Sintchã Django in which FAO and another UN projects (APALCOF) participated. The following personalities participated in the ceremony: the Bafata's region Governor, Mr Eduardo Mama, the FAOR, Mr Sotondji N. Dazogbo, UNDP/RR, Mr Michel Balima, the Minister of Social Solidarity, Family and Fight against Poverty, Ms Eugénia Saldanha, the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr João de Carvalho and the President of the APALCOF project, Ms Adja Djenabu Baldé.

## **Kenya**

The National World Food Day Committee organized tours, farm visits and demonstrations, which consisted of visits to various crops and the conservation of agriculture, at Kakamega District. The Kenya Freedom from Hunger Council, the AIDS Council and the Farming Community supported this event. Also, Citizen TV produced a programme by using video tape footage from FAO.

## **Lesotho**

The World Food Day celebrations in Lesotho were held in all the ten administrative districts. These were organized by the District Agricultural Offices with the support of the National World Food Day Organizing Committee. The district events started in Butha-Butha district on 12 October 2005 and ended in Thaba-Tseka District on 8 November 2005. The guest of honour in all the district events was the Assistant Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Hon. Mr Molise Tseole.

The Main event was celebrated on 20 October 2005 in Qoqolosing area of the Leribe district. Present at this occasion were the Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Hon. Dr Daniel Rakoro Phororo, Minister of Forestry and Land Reclamation, Hon. Mr Ralechate Mokose, South African High Commissioner to Lesotho, His Excellency William Leslie, FAO Representative, Mr Castro Camarada, WFP Country Director, Mr Techeste Zergaber, parliamentarians, principal chiefs, senior government officials, NGOs, school children, farmers and the general public. The Director-General's message for the day was read by the FAO Representative, Mr Castro Camarada while the keynote speech was made by the Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Hon. Dr D.R. Phororo. Other than the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, the main government institutions that participated in this year's celebrations were the Ministry of Forestry and Land Reclamation, Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Food and Nutrition Coordinating Office (Prime Minister's Office) and Ministry of Education. The occasion was celebrated with song and dance from different cultural groups and school choirs. A range of exhibitions were on display and awards were given to individuals and groups that had outstanding expositions. There were also awards for the best fed babies organized/sponsored by the Food and Nutrition Coordinating Office.

## **Liberia**

The World Food Day was held on Sunday, 26 November 2005 due the General and Presidential elections. Selected farmers from seven rural counties (provinces) gathered at Bentol City, Rural Montserrado County where they displayed their farm produce for the

public. High profile representatives from government ministries and agencies, UN agencies, diplomats and farmers' organizations had the opportunity to make far-reaching statements during the indoor programme. Also a field visit to one of FAO's supported projects in Kingsville, Montserrado County was organized. The 15 acres swamp rice project is implemented through Farmers Against Hunger, a local NGO. Female farmers of the National Women Commission of Liberia (NAWOCOL), and Christian Humanitarian Service (CHS), two local NGOs, took part in a street parade in Harper City, Maryland County. Three of the leading newspapers (Inquirer, News and Daily Observer) in the country with a circulation of over 18 000 copies, published articles on WFD/TeleFood before and after the official celebrations. The radio station of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) produced a one-hour panel discussion focussing on the World Food Day/TeleFood theme, "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". Promos and jingles were also aired periodically on the national radio station, Liberia Broadcasting System (LBS), and privately-run stations, Star Radio, Radio Veritas and the Ducor Broadcasting System. The General Chairman of WFD/TDF-2005, Deputy Agriculture Minister for Planning and Development, Edwin Kennedy Tetteh, held two major press conferences.

### **Madagascar**

The WFD/TeleFood 2005 activities in Madagascar were observed with great success in all the areas of the country. On 15 and 16 October major celebrations were held at Fenerive Est in Analanjirofo area where a field visit to an FAO SPFS project (rice-growing, livestock and aquaculture) was held and special meals prepared in collaboration with a civil society organization, and also included the promotion of TeleFood as well as on 21-22 October in the Analamanga Area, the capital region of the country. The official ceremony was organized with the patronage of the President of the Republic and the sponsorship of the Primer Minister. There was also an exhibition, dance and lunch. Among the activities held included: cycling, basket ball, foot-ball, and a film on HIV/AIDS. On 21 October at Smart Tanjombato in the Analamanga region, Mimi- there was a fair, and podium with the participation of Benja Gasy. Competitions for students and youth were held in all the areas to focus on speech and song and traditional dances (Vakodrazana) were the main activities for WFD 2005 celebration. On 22 October at Smart Tanjombato, there was a cross- country race, and tee-shirts selling as part of the TeleFood promotion.

### **Malawi**

The World Food Day was launched on 18 October with Mr Mwadiwa, Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security as the chief guest. Aside from the speeches, an agricultural display on farm activities was held, attended by farmer organizations, Zomba District Hospital and Bunda College of Agriculture. Other NGOs

who put up displays included: World Vision International, PLAN Malawi, NASFAM, Self-Help Development International.

A cultural presentation on farming and HIV/AIDS was dramatized. Awards and gifts presentations were a major part of the day's activities. Aside from the government's Agricultural and Fisheries Departments, a whole range of civil society organizations participated in WFD such as, Oxfam, Action Aid, Save the Children, among others. Private sector groups participated by providing gifts to farmers such as Monsanto, Omega Transport and Logistics, RAB Processors, Yara, and SeedCo. Sasakawa Global 2000 also donated 10 bicycles as additional gifts to the farmers. MBC Radio 1 broadcast information prior to, during and after the WFD activities.

## **Mali**

World Food Day/Telefood and the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FAO were celebrated with events on 15 October on the occasion of Rural Women's Day and on 16 October for World Food Day at Dioila in the area of Koulikoro. Among the main guests were the Minister for the promotion of Women, Children and Family, as well as the Minister in charge of Food Security in the Commission on Food Security attached to the President's Office, the Prefect and Mayor of Dioila, the President of the Chamber of Agriculture and the head of the National Federation of Rural Women. The other guests included representatives from the Embassies of Burkina Faso and South Africa, Lions Club International, and UNIDO. During the WFD ceremony, the Minister for Food Security announced the creation of a National Alliance against Hunger. The FAO Representative read the Director-General's message which was also broadcast on the eve of WFD on national television and on the radio. A cultural performance was held during the ceremony and a press conference on the WFD theme was held immediately following the events. A field visit was organized to the farmers' field school and the exhibit on the FAO projects (Special Programme on Food Security and the Global Integrated Pest Management Facility) and the agricultural products produced by the women, such as, Shea butter cream and soaps, and various fruit drinks, from ginger, tamarind and honey to other forest fruits. Other WFD promotional materials included t-shirts, caps and a scarf with the WFD logo. The media coverage (television, press and radio) was successful and effective. From 10 to 14 October, public service advertisements were broadcast on television and on the radio as well as a demonstration of Waicent in the library of the Representation of FAO was held.

## **Mauritania**

The ceremony was held on 17 October at the House of Representatives. On the occasion of the WFD 2005 ceremony abundant documentation on WFD and TeleFood 2005, the FAO Director-General's message in Arabic and French and press copies on FAO's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary were distributed to the attendance. The national media covered all the WFD 2005 activities with a huge success. Various conferences and debates on the WFD theme were held, involving civil society organizations and students. A soccer tournament was organized for students and youth with the collaboration of the various UN agencies, and a wide distribution of local promotional materials was also done, including t-shirts. There were in vesture of the National Center of Studies and Veterinary Research, the Diawling National Park, Mr Mohamed Abdellahi Ould Maouloud, Chief of Plants protection Service and Ms Nancy Abeïderrahmane, Director of Dairy Health (TIVISKI). For TeleFood, an important dinner was organized by the Lion's Club of Nouakchott.

## **Mozambique**

The main ceremony, held in the province of Niassa, was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture with the Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition (SETSAN) and the provincial directorate playing a lead role. The main ceremony included speeches, traditional dances and cultural activities, a visit to a trade fair and fruit tree plantation, and the cooking of local dishes. An agro-processing machine was also exhibited during the ceremony. An award and gifts were provided, with the best farmers' association receiving a power tiller, seeds for maize, horticulture and cassava trees. Other local ceremonies were held, including in the province of Manica, with the involvement of an FAO field project.

## **Namibia**

Apart from the National WFD/TeleFood Committee, 13 WFD sub-national committees at regional level prepared and organized WFD in their respective regions with the support of the National Committee and especially the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. At these events, the message of the President of the Republic and the message of the FAO Director-General were read. The main focus on the WFD was the awareness campaign which was done through the National Television (NBC) as well as the National Radio which broadcasted and conducted interviews in seven local languages. A Gala Dinner was organized for TeleFood under the Patronage of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia.

## **Niger**

From 14 to 17 October the Government of Niger organized the WFD/TeleFood 2005 celebration. The activities included a drawing competition at primary school level on this year's WFD theme, an open day on FAO projects for food security, a conference-debate at "Margou" room of Sofitel Hotel in Gaweze on the WFD theme, "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" with the participation of students and one expert from Senegal. The FAOR elaborated a brochure on FAO activities in Niger for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary ceremony. National TV "Télé Sahel", "TAL TV" and private TV "Ténére", National Radio "La Voix du Sahel" and private radios (Anfani, Ténére et R&M), newspapers and magazines covered all the WFD/TeleFood activities from 14 to 17 October 2005.

## **Nigeria**

The main official activity was held at the capital city of Abuja. The ceremony was chaired by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD). Among the many dignitaries present at the occasion were: Representative of the Minister of Federal Capital Territory, Representative of the Minister of Water Resources, Minister of State for Agriculture and Rural Development, Permanent Secretary (FMARD), Representatives of UN Agencies, Chairman of Rice Farmers' Association of Nigeria (RIFAN), Heads of Research Institutes and Academies, NGOs, farmers. The message of the Director-General was read by the FAO Representative in Nigeria. Also, an agricultural exhibition was organized with awarding certificates to the three best exhibitors, at the Old Parade Ground, Abuja with the participation of authorities, research institutes, NGOs, OXFAM GB, farmers, farmers' associations and an FAO project. A quiz competition was realized among seven secondary schools in the Federal Capital Territory and a Symposium. WFD posters, brochures and banners were displayed at the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, United Nations House, FAO Office and at the symposium and exhibition venue. The events at the national level and in the 36 States were widely publicized by the print media, TV and radio. The WFD statement by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, WFD message of the FAO Director-General were televised in the national network service of the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) and African Independent Television (AIT).

## **Republic of Congo**

From 13 to 20 October the FAOR with the collaboration of WFP, organized a WFD video spot for growing public awareness on national TV. During the meeting to prepare for WFD activities, a National Alliance Against Hunger Club was created (ANF). The UN, Government of Congo, NGOs and associations organized the UN week. Also the International Rural Women's Day was held at Kombé region on 15 October with the

launching of maize, soja and groundnut fields. On 21 October there was an official opening of water cisterns at Talangai. On 28 October, there was a conference debate on the WFD/TeleFood 2005 theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" with the participation of the Minister of Agriculture, national officials, NGOs, the private sector and the media. On 11 November the message of the government and an exhibition on agricultural produce was held at Ministry of Agriculture. Also the FAO Director-General's message was broadcast on TV and Radio. The National TV transmissions were in Arabic, French and Spanish. There was a documentary and a film on "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue".

### **Rwanda**

On 7 October 2005 a press conference was organized by the Minister of Agriculture to draw public attention to agriculture and Rwandan culture. The celebration of WFD 2005 was held at Butaro district in the Province of Ruhengeri. Also, a cultural evening was held in Kigali on the WFD 2005 theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue", animated by the cultural band Mutabaruka. The Minister of Agriculture, the Minister of Youth, Culture and Sport and the Minister of Animal Resources were the main promoters. The Minister of Agriculture in collaboration with the FAOR in Rwanda celebrated the WFD from 10 to 16 October 2005. The official WFD enclosure was held on 17 October at Ruhengeri Province.

### **Sao Tome and Principe**

The main WFD event was celebrated through a Round Table Meeting which focused on the problematic of rural development, attended by government officials led by the Director of Agriculture and the Director of Livestock, civil society organizations, UN agencies and farmers' groups led by the President of the National Federation of Farmers. The debate of the Round Table was covered by TVS, the National Radio and Television of Sao Tome and Principe, which also featured World Food Day and FAO's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in its broadcasts.

### **Senegal**

On 17 October, Senegal celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WFD at Diourbel region and launched the UN official weekly celebration of the UN's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Agriculture and the UNDP Representative in Senegal made statements during the ceremony. The message of the FAO Director-General was read by the FAOR, Mr Amadou Ouattara. During the ceremony there were folkloristic and musical performances and dances. A local food competition was

organized by women's groups at the Centre Régional d'Enseignement Technique et Féminin (CRETf), in Diourbel. Prizes were awarded to the food competition winners. A field visit was held in the Rural Community of Ngohé which is a village in the east of Diourbel region. The visit included an exhibit of local foods and traditional farm tools (which constitute the heritage of the Baol baols) and was organized with stands in the "théâtre de verdure". This place was transformed, for the occasion, into an agricultural site. The Ministers of State and Agriculture participated in the event. The observance of WFD was extended also to all of the other regions (10) of the country. Radios broadcasted interviews and WFD 2005 activities in Senegal and national newspapers released articles on WFD/TeleFood events.

### **Seychelles**

The 'Seychelles' Nation', state newspaper, carried a spread in a series of articles and the message of the FAO Director-General along with other reflections. Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation TV and radio produced information programmes. Also, various activities were organized to celebrate World Food Day such as school competition on culture and agriculture, and several exhibitions of traditional, under-utilized and neglected crops, traditional cultural accessories used in agriculture, several displays of traditional food preservation methods and processes, craft items produced using agricultural raw material, traditional pest and disease control methods used in agriculture, traditional livestock breeds, traditional fishing methods, the use of water in agricultural development, etc..

### **Sierra Leone**

Groups of NGOs, civil society and government line ministries officially launched the Sierra Leone Alliance Against Hunger (SLAAH) during the opening ceremony of the World Food Day. Groups of NGOs, civil society, government line ministries, as well as Women's Organization, Farmers' Group, and FAO were present at the Atlantic Hall, National Stadium Hostel in Freetown. The Sierra Leone Alliance Against Hunger participated in the WFD activities by organizing with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS) a farmers' march/parade. The World Food Day Committee also realized other activities, such as a quiz competition where five high schools were involved in issues of agriculture and food security, a press conference and an agricultural and cultural show where H.E. the President of the Republic, the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General, the Minister of Fisheries, and the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security were involved.

## **South Africa**

The Department of Agriculture, with the participation of IFSNP Social Cluster Task Team and FAO, celebrated the National World Food Day in Kimberley, Northern Cape Province. It was estimated that about 3 600 persons attended the event. Various organizations in the agricultural sector were also present and exhibited their work in the exhibition marquee. The effort for this event was focused on public awareness regarding the effects of poverty on food insecurity in South African/African nations. The highlights of the World Food Day included three main events in relation to the theme of the World Food Day: organization of a march to the venue of the WFD celebrations, formation of a human chain and building of a food mountain. A number of NGOs, the private sector, government departments, private individuals and twenty organizations pledged to donate food that would later be distributed through charity organizations to the needy communities. High profile officials from within the government and a high-level representation from Northern Cape Province Members of the Executive Council (MEC), as well as the FAO Representative in South Africa were present to celebrate the event. Cabaret singers performed versions of world-renowned songs of South African / African artists. The South African Malaika Group took part in this activity. During the celebrations, an exhibition with stands from different South African cultural and ethnic groups that are characterized by typical traditions of food production and consumption habits displayed different types of food, menus / meals. Also, the National World Food Day in Kimberley was announced through radio stations before and after the national event and reported on local and national TV news. The FAO Representative in South Africa was also interviewed by the local radio station. The media covered the whole week of celebrations throughout all Provinces of the country. Other activities were the launching of food security projects by various Provincial Departments and the conduct of seminars, World Food Day Commemoration activities through IFSNP structure in several localities, such as cultural activities, food security awareness campaigns, promotion of indigenous food project at Mngqesha Rarabe, Eastern Cape, King William's Town.

## **Swaziland**

World Food Day was observed with the involvement of government ministries, UN agencies, civil society organizations and the local chiefs and other women, youth and students from the constituency where the event was organized. The Minister of Agriculture delivered the keynote speech and the FAOR read the Director-General's WFD statement at the event. Token prizes were awarded to local projects and refreshments were offered to the participants. Swaziland Broadcasting & Information Station covered the programme on the news and provided other information on the events.

## **Togo**

Ministers, National officers, FAO staff, the diplomatic corps, UN staff, the press, private sectors, NGOs and farmers participated in the official ceremony of WFD 2005. The Togo national TV broadcasted all the WFD events, the message of the FAO Director-General and the UN Secretary-General. Debates on the WFD and TeleFood theme, reporting on the WFD celebration around the capital Lome and another region of Togo marked the programme of newspapers, Radio Kara and national TV. There was a special song for TeleFood. A Telefood caravan was organized on 15 October 2005 through the main street of Lome. Two cities of the interior of the country also organized caravans to mobilize public awareness on the WFD theme.

## **Uganda**

The World Food Day was one of the major country-wide week-long events planned by the UN Agencies in Uganda commemorating the 60<sup>th</sup> UN Anniversary. Essay and Art Competitions reflecting on this year's WFD theme and talk shows on "Food Security" on various TV and FM stations were organized by the Ministry of Education in collaboration with FAO and the National Organizing Committee (NOC). The Ministry of Agriculture, FAO, NOC and Bugiri District Local Government established school gardens to empower the youth to take the lead in food security activities. Prior to WFD, visits to a model village were done to demonstrate best practices reflecting the WFD theme and production using appropriate technologies and exhibitions established at the National venue and other exhibitions related to production and food security. Also, Uganda participated in the WFD Teleconference.

## **United Republic of Tanzania**

The government organized the activities to celebrate World Food Day: a visit to projects, a ceremony with speeches and agricultural exhibits. On this occasion the importance of agricultural mechanization and the use of tractors were promoted. Also, FAO and the government participated in the press conference.

## **Zambia**

Poems, drama and speeches by the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives characterized the main activity. Livestock Development Trust organized a field day with a display of livestock and implements and arranged a demonstration on their use. A press conference was organized at FAO. Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation transmitted the FAO WFD documentary and WFD launch by the Minister of Agriculture.

## **Zimbabwe**

The National World Food Day Committee organized a march through the capital city, Harare, and gathered at the National Botanic Gardens where food from different cultural groups and wild fruits were displayed. Small-grain seeds (sorghum, finger and pearl millets) were also exhibited. The FAO Representative in Zimbabwe read the FAO Director-General's message. The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture read a speech on behalf of the Vice-President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, highlighting the need to commercialize the use of small grains, and challenged the milling industry to create a formal market for small-grain products as they offer nutritious food, especially for people living positively with AIDS.

## **World Food Day Activities in Asia and the Pacific**

A high profile public event, the Asia-Pacific regional observance of World Food Day was organized by the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok on 17 October. Chaired by HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, two Thai Privy Councillors and the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives were in attendance together with senior government staff, Bangkok-based ambassadors of member countries and heads of development partners and UN system organizations, representatives from academic and research institutes, civil society and the media. The keynote speech on the 2005 WFD theme was delivered by Hon. Misa Telefoni Retzlaff, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Samoa. Model farmers from four countries in the region - India, Mongolia, Thailand and Vanuatu - were honoured by FAO for outstanding achievement in various selected fields, e.g. agricultural research, mixed crop and livestock farming, highland agriculture and aquaculture. This annual event attracted extensive media coverage, including on national TV and radio channels.

At the national level, Government, Ministries, UN Agencies and NGOs organized and supported the World Food Day activities with the important collaboration and participation of civil society. In many Asian countries, national and international dignitaries, national and international NGOs, UN agencies, private sector, students, and the mass media participated in an official ceremony. In Bangladesh a National Seminar was organized by the Government. In Cambodia, national and international dignitaries, national and international NGOs, UN agencies, private sector, students, and the mass media participated in an official ceremony. Government officials and personnel from diplomatic missions and UN Agencies visited a project site at Sittway, Rakhine State, Myanmar. In Cambodia, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in collaboration with the FAO Representation and the WFP country office organized and hosted the

celebration of the WFD and also the TeleFood campaign parade under the slogan, “March for Alliance Against Hunger”. In Democratic People's Republic of Korea, thousands of volunteers worked in the farms on Sunday, 16 October, to help the farmers with harvest and threshing activities, on the occasion of World Food Day.

## **Bangladesh**

The Government of Bangladesh organized a National Seminar on “Prosperous Agriculture through Intercultural Dialogue” and a three day-food festival in BARC, Dhaka. The WFD was widely supported in particular by producing and distributing materials such as: 1 500 t-shirts, 20 000 posters, 1 000 brochures, 10 000 folders for publicity, 10 000 copies of booklets and 10 000 stickers for TeleFood. Also, a supplement had been published in four English daily newspapers and in one Bengali newspaper which contained messages from the President of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Prime Minister, Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Food and Disaster Management, Minister for Fisheries and Livestock, State Minister of Agriculture, Secretary of Agriculture, and the FAO Representative in Bangladesh.

## **Bhutan**

World Food Day was celebrated at the Yebilabtsa Middle Secondary School in Zhemgang. The Chairperson of World Food Day Committee and the Coordinator, School Agriculture Programme, Ministry of Education gave their statements. The FAO Representative in Bhutan read the FAO Director-General’s message. With “Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue” as the theme of this year’s WFD, poster drawing, essay writing and quiz competitions were held among the students. The distribution of prizes was organized at the end of the ceremony.

## **Cambodia**

On the occasion of the commemoration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the foundation of FAO and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary observance of the World Food Day, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) in close collaboration with the FAO Representation and the World Food Programme Country Office, organized and hosted the celebration of the WFD. The ceremony was observed at the Grand Meeting hall of the MAFF where senior officials of the Royal Government of Cambodia and representatives of UN Agencies, embassies, donor agencies, international organizations (IOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs), private sector and media as well as students from various academic institutions attended the ceremony and joined the TeleFood campaign parade which followed the ceremony and the visit to the Agriculture Fair. The message of the Director-General of FAO was delivered by Mr Tsukasa Kimoto,

FAO Representative in Cambodia among the several speeches, including a key note address by the Minister of MAFF. There were 144 officials and representatives who attended the ceremony and about 700 students from the Royal University of Agriculture and Prek Leap National School of Agriculture joined the TeleFood march, which was organized by MAFF, FAO and WFP under the slogan "March for Alliance against Hunger" along Preah Norodom and Preah Sihanouk Boulevards in Phnom Penh. Several large banners with slogans in both Khmer and English languages were displayed during the march in order to raise the public and media attention and four slogans had been selected by the WFD/TeleFood Organizing Committee. In addition, several placards and FAO posters were exposed by the marchers during the walk. The WFD ceremony and the TeleFood parade had been widely covered and broadcasted by various TV and radio channels in French language by Rendez Vous Programme of the TVK. For raising public awareness of the 2005 WFD celebration, FAO in collaboration with the Media Unit of the MAFF, had used the World Food Day 2005 video spot and feature for this year's TV programme in Cambodia. The video material (around 4 minutes) had been dubbed into Khmer language and broadcasted by three TV channels namely National Television (TVK), Bayon and Apsara. The FAO Representation had also distributed widely the WFD/TeleFood information kit including the FAO Director-General's message for WFD 2005 (including in Khmer version) and the World Food Day leaflet.

## **China**

Qujing City, where numerous ethnical minorities live, was selected as the venue for the World Food Day celebration, to highlight the importance of inter-cultural dialogue in terms of agricultural development. This event was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and the local government. A number of senior government officials delivered respective statements in relation to this year's WFD theme. The FAO Representative in China delivered the FAO Director-General's message and about 600 people participated in the event. Also, some exhibition of local minority cultures and agriculture was organized and followed by a field visit. Another celebration was held in Chengdu, the capital city of Sichuan Province.

## **Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

The WFD ceremony was held in Kobangsan Guest House, to launch the celebration. The participants were heads and officers-in-charge of UN Agencies and national project authorities, including the National Committee for FAO, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Land and Environmental Protection, Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Academy of Forest Sciences, and the Double-Cropping Institute. During the ceremony, a presentation on current FAO activities and programmes in various fields, a short film and photo exhibition of current FAO programmes in the

country were realized. The FAO National Committee and academic institutions organized seminars and visits to the FAO project site: Hongwon Marine Polyculture Hatchery, which was also visited by senior officials of the DPR Cabinet and the Ministry and Province, and Ryongchon Farm. Thousands of volunteers worked in the farms on Sunday, 16 October, to help the farmers with harvest and threshing activities, on the occasion of the World Food Day.

## **India**

FAO and the Indian Council on Agricultural Research (ICAR) organized the WFD main programme in New Delhi which was chaired by the Director General of ICAR. The meeting had a presentation on Indian agriculture, visit to a museum and an award ceremony. FAO and Gandhi Smriti realized an essay and elocution contest for Fight Against Hunger Trophy in which 55 essays from 25 Delhi schools participated. Also, the Post-Graduate School organized a colloquium on "Food and Nutrition Security-A Collective Vision" at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi; 500 farmers, farm women and rural youth took part in field visits, training programmes, animal health camp and farmers' fair in a village in Khijarpur, Haryana and, also, at KVK Shikhopur Haryana for sharing farmers experience in beekeeping, dairy farming, tractor repairing. A workshop on Plant Variety Protection was held in Pantnagar. AME Foundation organized WFD in seven locations: Bellary/ Raichur, Bijapur, Dharmapuri, Mdanapalli, Mehbubnagar, Tiruchi and Bangalore with 2 100 participants, including officials, farmers, scholars, scientists, teachers, students, media, bankers, and civil society. The events were covered by national and state daily newspapers, India Radio and TV channels.

## **Indonesia**

The ceremony was organized in Gazibu Park, Bandung, West Java. Several ministries attended the ceremony. The Minister of Agriculture opened this event on the President's behalf and the FAO Representative read the FAO Director-General's message. Also, a local bazaar and seed distribution in Serang, Banten and the Indonesian Food Expo 2005 in Gazibu Park, Bandung, West Java were organized by the Ministry of Agriculture. World Food Day Farmers' and Fishermen's Movement of Indonesia held a ceremony, exhibition, and farmers and fishers' workshop in Negara, Bali. Another exhibition was held by the government in Bandung city for one week and TeleFood souvenirs made locally were sold.

## **Japan**

This year's activities focused on hunger in Africa: Sudan, interview with Ms Abe, Kaori (TCEO); Niger, with data provided by Mr Josserand, Henri (ESCG); graph of sub-Saharan population and crop production from FAOSTAT, map's data from GIEWS (countries facing Emergency), TeleFood project collaboration by Japanese NGO SUPA, TeleFood ad for fund-raising at postal office. Also, events were organized at Yokohama International Festival by Yokohama City, YOKE and other NGOs; Children's International Conference for Food Security which was followed by discussions with the audience and advisers and FAO's message, organized by FAO Supporters, LOJA; a TeleFood Charity Concert featuring "Madame Butterfly" by Ms Minako Shioda and piano by FAO Vice-Goodwill Ambassador Ms Rie Niishimoto, Korean Violinist, with M. Shin as guest with Junior musical chorus group.

The media covered the events, for example Roberto Baggio's press conference organized by Nippon Broadcasting Systems was covered by most major sports newspapers; Asahi News Star TV talk show organized by MAFF, Asahi News Star, FAO; Yomiuri AD campaign was a full page ad on the WFD; Mainichi Elementary Children's and Junior High News, Metropolis (English free paper), TeleFood Charity Concert covered by Japan Agricultural News, among others. All the events were supported also through materials prepared and distributed such as: flyers, poster and brochure for WFD in Japanese version and events' notice and sticker.

### **Lao, People's Democratic Republic**

The Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and the Vice-Prime Minister opened the celebration at the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Vientiane. The official opening was followed by an agricultural fair. An FAO stand was organized with information about FAO, its history and activities, especially in Lao PDR. Lao National Television produced an information programme on World Food Day in which the FAO Representative was interviewed. The FAO Office in Lao PDR produced a special World Food Day Supplement, which was published by the Vientiane Times and Pasaxon newspapers.

### **Mongolia**

The opening event and meeting were organized at Byanhoshuu district with a field visit to vegetable farmers' families and their gardens/fields, free flour distribution to vulnerable and women-headed households, demonstration and vegetable gardening expo among Ger district's vulnerable households and a special programme dedicated to World Food Day. The FAO Director-General's WFD message was delivered on National TV.

## **Myanmar**

World Food Day commemoration was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Education. The Prime Minister gave the opening statement and the FAO Representative read the FAO Director-General's WFD message. Also, a prize awarding ceremony for outstanding farmers from agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishery sectors and a prize awarding for WFD essay competition to the State school students, were organized. Government officials and personnel from diplomatic missions and UN Agencies visited a project site at Sittway, Rakhine State. The press covered the World Food Day through many newspaper and magazine articles in English and Myanmar Language. Also materials on WFD were produced, such as FAO publications, poster and video tape by Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Myanmar language.

## **Nepal**

The national WFD committee arranged events in 72 out of 75 districts with essay contests involving youth and students, farmers awarded for best performances, and the recognition of outstanding farmers and producers at national level, including an exhibit and district and national level newspaper coverages and radio broadcasts. The message of the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives was broadcast nationwide. Appreciation Letters were presented for 25 years of involvement in WFD.

## **Pakistan**

Environ Monitor, the largest environmental journal of Pakistan, arranged the International Food and Beverages Conference and Expo at Lahore in relation with World Food Day. The official World Food Day celebration was held at the National Agricultural Research Centre Auditorium organized by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock and FAO. Pakistan TV (PTV) broadcasted an information programme and banners describing this year's WFD theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" were produced.

## **Philippines**

The 16<sup>th</sup> National Statistics celebration on 3 October and exhibit for WFD as well as an exhibit on Consumer Welfare including a series of seminars were held at the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM). The main WFD National Symposium was held in BSWM. It focused on biotechnology, as well as the tourism potential of the Ifugao rice terraces, and contained a cultural presentation. A week-long WFD exhibit was organized at the lobby of the Department of Agriculture. A cooking demonstration on vegetables,

fruits and meat, distribution of planting materials and vegetable seeds at the Bureau of Plant Industry Compound, lecture-demonstration on Virgin Coconut Oil, meat and fish-processing were among the topics covered in various national activities. A poster-making contest and the awarding ceremony for the poster-making contest on 26 October closed the National activities. Other regional activities included market displays and exhibits, various discussions and fora, a meat safety consciousness week, regional nutrition awarding ceremony, consumers exhibit, quiz bee and poster making, fish conservation week, and media activities.

### **Sri Lanka**

To celebrate World food Day several activities were realized in Sri Lanka by the Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with FAO at the Ministry Auditorium: technical presentations, cultural dances, stage dramas, video presentations, prize giving and lunch for everybody; cultural shows, stalls, demonstration plots of local vegetables, cereals and root crops/tubers and paddy varieties by Mahasen Harithayaya, an NGO, at the Hingurakgoda TeleFood project site; interactive workshop by Lions Club of Kandy; farmers' field school by Saviya Development Foundation. Daily News reported that two more (irrigation) tanks had been renovated to mark World Food Day: peasants were requested by Swarna Hansa Foundation to inspect the dam and find a suitable location to lay the new concrete iron cast sluice made in Colombo and taken to the local area in Kimbulkema. They dug the bund to find the ancient sluice made of clay. The peasants were convinced that they could locate the source as they are the descendents of those who had been cultivating paddy for more than 5 000 years.

### **Thailand**

The WFD national celebration was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC) from 21 to 22 October 2005 in the southern province of Nakhon Srithammarat. An MOAC Vice Minister and the Deputy Governor of the province chaired the opening ceremony of this event. The celebration consisted of various exhibitions related to the WFD theme by agricultural and food producers' groups, private sector enterprises, etc., and a seminar and essay competition on the WFD theme. Cultural shows, dance and music were other activities which characterized the celebrations in Thailand. The WFD information note, issues paper and message of the Director-General were distributed in 1 000 copies to guests and visitors in Thai language, as well as token gifts (3 500 ball point pens) and the WFD 2005 poster. The FAO stand at the exhibition contained a Waicent corner for use by visitors, RAP publications and other public information materials. Attendance at the event was high, particularly by youth, and media coverage by provincial radio was well organized.

## **Viet Nam**

A meeting/workshop was jointly organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), the University of Agriculture and Forestry of Thai Nguyen and the FAO Representative in Viet Nam to celebrate the World Food Day and discuss about the theme, "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". The event took place at the University of Agriculture and Forestry of Thai Nguyen in the district of Tan Cuong. It was attended by the Vice-Minister of MARD, and many high ranking officers from different departments of MARD and representatives of the teachers and students of the Thai Nguyen University. The FAO Representative co-chaired the meeting and workshop. Then a field visit to some ethnic farm household in the district Tan Cuong was held. A National Nutrition week was organized by the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) and People's Committee of Hai Duong district to improve the awareness of Vietnamese people of nutrition knowledge and a model for family foods, as well as to educate people on agricultural techniques for home gardening. A training workshop was organized by NIN in the commune of Kinh Mon, province of Hai Duong for local farmers on the use of diversified food for family meals and priority food for children under 5 years old. Fifty young farmers, especially newly married couples, participated in this course. Also a field trip was organized in Kinh Mon commune, Hai Duong province for journalists to disseminate activities on World Food Day. The participants were representatives from health services, farmers' association, women's union, youth union at provincial level, representatives of the local people's committee at district level, 15 correspondents and journalists from Vietnam television, radio, newspapers and Vietnam news.

## **Oceania and the Southwest Pacific**

World Food Day was commemorated in Fiji where a majority of the schools participated, in their respective areas, in the 14 cluster-based programmes organized in Northern, Western, Eastern and Central Divisions, while the National Food and Nutrition Centre (NFNC) coordinated the World Food Day programme throughout Fiji. In Niue, the WFD Committee organized a National Agriculture Show with the presence of the Queen's Representative from the Cook Islands and the Cook Islands' Prime Minister, among others. In the Marshall Islands, the Ministry of Education arranged an elementary and high school essay contest. In Samoa, an agricultural show was organized. Also, a symposium, various displays and student contests were some of the activities to celebrate World Food Day in the Southwest Pacific.

## **Cook Islands**

Punanganui Market, Avarua, Rarotonga was the venue of the World Food Day commemoration. The welcome statement was made by the Secretary of Agriculture and the celebration was opened by the Minister of Agriculture who delivered a speech. The major exhibit components of the WFD celebration were crops (vegetables, fruits and rootcrops products), ornamentals and seedlings (ornamental plants, vegetable seedlings, fruit seedlings). Other displays were: agricultural machineries by the Cook Is Motor Centre Ltd, irrigation equipments by the Water Services Ltd. There was a pudding (poke) competition, display of potted plants and competition, and healthy foods display by the Nutrition Unit of the Public Health Department. Schools were involved in an art competition. The Avarua Primary School realized 30 minutes of cultural performances by the students following the official opening ceremony. National television, two local newspapers and national radio covered the events.

## **Fiji**

A majority of schools around the country participated, in their respective areas, in the 14 cluster-based programmes for WFD organized in Northern, Western, Eastern and Central Divisions. One national centre at Lautoka was designated by the National Food and Nutrition Centre (NFNC) which coordinated the World Food Day programme throughout Fiji. A Symposium was held featuring a Fijian farmer, a food scientist and a researcher. Other activities included a puppet show, oratory and talks, practical demonstrations such as horticultural techniques in food production, displays of traditional foods, entertainments and awarding of prizes. Government, non-government and regional organizations, private firms, food producers, individuals, academics, consumers, researchers and donor agencies actively participated through displays. One thousand certificates and 1 500 posters were printed and distributed to all centres organizing WFD programmes.

## **Marshall Islands**

The Minister in Assistance to the President gave the keynote address of the ceremony. The Ministry of Health organized a cooking demonstration of healthy foods, display of posters on food and nutrition, height and weight measures. The Ministry of Resources and Development and the Land Grant College of the Marshall Islands realized a food processing demonstration, a demonstration on planting bananas and vegetables, dissemination of agriculture information and educational materials. The Marshall Island Marine and Resources Agency sold reef/tuna fish, salt and tuna fish, the Environmental Protection Agency organized educational information on water and food safety; the Ministry of Education organized an elementary and high schools essay contest, of which three essays were selected and awarded. Also, field visits were made to the local farms in Laura and the Agriculture Technical Mission by elementary schools, coordinated through

the Ministry of Resources and Development. The Ministry of Internal Affairs was responsible for activities such as a food tasting contest in which the three best recipes were selected by the Judges, food processing demonstration of breadfruit chips and powder, banana chips, Neem tea powder and capsules. Lukiej oil was a new product that was processed and demonstrated. The farmers', women's and church organizations sold local foods, vegetables and handicraft all day. In honour of World Food Day, a full page ad was sponsored by the Ministry of Health to highlight local foods.

### **Federated States of Micronesia**

The Pohnpei Office of Economic Affairs promoted WFD which was coordinated by the Island Food Community of Pohnpei. The Kaselehlie Press has given front-page coverage to the World Food Day and the Agricultural Show, which took place at the Botanical Garden with the participation of two local celebrities, Mr Toshio Omura from Japan and Micronesian Senator Ms Magdalena Walter. There were displays of local foods, including many varieties of rare bananas and impressive yams. The Kaselehlie Press presented a photo of a mother and her child. Its caption mentioned that "With over 1000 participants, the Pohnpei World Food Day was a great success, thanks to the work by Pohnpei Agriculture, the College of Micronesia-FSM Land Grant Program, Island Food Community of Pohnpei, the Departments of Education and Health, other local agencies and supporting organizations....". Other activities included a healthy cooking competition, an elementary school essay and art competition organized by the Department of Education, and a public health display, including the taking of blood pressure. There were many partner organizations, including the Pohnpei State Legislature, Australian Embassy, New Zealand Embassy, German Embassy, Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), GTZ Pacific German Regional Forestry Program and also the Public Library. The College of Agriculture carried news on the WFD event. ICTV Channel 6 broadcasted two videos and V6AH Government Radio covered the main event.

### **Niue**

The WFD in Niue was commemorated in coordination with Niue's Constitution Day celebration which was observed on Tuesday, 18 October. The WFD 2005 committee agreed to observe WFD 2005 with a National Agriculture Show during the Constitution Celebration. Dignitaries were the Queen's Representative from the Cook Islands, and the Cook Islands' Prime Minister. The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) organized this event which included a display on marine/land-based foods. Other activities were: radio quiz, which drew very good public participation with questionnaires focussing on the WFD theme,

vehicle floats, walking floats, judging of ethnic food stalls, WFD banner plus tabloid sports. Niue Radio Sunshine and TV-BCN produced programmes.

### **Samoa**

The World Food Day 2005 in Samoa was celebrated on Wednesday 19 October to coincide with the National Agricultural Exhibit (one day event). An official opening ceremony was conducted with the Prime Minister reading the keynote address. The FAO Sub-Regional Representative for the Pacific, Dr Vili A. Fuavao read the Director-General's message for WFD. This was followed by a tour of booths and displays of agricultural produce, livestock, fishery products, value-added products and food products. Various competitions were held for best agricultural, livestock and fishery products. A speech competition and prize-giving were also held for colleges and high schools with the WFD theme as the subject of the speeches. SAPA office put up a stall with all the recent FAO Publications/Posters/Brochures on display, including the WFD video which was shown. The WFD and the Agricultural Show were advertised on TV, radio and newspapers, including two banners advertising the event. All included an acknowledgement to FAO for its contribution.

### **Solomon Islands**

The WFD Committee organized the World Food Day celebration with the support of the government. A banner was produced for this occasion. World Food Day was broadcasted by SIBC in the evening news.

## **World Food Day Activities in CEE/NIS countries**

In the newly emerging economies in Eastern Europe, governmental and non-governmental sectors were involved in WFD 2005 celebrations, with the participation of experts. Many of the events were WFD awarding ceremonies. In Armenia the ceremony was attended by authorities from the Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs, Armenian State Agriculture University, donor community and international organizations and WFD medals were awarded. The media broadcasted this event on all Armenian TV channels. In Hungary, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Hungarian FAO National Committee, the Hungarian Scientific Society for Food Industry and agricultural experts participated and medals were given. Newspapers published interviews with Mr Jacques Diouf and Ms Maria Kadlecikova. In the Slovak Republic, the seminar closed with a press conference and with the awarding of WFD medals to experts and one FAO medal to Professor Jan Brindza for his contribution to Slovak and European biodiversity.

## **Albania**

For the FAO 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection, in collaboration with the Agricultural Journalists Association, organized a conference on 17 October at the National Historical Museum. The Deputy Minister, representatives of FAO projects, research institutions and farmers' associations took part in this event. All the discussions stressed the important role played by FAO in Albania's development.

## **Armenia**

A ceremony was held on the occasion of the World Food Day in the Conference Hall of the Ministry of Agriculture. About 60 people from the Ministry of Agriculture, non-governmental organizations, Armenian State Agriculture University, donor community and international organizations, mass media, etc. participated in this event. The Minister of Agriculture opened the ceremony, the FAO Sub-Regional Representative for Central and Eastern Europe delivered a statement and awarded one medal to the Minister of Agriculture, and five other medals to the Rector of Armenian State Agricultural University, two scientists and two farmers. The WFD celebration continued with planting of trees by known personalities, organized by the NGO "Friends for Nature" and a performance by kindergarten children, in the presence of the Mayor of Kanaker-Zeytun district in Yerevan. This event was well attended by the mass media and broadcast by all Armenian TV channels, radios and newspapers. Armenian and English language WFD brochures and posters were prepared and disseminated.

## **Croatia**

The National Food Agency from Osijek organized a round table discussion on "Food and Science" on 16 October with the participation of well-known experts and the mass media. The WFD issues leaflet was translated into Croatian language and distributed for WFD promotion.

## **Czech Republic**

A workshop on "Agriculture and intercultural dialogue" was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and the National FAO Committee with the support of the Food Research Institute in Prague. The Vice-Minister and State Secretary chaired the workshop. The lectures were given by seven famous international and Czech experts. On this occasion the WFD leaflet on "Agriculture and intercultural dialogue" and relevant FAO activities was printed and freely distributed in Czech language. Governmental institutions, civil

society organizations and journalists participated. The WFD observance was covered by several national newspapers. The event was published on the webpage.

## **Georgia**

The main ceremony on the occasion was held in Tbilisi in the Courtyard of the Marriott Hotel. It was attended by high-level officials of the Georgian Government (Parliament of Georgia, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Office of the State Minister for European Integration Affairs, Ministry of Economic Development), representatives of donors (USAID, EC Delegation, USDA, Turkish International Cooperation Administration, World Bank, Millennium Challenge Corporation), professors from the State Academy of Agricultural Sciences and State Agricultural University of Georgia and Representatives of international and local non-governmental organizations. Ms Maria Kadlecikova, SEUD and FAO Representative in Georgia delivered a speech and awarded FAO medals to the most prominent persons who significantly contributed to further strengthening FAO's presence in Georgia. The main ceremony was attended by representatives of local media and broadcast through two major TV channels ("Mze" and "Caucasia"). Also, the Sub-regional Representative visited the House of Orphans. She met the children and gave them notebooks, paints and paper for drawing.

## **Hungary**

The FAO Sub-regional Office celebrated the World Food Day at the Hungarian Agricultural Museum. The festive programme had been organized by the Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary, the Hungarian FAO National Committee, the Hungarian Scientific Society for Food Industry and the Agricultural Museum. The meeting was addressed by the Minister of Agriculture who handed over certificates of merit to Hungarian experts. Ms Kadlecikova, SEUD, awarded the FAO medals to 12 Hungarian experts. An exhibition was held in the Museum of Agriculture, including the display of posters dedicated to the 25 WFD themes and the milestones in the history of the 60 years of FAO. This exhibition was open until end of December. A Field Day for Health in Budapest with the support of the Ministry of Health, a Conference "Colourful Nature and Food Safety" in St. István University, Gödöllő and lectures in Semmelweis University and Paul Apostle Primary School, Budapest were also realized. A press conference was held on diverse topics on the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the FAO and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World Food Day. The media supported the World Food Day in Hungary in particular by publishing several interviews: Ms Maria Kadlecikova was featured on Duna Television, an interview was delivered by the Representative of the Hungarian Social Forum during the programme "Kék Bolygo" of the Hungarian Radio, a note was delivered during the programme "Krónika" of the Hungarian Radio Also, several articles

were published, among them: the Saturday Supplement of the national daily newspaper "Népszava" published in full the article of Dr Jacques Diouf, Director-General of FAO with the following title: "UN Reform – the Specialized Agencies must change too", the daily newspaper "Népszabadság" published an article with the title "To eat or not to eat?", including parts of the interviews with Dr Jacques Diouf, Ms Maria Kadlecikova and Mr Pál Romány (University Lecturer, Committee Chairman), the op-ed article of Dr Jacques Diouf: "A mandate to end world hunger" was published in "Magyar Nemzet" (daily newspaper).

### **Macedonia**

A press conference was held in the Republic's Institute for Health Protection. All broadcasting media and the press were invited, as well as all regional institutes for health protection in the Republic of Macedonia. Representatives from the IHP visited the Institute for Protection of Children without Parents "11. Oktomvri"- Skopje. The Republic's Institute for Health Protection made a donation of 300 kg apples as a symbol of a healthy diet. Promotional material was also distributed. A presentation of domestic food products in the form of a happening called "I may and I can" was made in the trade center organized by the Municipality of Karpos with the participation of local producers. Preventive health care activities were demonstrated by the Republic's Institute for Health Protection. The Chief of the Department for Nutrition and Diet at the Institute gave an interview for the national television concerning the World Food Day. Posters and brochures were prepared, published and distributed.

### **Moldova**

A scientific workshop on the theme "Agriculture and the Moldavian Village as main actors for the food safety/security of the country" was organized on the premises of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Chisinau. The mass media provided media coverage for the event. Representatives of government, donors, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, heads of the agricultural rayonal sections (Anenii-Noi, Cahul), the president of rayon Ialoveni, representatives of the agricultural union, corporation and agencies, investment projects and agricultural economic agents were present, as well as H.E. the Ambassador of the USA to Moldova. The Minister for Agriculture and Food Industry opened the ceremony, speeches were delivered and presentations made by the Deputy Director of the National Scientific and Practical Center for Preventive Medicine, the Director and Deputy Director of the Republican Concern for Water Management, the Director of the LTD "Plaiul Barladean" and the Minister for Agriculture and Food Industry. WFD medals were awarded to experts in Moldova. The official part of the celebration was followed by a small concert of songs and dances by the students of the Agricultural State University.

## **Serbia and Montenegro**

World Food Day was celebrated with a range of food, nutrition and health-related activities during the "Month of Healthy Nutrition Promotion - October 2005" in cooperation with FAO/SEUR and 24 public health institutes under the patronage of the Ministry of Health and Education in 23 regions, at regional and national levels. On 16 October in almost all of the regions, various exhibitions there were organized. The VII Festival of Healthy Nutrition and Physical Activity in North Bačka Region for children included theatrical performances, songs and dances, and a quiz on healthy nutrition. Ms Mirjana Pavlovic delivered the WFD message of the FAO Director-General and awarded certificates to media and sponsors. An exhibition on the topic of nutrition of children's art and literacy works was held in Subotica, with more than 1 000 children's works based on nutrition topics and the WFD theme. The best works were exhibited and awards and certificates were given on a regional level, as well as on a national level. The First International Organic Food Festival was organized by Teras, an association for organic products in Subotica, in which there was an exhibition of organic products and a scientific conference, followed by a visit to organic farms and shops. National and Regional Institutes of Public Health celebrated WFD together for the fifth time at the national level in Belgrade with presentations and an exhibition of the children's best art works. The WFD poster was printed in 3 000 copies and distributed to regional institutes. The event was covered by national and public TV and radio, and articles were published by leading national and regional daily newspapers and magazines as well. There were more than 120 media reports in the whole country. Lectures were given by health professionals in schools, workplaces and communities in the whole country during the month of October.

## **Slovak Republic**

A scientific seminar on "Agriculture and International Dialogue" constituted the main event of the WFD ceremony, organized in close cooperation with the FAO National Committee of the Slovak Republic and the Agroinstitute, Nitra, and held under the auspices of the Minister for Agriculture. In this seminar, leading experts from the Slovak Republic addressed the gathering. The WFD celebration was closed with a press conference and with awarding FAO medals to famous experts. The Ministry of Agriculture had also requested that a WFD medal be presented to Professor Jan Brindza for his excellent contribution to Slovak and European biodiversity for food security.

## **World Food Day Activities in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Issues concerning rural women received the most important focus during the World Food Day celebration in many countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. Rural Women's Day was celebrated during WFD in Argentina, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico and Uruguay. In Honduras and Nicaragua, the National Alliances Against Hunger (ANCH) were part of the World Food Day celebrations. A wide range of activities were realized by ministries, civil society organizations and NGOs, various institutes and universities and other organizations.

### **Argentina**

The NGO "Cinco al día" mobilized volunteers for a public awareness campaign on children's nutrition on the occasion of WFD. FAO and the Professional Centre of Agronomic Engineers (CPIA) organized a two-day seminar which consisted of a debate on food quality and safety. Senior government officials, Office of the Under-Secretary of Food Policy of the Ministry of Social Development, the Secretary and staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Food, academic representatives, international organizations and the press participated in the main ceremony, which included screening of the video on "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" that was circulated to primary schools, academic institutes and other sectors. Also, an awareness campaign on food and nutrition was organized by the Argentinian Catholic Commission for the World Campaign Against Hunger. Development action and the thematic of rural women were approached. The "Clarín" newspaper covered the World Food Day commemoration organized at the FAO office in Argentina. The newspaper made reference to the event organized by FAO in which high-level authorities, such as the Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Food, other senior officials of government, representatives of the national legislative body, academics, the private sector and researchers participated.

### **Bolivia**

The National World Food Day Committee organized the main ceremony with the participation of national authorities and senior officials of the government in El Prado, La Paz, together with an exposition and trade fair selling native products with distribution of recipes, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the Municipal Government in La Paz, WFP, FAO and nutritionists. Producers' groups, the private sector, academic and research groups and international organizations participated in the fair. WFP organized a march against hunger to increase awareness of hunger issues. Some 1 400 children, 500 scouts, national and international authorities participated in this march which led from

Plaza España to El Prado. A Course on Human Rights, Economic, Social, Cultural Rights and Right to Food was realized on the theme of "Food Security". A monograph competition on "national food" was launched by the University "Nuestra Señora de La Paz" and the National Academy of Sciences. Five conferences on genetics resources were organized at the National Academy of Sciences with the participation of academics, research groups, schools, women and the private sector. Expositions and conferences were held in four museums on native foods: Tambo Quirquincha, Casa de Murillo, Museo Costumbrista and Galería Taipinquiri. The materials produced and distributed provided important support for the WFD celebration, such as 4 000 small flags, informative banners and panels used in the FAO stand during the fair.

### **Brazil**

The Brazilian Embassy organized an event on fighting hunger, i.e. The Brazilian Experience (*Fome zero*), at FAO headquarters on the occasion of WFD. The event was preceded by a signing ceremony of the protocol for FAO-Brazil collaboration in Haiti, Angola, Cape Verde and Mozambique. Also, a booklet on rice and beans was prepared in Brazil for the WFD which was distributed throughout the country in all government schools and to teachers to lecture on this aspect as part of the observance of WFD 2005. World Food Day served to launch the activities of the World Food Week which was coordinated by the National Council on Food Security. Activities included: lectures, debates, round table, workshops of integral exploitation of foods, screening of videos, expositions of products and artisanal recipes, degustations and cultural presentations.

### **Chile**

The World Food Day ceremony was held with the celebration of FAO's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by the Government of Chile. This event was organized with the participation of RLC and the Fundación de Comunicaciones, Capacitación y Cultura del Agro (FUCOA), among many others participants, on the theme "What is the Relevance of FAO Today ". Five trees were planted on this occasion to represent the five continents. The ceremony was realized in the Mirador El Sauce del Parque Metropolitano, del Cerro San Cristóbal, Santiago. Other activities included food tasting and panels organized by the Ministry of Health. Also, two events were organized with stands, giant billboards for exhibitions of food products of local communities and recipes. The first of the two events took place in the Universidad Arturo Prat, Campus Playa Brava, Iquique, Region I and the second in the Museo Ferroviario de Temuco, Region IX with the participation of the FAOR, and representatives of the Instituto de Desarrollo Agropecuario (INDAP), FUCOA and the Corporación Nacional de Desarrollo Indígena (CONADI), among others. Two exhibitions of food products produced by local Indian communities with cultural, ethnic and gastronomic demonstrations and distribution of culinary indigenous food recipes were

held. On this occasion was also launched the book "Culture and Indigenous Food". National programmes were produced by a network of 200 radio stations in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture. Radio Agricultura produced programmes to involve the people in the WFD celebrations; Newspapers, such as "El Mercurio", "Nuestra Tierra" "La Estrella de Iquique" and "Diario Austral de Temuco" provided media coverage for the events. A gastronomic book containing recipes of the different Chilean indigenous groups was produced.

## **Colombia**

An International Symposium on Food Security and Nutrition was organized in Bogotá by FAO and the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare, where professionals gathered for three days to exchange national and international experiences in food security and nutrition. Also, a debate on school feeding entitled "¿Qué está pasando con la alimentación escolar?" was organized during the UN week by FAO and the Colombian Association of School Feeding. A cultural event on the UN and FAO's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary closed the activities.

## **Costa Rica**

A National Commission on Livestock Genetic Resources was initiated in Hotel Corobicí. The event was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture. Various national fora were organized by the WFD Commission and universities on "Rural Development" in the UNED Auditorium, on "Agriculture and Rural Development" in the Auditorium of University of Costa Rica, on "Food Security" in the UNA Auditorium in which the FAO Representative in Costa Rica and the CORECA Representative analyzed the situation of food security in Costa Rica, on "Agriculture and Culture" in the Auditorium of the Parliament, and a national workshop was held on "Food and Nutrition Policies" in the Auditorium of the Ministry of Health. Also, various other events were realized for WFD, such as a discussion on food security with indigenous people at the National Centre of Culture in San José in the framework of the Forum of the Indigenous People. This event was organized by the Ministry of Health (the Minister of Health also chaired the "Conversatorio"), the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, WHO and UNOPS. A football match was organized by the South-American Diplomatic Association. The main ceremony of World Food Day was held in Nicoya, Guanacaste, chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Mayor of Nicoya. National TV relayed TeleFood TV Española and Canal 3 TV Española. Also, the radio and press were involved. "La Nación", "La Pampa" and "La Gaceta", among other newspapers, covered the events.

## **Cuba**

A press conference was organized in Havana with the participation of the National Press, senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Investment and Economic Collaboration (MINVEC), UN agencies and members of the National Committee. Also, the World Food Day was celebrated through many other activities, such as a discussion on "Food culture and national identity" with the participation of 30 specialists, an art exhibit, a fair in Metropolitan Park where about 80 producers held a dialogue and exchanged experiences on seeds and plants, a national workshop in the Pedagogic Institute "Enrique José Varona" organized by the Ministry of Education (MINED), FAO, UNICEF, UNOPS-WHO, UNESCO, UNDP, a panel on "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" in the National Library "José Martí", a sports event, festivals, a symposium and a concert in the Basílica Menor San Francisco de Asís. The Cuban Women's Federation organized Rural Women's Day in Havana and distributed awards to "Rural Women" in each province. There was a large number of activities on the occasion of both Rural Women's Day and World Food Day". Miriam Makeba, FAO Goodwill Ambassador was in Cuba for a concert on 7 October 2005. Cuban Radio and TV covered the activities. In particular, a spot on WFD was broadcast during the month of October every day at different hours. The press published many articles on WFD as well as on the visit of Miriam Makeba, FAO Goodwill Ambassador, and on the FAO 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## **Dominican Republic**

The official ceremony was chaired by the State Secretary of Agriculture and the FAO Representative in the main square of the Town Hall of Villa Fundación, Peravia province. The intention was to demonstrate 300 hectares of mango plantations in Villa Fundación, a project of the State Secretariat of Agriculture (SEA) and the Dominican Agricultural Institute. During the ceremony the importance of the civilizations in the pre-Columbian era and their knowledge of how to develop agriculture and of Colombo that introduced new systems and foods, was highlighted. Also, various exhibits were organized, in particular on local food and artisanal products by the Rural Women's Federation, individual and groups of producers. A TeleFood project had an exhibition stand in the fair. The Rural Women's Day was celebrated with an event during the WFD celebration by the Women's Department with the collaboration of the First Lady's Office and FAO Representation, as a tribute to Ms Juana Ferrer, Nobel Prize Winner. Also, several symposia were organized by FAO, institutes and partners on different topics, such as the symposium on "Biotechnology, Transgenic and Conventional Crops" in San Cristobal. The media gave wide coverage of the World Food Day events through TV, radio and the press.

## **Ecuador**

Various fora were organized by FAO, UN Agencies, universities, several institutes and agencies, such as the Forum on Food Policies and Nutrition in the Central University, a Forum on Food Security in Portoviejo, Manabí, a Forum on Rural Women's Day and a Forum on Agricultural Techniques in Quito. WFD was the highlight of a week to "fight against hunger" in Quito, a panel and cultural event in Riobamba, a national competition of recipes with the participation of schools. On this occasion, cookbooks were produced. The press covered the WFD events through the main newspapers "El Comercio", "El Universo", "Diario de Hoy", "El Diario Expreso" and "El Mercurio". The FAO Representative in Ecuador gave interviews, a Telemaratón was organized and many information programmes were produced by radio and TV channels.

## **El Salvador**

The World Food Day Committee organized the activities in El Salvador with the participation of the FAOR, various institutions, private sector and others actors. The University of El Salvador and the University Dr José Matías Delgado, with the support of the WFD Committee, organized a Forum on "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" with the participation of the students, and technicians in the field of agro-economy, nutrition, environment and natural resources. The University Dr José Matías Delgado through the Faculty of Agriculture and Agricultural Research "Julia Hill de O'Sullivan" celebrated WFD with the theme of "Mais: The basic food in El Salvador". The official event was organized in the National Palace with a solemn session, an exposition of materials on food security and nutrition and tasting of corn and coffee. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, the UN Representative in El Salvador, UN Agencies, Olympic athlete, Patricia Rivas (who is involved in the MDG awareness campaign in El Salvador), participated in this event, among other high-level personalities. The event saw the strong participation of young people and those who were involved in various projects. Other activities were realized, such as rafting on the Río Lempa, a workshop in the framework of the project "Health Project in Three Countries of Golf of Fonseca Corridor in Honduras, El Salvador y Nicaragua", a concert on the MDGs organized by CONCULTURA, where informative material was distributed to the 1 000 participants, and e-banner for the web site. The Ministry of Agriculture, FAO Representative and President of the National Council on Culture and Arts (Concultura) organized and participated in a press conference on WFD activities. Various interviews by the media were organized for one week by the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, FAO, Ministry of Education and Concultura.

## **Honduras**

The FAO Representation in Honduras celebrated World Food Day in three communities of the country: La Esperanza, in the Intibucá department, La Venta Sur, Francisco Morazán and El Negrito, Yoro. The National Alliance Against Hunger (NAAH) and all the institutions that collaborate with FAO and the NAAH participated in the activities. In addition, a forum and fairs were organized which featured local foods and drinks, demonstration of artisanal products, producers' stands, a chorus and concert by musical groups, prize awarding ceremony of the winners of the drawing competition and the best local dish. The National Food Prize was an event organized to award medals with the participation of the President of the Republic and the First Lady, who is the President, *honoris causa*, of the NAAH. A Seminar on the "Potential of Biotechnology in Agriculture in Honduras" was organized in Tegucigalpa.

## **Mexico**

Two Food Collection campaigns for a Mexico without hunger were realized: one was organized by FAO and Alimentos para Todos with the support of civil society. A national collection of commodities: rice, tuna, cereals, beans, etc., and products was organized by FAO, Alimentos para Todos and the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Campus Estado de Mexico, with the support of students from the above mentioned Institute, who collect commodities for the beneficiaries of the food bank programme. FAO, with a variety of government ministries, institutes and agencies, as well as universities and other civil society organizations, organized many activities such as gastronomic exhibitions in Ciudad de la Puebla and a gastronomic competition during the Expo Forum Toluca, the screening of a video for the students of "La Salle" University on "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" and on FAO actions, the fourth national-level census to obtain data on the impact of child nutrition in the country, a press conference at the United Nations Information Centre, an Art Exhibit of Picasso's work on the history of thousands of people who, exiled from Spain during the Civil War, arrived in Mexico. The Chamber of Deputies organized a meeting on the Right to Food in Mexico ("El Derecho constitucional a la alimentación en México: un Viejo anhelo, una realidad posible"). Several conferences and symposia were held, including two conferences on this year's WFD theme at University "La Salle" and "University Autónoma Metropolitana Xochimilco" and an International Symposium of Rural Women organized by the Foreign Affairs Department. The press made an important contribution by covering the World Food Day celebration in its many facets.

## **Nicaragua**

Some 300 hundred people attended the WFD ceremony which included the launching of the National Alliance Against Hunger at the Hotel Intercontinental Metrocentro. National high-level personalities participated in the event: the Vice-President of the Republic, the Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Forestry, the Minister of Health, the Manager of Agricorp S.A, the Vice-Chancellor for Foreign Affairs, the Director of Soynica, as well as representatives of the private sector, international organizations, civil society and government. The First Lady of the Republic acted as "Godmother" for TeleFood. The WFD was also celebrated at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua. Some of the newspapers that covered the World Food Day celebration were "El Nuevo Diario", "La prensa", "Revista Global", and "Bolsa de noticias". Informative materials were produced and distributed, such as the WFD issues leaflets and brochures, with special reference to the Alliance Against Hunger.

## **Panama**

The World Food Day was celebrated with two main activities. The first was a fair organized by the Ministry of Education which presented traditional products and cooked foods of the Azuero Region in relation to this year's WFD theme "Agricultural and Intercultural Dialogue". The FAO Representative in Panama jointly with the Director of the National Food Planning Secretariat (SENAPAN) participated in the opening ceremony. During the fair, information on FAO, WFD and the 2005 theme was disseminated widely. The second activity was realized by the Ministry of Health and consisted of an exhibit and sales of agricultural commodities organized by the Nutrition Department with the participation of agro-industries. WFD posters were distributed to the national and regional offices of the Ministry of Agricultural Development and to the primary schools of the country.

## **Paraguay**

During the World Food Day ceremony at FAO HQ, the First Lady of Paraguay, Her Excellency María Gloria Penayo de Duarte was nominated First Extraordinary Ambassador of FAO by the Director-General, Dr Jacques Diouf, for her contribution to the fight against hunger in Latin America. Also, a photographic exhibition on TeleFood projects in Paraguay was inaugurated by the First Lady of Paraguay to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WFD and 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FAO. The XIII Conference of First Ladies included a presentation on the TeleFood projects. Various projects were inaugurated in July and September. FAO, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, the National Institute of Food and Nutrition as well as the University of the Integration of the Americas organized the First Seminar on Nutrition and Public Health to commemorate the WFD

and National Day of Nutritionists. The FAO Representative in Paraguay and the First Extraordinary Ambassador of FAO were interviewed by the mass media. A poster and leaflets on Feeding Minds Fighting Hunger and WFD were produced and distributed.

## **Peru**

The National Multi-Sectoral Commission organized the official ceremony chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture and with the presence of the Ministries of Health, Production, Women and Social Development and representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the FAO Representative. It was held in the Torre Tagle Palace, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sala Inca Garcilazo. During the ceremony, the importance of the contribution of civilizations from the pre-Columbian era and their significance in developing agriculture was highlighted. A pictorial exhibit "Imágenes de la tierra", as well as a pre-Colombian ceramics exhibit and video show saw the attendance of more than 200 persons. Three national experts received recognition and award medals on WFD 2005 for their contribution to the improvement of food security in Peru. Also, many other activities characterized the WFD in Peru: workshops in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in the Auditorium of Ministry of Production; festivals, fairs and food competitions organized by Ministry of Women and Social Development, Procuencia Lurín; exhibitions, such as the "Bio fair" organized by the Agro-ecological Consortium and Red de Agricultura Ecológica (RAE); a training course for fishermen and a forum on the "Feeding Minds, Fighting Hunger" Project organized by the Ministry of Production and the Instituto Tecnológico-Pesquero; conferences, such as "BIOTEMPUS" at the University "Ricardo Palma" on the "Role of Biodiversity in Food, Nutrition and Health" and at the Ministry of Health on the theme "Food, Culture, and Indigenous People". The activities realized in Peru received wide press coverage and featured on the web site of Ministry of Agriculture. The National Multi-Sectoral Commission is composed of the Ministries of Agriculture, Production, Education, Foreign Affairs, Health, Women and Social Development and the Presidency of the Cabinet, including the FAO Representative in Peru. A poster on this year's World Food Day was issued by the Commission. The Ministry of Agriculture has prepared a comprehensive report on its activities at national level related to the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FAO and 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WFD.

## **Uruguay**

"Expo Prado 2005" was an exposition on agriculture and animal husbandry which ran from the end of September to the first eleven days of October. This activity was organized by Uruguay's Rural Association, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and FAO. The main WFD ceremony was held at the Ministry of Work and Social Security, with the collaboration of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and the Instituto Nacional de Alimentación (INDA). Many WFD activities were realized during

the “Expo/TeleFood Uruguay 2005” from 14 October to 21 October 2005, including an exhibit on the theme “Rural Women: Protagonists of Rural Development” in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, organized by FAO and the Rural Family Programme of the Ministry; two workshops were organized in schools, Paysandú and two commemorative activities. In addition, the inauguration of the food map (“planta elaboradora de alimentos”) elaborated under Telefood Project N<sup>o</sup> TFD-03/URU/001 in Puntas de Macadam, Canelones, was held. The WFD activities received wide coverage by the printed media, such as “La República”, “El País” and “El Observador”.

## **Venezuela**

The World Food Day Committee, with the support of the Ministry of Education and Sport, organized a national observance and prepared an awareness-raising programme for a one year WFD Campaign. The WFD Teleconference was viewed in the Ministry of Planning and Development and visits to media offices were made to disseminate information on WFD activities and events. The main WFD event, in which musical groups played and booths and stands were placed, was organized by the Ministry of Education and Sport, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Popular Economy in Este Park, Caracas with the participation of civil society organizations and the United Nations system. There was tree-planting in the National Park Aroita organized by the SEPS beekeeping community and the FAO Representative with the participation of children and producers’ groups who visited the beekeeping community. In addition, a workshop was organized on Margarita island by the Central University of Venezuela and the Institute of Science and Technology of Foods, an International fair on Books of Caracas was set up by the Ministry of Culture, a Regional Experts Meeting (7th) on Lactoperoxidase System, during which experts visited the country to exchange experiences with the national livestock sector organized by the FAO Representative in Venezuela, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Science and Technology and ILAFECA. A “National” Food Day was celebrated by organizing the Third Fair for Children on Food and Agriculture which consisted of a poster competition at the national level on the theme of this year’s WFD.

## **World Food Day Activities in the Caribbean**

Many activities were realized with the involvement of students in school competitions, students’ visits and other awareness-raising activities, e.g. in Belize with a poetry competition for high school students and a poster competition for primary school students; lectures in all secondary and primary schools based on the WFD theme in Dominica; inter-school competitions and field visits in Saint Lucia; and a school essay and

poster competition in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Other activities organized in the sub-region included: discussions with experts, food festivals, a food demonstration tour, exhibits and displays, church services, a mini-fair, documentary programmes, ceremonies to award WFD medals, among others activities.

### **Antigua and Barbuda**

The World Food Day was celebrated in Antigua and Barbuda by awarding the WFD Medal on the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WFD observance.

### **Bahamas**

The Department of Agriculture organized a Health Fair, which consisted of a display of healthy foods, indigenous medicinal plants, and on-site basic health testing. In addition, World Food Day was celebrated by a Church Service at St. Barnabas Anglican Church, followed by a luncheon, distribution of fruits and vegetables at the Old Folks Home, and a tree-planting ceremony at the Botanical Gardens. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Local Government took part in the World Food Day Press Conference.

### **Barbados**

The Deputy Prime Minister, Attorney General and Minister of Home Affairs, Mia Mottley, whose portfolio covers responsibility for information, delivered the keynote address at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual PAHO/Caribbean Health Journalism Awards ceremony at the Barbados Hilton on Friday, 4 November 2005. This year, the Food and Agriculture Organization provided a Special Award in commemoration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World Food Day.

### **Belize**

The World Food Day Committee organized a fair which included a full day of presentations and exhibitions, a poetry competition for high school students and a poster competition for primary school students. Audio material for radio based on WFD information had been produced. Other publicity materials such as t-shirts, leaflets, banners were produced to support the celebration.

### **Dominica**

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and the Environment delivered an address to launch World Food Day activities. Lectures in all secondary and primary schools based on the World Food Day theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" were held by extension officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and an exhibition was done of agricultural products

of 4H Clubs School Gardens and community farms. In addition, a World Food Day Awards Ceremony was held where the WFD Committee presented awards to individuals and groups with the participation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment, and Parliamentarians. The FAO Director-General's message was read in all churches.

### **Grenada**

The World Food Day was celebrated with the awarding of a WFD Medal.

### **Haiti**

The WFD/TeleFood 2005 celebration was commemorated at Léogâne region on 16 October 2005 together with an agro-industry and technology exhibition on cassava fabric. The ceremony was organized by the Minister of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development. On 13 October 2005, a Conference was held at the Auditorium of the Minister of Agriculture, in Port-au-Prince. The Minister of Agriculture and the FAOR organized a press conference on the WFD/TeleFood 2005 theme: "Agriculture and intercultural dialogue". Some 10 000 brochures with 12 different recipes for sweet potato meals were featured. The mass media such as TV, radio, newspapers and magazines covered the various WFD events in the country. People were also informed about the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FAO.

### **Jamaica**

The church service in St. Barnabas Anglican Church served as the official celebration.

### **Saint Kitts and Nevis**

A World Food Day medal was awarded during the celebration.

### **Saint Lucia**

The main activities for the WFD were the inter-school competitions which consisted in a food preparation competition for secondary school students, a technology and craft competition for primary schools, poster competition for pre-schools and kindergartens with awarding of medals to the winners. A school outreach programme was conducted by the Extension Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries during a two-week period in which many activities were realized, such as exhibitions, field tours, preparation of dishes using local produce, student visits, video presentations, cooking and displays, mini-food exposition, tour. The Food Festival at la Fargue Playing Field involved

not only food, but also craft and technology displays from various schools involved in the competitions, the Choiseul Community, the Departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, farmers' groups and cooperatives, allied agencies, Coconut Growers Association, Copra Manufactures. Also, two televised panel discussions and video documentaries were organized where the FAO Director-General's message and the Minister of Agriculture's address were delivered.

### **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

WFD was promoted from 1 October in early and morning radio programmes by NCB Radio, Hitz FM, WE FM Nice Radio and through documentary programmes which discussed crop, livestock, fish and forestry production in terms of its history, and the introduction of forest species for reforestation, broadcast by SGV. Furthermore, radio programmes were produced including messages by the Ministers of Tourism and Culture, and Agriculture as well as the FAO Director-General's message. A panel discussion on this year's World Food Day theme was done over the radio. Other activities included Church services, essay and poster competitions among students, a mini-fair, and banners highlighting the theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" were prepared.

### **World Food Day Activities in the Near East**

A very large participation of government senior officials, various ministries and all sectors of civil society characterized the events in the Near East region. In Afghanistan, some 300 people attended the ceremony, while in Turkey 450 people participated in a meeting in Ankara. In Tunisia, secondary and high school students in the whole country took part in the drawing competition on the 2005 theme; in Lebanon, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of National Education organized a school competition in which students from the major public and private schools (3 000 schools) were invited to present a project (either artistic or literary) on the this year's WFD theme. The media at various levels, i.e. international, national and regional TV and radio stations and the press, were widely involved in the coverage of World Food Day. A variety of local materials were produced and distributed: in Cyprus, a leaflet with information on the theme had been prepared and distributed to schools and rural communities. In Iran, FAO's leaflet on this year's theme was translated into Farsi and distributed among the audience as well as dispatched to the provincial agriculture organizations for their distribution.

### **Afghanistan**

The celebration focused on the theme of this year's World Food Day "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". About 300 people attended the ceremony in Kabul, representing

ministries, embassies, UN agencies, international financial organizations, national and international NGOs, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food (MAAHF) and FAO staff. The Deputy Minister for Energy and Water, the Ambassadors of France and Japan also attended the ceremony. The Minister for MAAHF pronounced a speech and the FAO Representative in Afghanistan read the FAO Director-General's message. Also, prizes were awarded to 20 invited farmers from 15 districts of Kabul, including Kabul City. WFD materials were disseminated, including the FAO issues leaflet, the message of the FAO Director-General, both in English and in the local language, and the the FAO World Food Day poster. In addition, ten symbols from the WFD poster were separately printed with descriptions in English and two local languages as individual posters for display. An FAO video on World Food Day was viewed on two big screens at the same time by the audience after the speeches. Different national and international media were involved with several types of information collection in terms of interviews, and broadcasting, such as Radio Liberty (Azadi), Radio Good Morning Afghanistan, BBC, Inter news, Voice of America, National TV, Ariana Television Network (ATN), and Tolo TV.

### **Algeria**

This year WFD was celebrated in the National Library. A conference was organized by experts in the National Institute of Agronomics. At primary school level, a pedagogic lesson on "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" was held by the Ministries of Agriculture, Fisheries, Education and Health. The award of WFD 2004 and 2005 medals was organized with the assistance of the National Ministries and the FAOR. All in all, some 14 medals were conferred to WFD 2004 and 2005 prize winners. The award ceremony was covered by Algerian newspapers and national TV.

### **Bahrain**

UNIC Manama had contacted and disseminated hard copies and electronic versions of the messages on World Food Day 2005 of the Secretary-General and other UN officials along with FAO background material, leaflets and posters to all the key media outlets and government offices in Bahrain in order to promote the WFD observance and the theme of this year's World Food Day. UNIC Manama had secured the placement of the Arabic version of the Secretary-General's Message on World Food Day in two Bahrain dailies on 16 October 2005: Al Wasat and Al Meethaq newspapers. Gulf Daily News published, on the same day, an article on WFD 2005, highlighting UNIC's activities and the Secretary General's message on the day. Alayam newspaper published the Message of the FAO Director-General, while FAO's Information Note on the World Food Day/TeleFood 2005 theme entitled "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" in Arabic was also published in Bahrain's Akhbar Alkhaleej newspaper.

## **Cyprus**

The Minister of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment delivered a special message during the World Food Day observance. Special ceremonies were organized in many primary and secondary schools where teachers analyzed the meaning of WFD. Also, a leaflet in Greek with information on the WFD theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" had been prepared and distributed to schools and rural communities.

## **Egypt**

The production of a large variety of information programmes on World Food Day were done by TV and radio channels such as Nile News Channel, BBC Arabic Service, the Egyptian Television and the Egyptian Satellite Channel, Nile TV International, The Higher Education Channel, Al-Ekhbaria News Channel, the Nile Culture Channel, the Middle East Radio station, as well as the Youth and Sports Radio Station. The coverage of WFD celebration was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Regional Office for the Near East (RNE). Also, many articles and interviews were reported by the press such as the interview with the FAO Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative for the Near East, in Al-Ahram Newspaper, a special coverage in the Agricultural magazine, coverage of the main celebration in El-Mesaa daily newspaper, an article on hunger in the world and FAO's efforts to fight it in Al-Alam al Youm daily newspaper, as well as a special feature in the Egyptian Gazette daily newspaper. The official WFD celebration was held at the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation with the presence of the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation and the Minister of State for Environment, and senior government staff with the awarding of medals for deserving individuals from government and the NGO community. Also, a youth competition on FAO and WFD was realized by the RNE Information Unit aimed at raising awareness among youth. A Forum on Nutrition Issues was organized by the Faculty of Home Economics, University of Helwan which was attended by many professionals and University students. A special day at Hayah Academy on the WFD theme was held where teachers discussed hunger in the world and good nutrition habits. An information note was distributed among students. Students were encouraged to express their understanding on the WFD theme through drawing and art activities. A presentation on FAO and WFD 2005 was organized by the Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University, aimed at the new students of the University.

## **Iran**

The WFD was commemorated through events organized by the Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture in Tehran and in the provinces. The ceremony in Tehran was well attended by the Deputy Ministers of the Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture and the Ministry of Health and Medical Education; Heads of Organizations, the Deputy of the Parliament's Agriculture Commission; as well as other government officials and academics. During the ceremony, the FAO Representative read the FAO Director-General's message. FAO's issues leaflet on this year's theme was translated into Farsi by the International and Regional Organizations Bureau, Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture and distributed to the audience as well as dispatched to the provincial agriculture organizations for wide distribution.

## **Iraq**

The Iraqi Minister of Agriculture made a television statement on the eve of the WFD on Al Somaryia Satellite Channel.

## **Jordan**

The WFD celebration was organized in Amman under the patronage of the Jordanian Minister for Agriculture and was attended by three former Ministers of Agriculture, Representatives of UN agencies, universities and research institutes, senior government officials, Farmers' Union, the Agricultural Engineers' Association, representatives of NGOs and Women's Groups, Jordanian Radio and TV, and major daily newspapers. The FAO Representative read the Director-General's message and the Minister for Agriculture delivered the government's message. During the WFD celebration, the Minister for Agriculture and the FAO Representative in Jordan presented the WFD medal to five awardees. On the same day, the former Minister for Agriculture and president of Mu'tah University gave a lecture on "Arab Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". Also, the FAO office organized a national workshop where about 30 staff members attended from the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Trade and Industry, representatives of the Jordanian Farmers' Union and Agricultural Engineers' Association. Jordan's radio, TV and major daily newspapers covered all the events.

## **Lebanon**

Government, NGOs and the private sector were involved in the celebration of WFD/TeleFood 2005 in Lebanon. The Director-General of the Minister of Agriculture was the Chairman of the WFD/TeleFood 2005 National Committee. On the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the FAO, the Minister of Agriculture decided to launch the first Annual

Week of Agriculture in Lebanon. From Liban-Sud (10 November) to Liban-Nord (9 November) and from Bekaa (from 11 to 12 November), Beyrouth (from 8 to 12 November) to Mont-Liban, a series of conferences, seminars and agricultural fairs were organized. On 8 November 2005, His Excellency General Emile Lahoud, President of the Republic of Lebanon gave an address at the event which was held at the "Palais of UNESCO" in Beirut. Also the FAO Goodwill Ambassador, Ms Magida El Roumi, attended the WFD/TeleFood 2005 official ceremony. A film-documentary "Awwal El Gheith" with the participation of FAO Ambassador Ms Magida El Roumi was screened. Ms El Roumi read her WFD/TeleFood message on the occasion. The FAO Director-General's message was read by the FAOR, Mr Abdessalam Ould Ahmed. His Excellency Dr Talal Al Sahili, Minister of Agriculture made a statement. A medal (officier du cèdre) was awarded to the FAOR for his incomparable work for the success of agriculture in Lebanon. Some 3 000 schools were invited to participate in the school competition on the WFD/TeleFood 2005 theme, "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". There was a scientific seminar at the University in Beirut. TV and radio channels, newspapers and magazines covered all the events and the official ceremony.

## **Libya**

Invitations to the World Food Day celebrations which was organized by the FAO Representative in Libya, were provided to the Inspector-General for Agriculture and was extended to all the officials the Department of Agriculture and Range Management, the private sector and to NGOs, as well as accredited diplomatic missions and UN agencies in Libya. The celebrations took place at the Teachers Trade Union Hall in Tripoli. The Inspector-General of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Secretary Minister of the People's Committee for the Department of Agriculture and Range Management, as well as the Inspector-General of the Ministry for Industry were involved in the celebration. World Food Day was supported by materials such as the poster and a stage banner, including the logi of participating bodies and the WFD symbol for 2005, a data exhibit, which consisted of a DVD presentation, the statement of the FAO Director-General on WFD and presentations by the Inspector-General for Agriculture and the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Range Management. The newspapers and TV provided coverage which included the various statements and interviews.

## **Malta**

A news release to mark the World Food Day celebration was published and photos and posters were utilized on the occasion.

## **Morocco**

The observance of the 2005 WFD in Morocco on the theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" was intense with a variety of activities. The celebration started on 24 September 2005 with the organization of a national seminar focusing on "Agriculture production, food habits and the socio-cultural aspects of feeding". The event was organized by the Dietetic Association of the Kingdom of Morocco (AMADIET) and co-sponsored by FAO. The seminar was opened by the FAO Representative and attended by a large number of Moroccan Dieticians, with presentations given by prominent scientists and researchers in the field of nutrition and diet.

A second seminar was organized on 13 October 2005 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries and held at the Bahnini room in the Ministry of Culture in Rabat on 13 October 2005. The theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" was discussed with presentations made by eminent professors from various universities in Morocco. The Seminar was opened by the Secretary of State for Rural Development and the FAO Representative in Morocco. Participants came from several ministries and government departments as well as from civil society.

A third event was organized in the third week of October 2005 by the Ministry of Health during which awards were given to companies involved in the enrichment of nutrition products.

The official ceremony of the WFD 2005 celebration took place at the Theatre Mohamed V, the largest in Rabat city. The ceremony was attended by five ministers and several ambassadors, representatives of international and regional organizations, heads of United Nations Agencies accredited in Morocco and a high number of participants from a wide and diverse segments of the population. The Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries delivered a statement on behalf of the Government of Morocco and the FAO Representative in Morocco delivered the message of the FAO Director-General. A short statement was also made by the UNESCO Representative for the Maghreb Region. During the ceremony, several eminent personalities, scientists, researchers, NGOs and national institutions were awarded the World Food Day medal in recognition of their contribution to agricultural development, alleviation of poverty and the overall development of the country.

The various events were covered by Moroccan TV in Arabic, Berber and French and on radio in Arabic and in French.

## **Qatar**

During the ceremony the Minister of Agriculture delivered a speech on agriculture and intercultural dialogue for food security. The media covered the World Food Day celebrations through programmes on this year's WFD theme: interviews, entertainment, discussion and information. The WFD poster and brochures on "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue" had been produced and distributed. The Ministry of Education and the University of Qatar realized an information event with the students on this year's WFD theme.

## **Saudi Arabia**

The UNCT (UN Country Team) in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia celebrated the WFD. The Ministry of Agriculture organized the celebration under Royal patronage. UN agencies and civil society organizations were invited to the ceremony: administrative sections in the Ministry of Agriculture, Heads of UN agencies, National Project Directors and International Experts of FAO projects, international agencies working with the Ministry of Agriculture, and civil society groups. During the ceremony the Minister of Agriculture delivered a speech and the FAO Programme Coordinator read the FAO Director-General's WFD message. In addition, a film, a poster exhibit and an exhibition of agricultural products from the FAO projects in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were realized during the WFD celebration.

## **Sudan**

The Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries chaired the National WFD Committee. The Minister of Agriculture and the FAO Representative addressed the Sudanese public through Sudan TV and Radio on agriculture in general, food security, the this year's WFD theme and FAO's developmental and humanitarian role in Sudan. The main WFD celebration was organized at Khartoum Botanical Garden and was covered by the Sudanese media, i.e. TV, radio, Al-gazirah News channel and the daily newspapers. Speeches by the Chairman of the National WFD Committee, the FAO Representative in Sudan and the Minister of Agriculture were delivered. During the celebration, children made sketches. On the evening of the same day The Sudan National Forestry Corporation organized a Ramadan breakfast in honour of the World Food Day. The Ahfad University for Women organized a musical programme by the Ahfad University Orchestra, a drama show, songs by the Ahfad University Coral and exhibitions. A series of cultural evenings, including various lectures and singers, were conducted by a number of Sudanese intellectuals. Aljazira News Channel conducted an interview with the FAO Representative

and a press conference was organized by the Minister of Agriculture and the FAO Representative on the World Food Day.

### **Syria**

Speeches on behalf of FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform (MAAR) were delivered during the main ceremony and in the provisional ceremonies highlighting the importance of "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". These events were organized by MAAR with FAO and local institutions. The venue of the central ceremony was the General Commission for Scientific Agricultural Research (GCSAR), Damascus. National TV and newspapers covered the event. A video tape entitled "FAO Country Programme" was broadcast, as well as an audio-visual document on WFD/TeleFood received from FAO headquarters.

### **Tunisia**

During the WFD 2005 celebration there was an exhibition at the International Book Fair. All high schools of the country took part in a drawing competition on the WFD 2005 theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". Journalists, NGOs, senior officials of the Ministry of Education and Formation, and UNICEF officers, attended the awards event of the WFD drawing competition. An advertising campaign was organized to focus on increasing public awareness during WFD and TeleFood 2005 celebration in the entire country using Radio and national TV. On 17 October, the message of the FAO Director-General was read. A workshop and debates were held at the Ministry of Agriculture with the participation of nutritionists. Also, the Association of Sciences and Food Technology (ASTAS) organized a workshop on the theme "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". The Press and Information Sciences Institute organized a special day on the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FAO with the participation of students, journalists and professors.

### **Turkey**

The WFD main event was held on the premises of the Turkish Grand National Assembly (Parliament), Ankara, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs with the participation of 200 people representing government authorities and various sectors of civil society. After the presentations and statements, the ceremony concluded with the awarding of WFD medals and certificates to successful farmers and food industrialists in 2005. A two-day WFD symposium, jointly organized by the Chambers of Food Engineers, Chemistry Engineers and Agricultural Engineers, was held at the Conference Hall of the National Library in Ankara. Some 445 people from various disciplines, including officials of several ministries, academic institutions, civil society, and the media participated in the

meeting. Also, the traditional World Food Day Cup Horse Race, a Visit to Yenimahalle Vocational Training and High School and conferences were held. Radio and TV stations produced entertainment programmes. Materials such as a WFD poster in Turkish, and the WFD issues leaflet were printed and distributed all over the country. A video cassette describing the WFD/TeleFood theme of 2005, TeleFood in general and TeleFood Projects in Turkey was prepared. DVD recorded copies of the cassette, together with other printed material both in Turkish and English were sent to 81 Provincial Directorates of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs in Turkey and province-level WFD ceremonies/activities were organized.

## **Yemen**

Due to the fact that the Holy month of Ramadan fell during October, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) decided to celebrate the WFD/TeleFood in November. Yemen observed World Food Day in a celebration held in the capital, Sana'a. The event was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in collaboration with FAO on this year's WFD theme. A large number of diplomats attended the event and a number of speeches were delivered on the occasion. The Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation called for a national food strategy in Yemen. Arabic and French broadcasting, and Spanish RTVE, provided media coverage.

## **World Food Day activities in Western Europe and North America**

In Europe, some of the World Food Day highlights included: a press-conference in Germany by the Federal Ministry of Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture; the annual seminar in Ireland by GORTA; the FAO Gala in Spain, with the participation of Real Madrid's soccer player, Raúl González, Goodwill Ambassador of FAO; a UK Food Group conference in London and a large number of activities such as conferences, exhibits and symposia organized in Italy by the Italian Committee on WFD which involved: ministries, universities, research agencies, international agencies, local government networks, civil society organizations and students. This year, in France, the creation of the French National Alliance Against Hunger was an important new element in the organization of the WFD 2005 celebration. In North America, the WFD Teleconference, was broadcast for the 21st consecutive year, and over 30 public-awareness events were held across the USA, while various awareness programmes for students in Canada were among the significant events. A WFD Exhibit at the United Nations Headquarters in New York was organized.

## **Austria**

A conference on “Power, Globalization, and Hunger” was organized on World Food Day as well as for the International Day of Poverty Reduction, co-organized by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, the Austrian Forum for Ecological and Social Matters and the Austrian Development Agency. The discussion focused on the social, political, economic, ecological and agricultural dimensions of sustainable agricultural production and consumption. Ms Maria Kadlecikova, SEUD, gave a presentation entitled “Intercultural Dialogue – Recognition of Needs and Rights, Enhancing World Food Security”. The event had 150 participants from various ministries, agencies and embassies. The FAO Sub-regional Representative had handed over a WFD medal to Ms Getroude Pichler, Former Chairperson of the ECA Working Party on Rural Women and Rural Families, as well as to Mr Herman Redl, Former Chairman of the ECA Executive Committee. The WFD event was intensively followed by the Austrian mass media.

## **Canada**

The Toronto Food Policy Council, in partnership with Toronto Public Health, the Food and Justice Coalition and the Food and Hunger Action Committee invited Grade 3-6 classes of the Toronto District School Board and Toronto Catholic District School Board, their parents and teachers to attend the event “Toronto World Food Day Class Outings” with 40 tour slots organized. Students and teachers were able to actively participate in 10 displays featuring agriculture and culture within the City of Toronto, from community and backyard gardens to tasting and experiencing the diversity of foods of the many cultures of the city. They also had the opportunity to meet local farmers. The Food Security Task Force of the Richmond Poverty Response Committee hosted an event for this year’s World Food Day theme in which soup was served to 300-400 people. A table of multicultural spices and condiments was prepared with Central American, North African, and South Asian spices.

## **France**

This year the creation of the French National Alliance Against Hunger “Alliés contre la faim” constituted an important new element for the preparations of WFD 2005 celebration in France. On 5 October, the “Alliés contre la faim” organized a general meeting with its partners to co-ordinate their actions. On 15 October, the alliance against hunger organized several manifestations in more than 25 cities, including food demonstrations, debates, and films which were the main activities. Some private sector companies, i.e. Danone and Sodexo, and some NGOs, such as the French Committee for International Solidarity (CFSI), the Committee against hunger and for development (CCFD) were involved in this

year's WFD 2005 activities on 25 October in Paris. From 16 to 25 October 2005, there was a significant media contribution: RFO, Studio M, Hebdo, the Journalist Jean-Marie Fardeau, from CCFD and TV5-monde. For a week, "France 4 TV" broadcasted the Jamaica TeleFood concert version of 1999. Also the French Parliamentary television "LCP" dedicated one week to FAO activities. RF, France Inter and France-info journalists produced several field interviews during the celebration of WFD 2005 in France. The French newspapers published some articles about FAO's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the State of Food Insecurity in the World.

## **Germany**

A press conference was organized by the Federal Ministry of Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture in which German Agro Action and the International Food Policy Research Institute participated. A media briefing was also held to promote the GALA Welthungerhilfe which was an entertainment and information programme organized on the occasion of the World Food Day. Also, a new internet-site was launched by the Federal Ministry of Consumer Protection on World Food Day activities which featured the German translation of FAO's issues leaflet on the theme.

## **Ireland**

The annual Gorta (Irish Freedom From Hunger) Seminar involved the following speakers: The Minister of State for Development Cooperation and Human Rights of the Department of Foreign Affairs, made the opening address; Mr Kostas Stamoulis, ESAE, FAO, made a presentation on "A Twin-Track Approach For Eradicating World Hunger" and delivered the Director-General's message; and Mr Kevin Smyth, Chief Economist, Department of Agriculture and Food intervened during the panel discussion. The WFD video on the theme was shown during the event.

## **Italy**

A large number of events, from September to December, were organized and supported by various ministries, universities, research agencies, institutes, associations and NGOs with the participation of all sectors of civil society, particularly students, as well as the various international agencies such as FAO, WFP, WHO, UNESCO, IAEA, IPGRI and the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), characterized this year's World Food Day in Italy. There were concerts, several art and photographic expositions, student and youth competitions, various exhibitions as "Our countryside's agri-culture: quality of landscapes, values and tastes", a scientific exhibition organized by the University of Rome "Roma Tre" in cooperation with the Association of Italian Geographers, a tour of Rome province with visits to archaeological sites, courses, seminars such as the "Scientific

Seminar” organized by the University of Rome “Roma Tre” and the International Geographic Union, and a video festival on agro-biodiversity by Crocevia International Centre. Many conferences were held on several topics, such as the conference “La tradizione Alimentare nelle Religioni Monoteistiche del Mediterraneo” in the context of the Mediterranean Year 2005 by the University of Rome “La Sapienza” with the intervention of Mr Kraisid Tontisirin, FAO’s Director of Nutrition; “Il ruolo dell’agrosilvicoltura per la sicurezza alimentare e la difesa dell’ambiente” by the University of Tuscia in Viterbo with the participation of FAO staff; “I diritti delle donne cittadine del territorio rurale” with an award ceremony for five women by the Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry Policies and ONILFA; “Diversità biologica e diversità culturale” by the Istituto Agronomico per l’Oltremare; the National Archeological Museum based in Florence organized an Exhibit entitled, “ Cibi e Sapori nel Mondo Antico”, “Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue” by Province of Venice with the intervention of Mrs Eve Crowley, SDAR, FAO; “Rural Development: Lessons in Economics from the Periphery to the Centre” by Università delle Scienze Gastronomiche dell’Università di Torino with the intervention of Mrs. Eve Crowley, SDAR, FAO; and “Dieta Mediterranea e tutela della salute” by the Universities of Firenze and Messina. The Università degli Studi di Bologna, with the participation of Ms Valeria Menza, ESN, FAO and the University of Roma “La Sapienza” and the Facoltà Agraria of the Università di Studi in Perugia organized seminars. The UNESCO National Italian Commission participated in the official celebrations through a Round Table at the University of Chieti, on 7 December 2005, in collaboration with the University “G. D’Annunzio” of Chieti-Pescara (Faculty of Economy) and the University of Teramo (Faculty of Agriculture). FAO staff participated in this round table. The Italian NGO Association developed the project “Education for development” for 20 schools in Italy. The Research Agency of Trieste and Friuli Venezia Giulia region with the collaboration of the Universities of Trieste and Udine and with the participation of FAO, WHO, IPGRI, TWAS, IAEA, UNESCO, and Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized a Symposium on “Ricerca agroalimentare e paesi in via di sviluppo”.

## **Spain**

The Spanish RTVE Channel 1 broadcast the traditional FAO Gala as a special edition of the popular programme ¡Mira Quien Baila! The Gala was live for seven hours, from 18.00 to 01.00 hrs on 16 October to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FAO and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World Food Day. The Gala was also carried by RTVE’s International channel in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. The soccer player of Real Madrid, Raúl González, Goodwill Ambassador of FAO since 2004, participated in this event. Also, UPM-Ciudad Universitaria, Madrid, hosted the event for the World Food Day with the theme “La sociedad y la alimentación” and “Dos siglos de agronomía al servicio de la sociedad” and the Auditorium Nestlé Espulgues de Llobregat in Barcelona hosted an

event on the theme, “La sociedad y la alimentación” and “Dos siglos de colaboración entre Universidades y Empresas”. Dr Jaime Lamo de Espinosa, President of the XX General Conference of FAO, participated in both events.

### **Switzerland**

The President of Switzerland pronounced a speech on World Food Day and mentioned the constitution of an alliance with NGOs/CSOs. Several meetings were organized with NGOs and CSOs after the WFD events with a view to discuss all issues related to the creation of the Alliance. InfoAgrar, with the support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture, organized a Symposium on the occasion of World Food Day. The aim of this international event was to identify interactions between diseases and food insecurity in developing countries and to discuss strategies and projects for poverty reduction that successfully combine health and agricultural aspects. Speakers included experts from WHO, FAO, IFPRI and other institutions based in the North and in the South. Translation from English into German and French was available.

### **United Kingdom**

The UK Food Group organized a Conference in London with the title: “If food could talk... Hidden stories from the food chain” together with the Guild of Food Writers, ActionAid, Sustain, London Food and the Food Ethics Council in the Chamber of the Greater London Authority, City Hall. The Mayor, Ken Livingstone, welcomed the participants. Also, the BBC run a programme for World Food Day.

### **United States of America**

The WFD Teleconference was broadcast from Washington DC, USA on 14 October 2005. This year’s theme was “Reflections on Fighting Hunger: Roads Not Taken; Goals Not Met; The Journey Ahead”. The Liaison Office United Nations in New York (LONY) organized an exhibit at the United Nations Headquarters from 10 to 21 October 2005. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) hosted, in Washington DC, a panel, on “Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue”, of experts who discussed the intersections of agriculture and culture -- key trends and lessons learned. The international event, “The Consequence of Hunger” sponsored by Action Against Hunger, was a performance that focused on increasing public awareness of hunger. Wooden cut-outs, representing people all over the world, were laid down every 4 seconds, to recognize that someone died of hunger-related deaths in this time frame. The annual World Food Day symposium sponsored by the Howard University Law School, Washington DC was held on 17 October 2005. Talk to America Programme realized a radio talk show for 50 minutes by Voice of

America (VOA) radio on the World Food Day (WFD) and FAO's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Also, a presentation on this year's World Food Day was held at the Foreign Press Center in New York where the Regional Information Officer (N. America) of FAO, delivered a presentation on the theme of "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue".

## **Conclusion**

A very large number of World Food Day events were realized in Member Countries through the efforts of the decentralized FAO Representations and National World Food Day Committees and focal points, with the strong collaboration and support of governments, institutes and research agencies, universities and schools, associations and other NGOs, as well as other sectors of civil society, including UN agencies present in various regions and countries.

In some countries, there had been remarkable efforts to organize the activities either in many localities or throughout the entire country to make possible the participation of many ethnic groups. In Chad, the WFD was celebrated in several localities and more than 2 500 people were registered for the event, in Ethiopia the celebration was organized with the Southern Nations Nationalities which consist of 56 nationalities and where 600 people attended the celebration, in Lesotho the World Food Day was observed in all ten administrative districts, while in China, the celebration was realized at Qujing City, where numerous ethnic minorities live, to highlight the importance of the intercultural dialogue and some 600 hundred people participated in this event. In India, WFD was organized also by AME foundation in seven localities with the participation of 2 100 people, while in Lebanon students from 3 000 schools were invited to a competition on this year's WFD theme, and in Tunisia secondary and high school students of the entire Republic took part in the drawing competitions. These examples serve to illustrate the extent of actual people's participation in World Food Day activities.

The media were instrumental in providing coverage of the activities and in spreading the World Food Day message, "Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue". This increased public awareness of the issue of world hunger as well as on the role of rural women in food security. Many programmes were produced: informative, entertaining, interviews, talk shows in different languages, often with the participation of ministries, experts, students and farmers. For example in countries like Mongolia, the FAO Director-General's WFD message was delivered on National TV, in Myanmar the press covered the World Food Day through many newspapers and magazines in the local (Myanmar) and English languages, in Armenia, the ceremony was broadcast on all TV channels, in the Republic of Congo, the National TV transmitted WFD events in Arabic, French and Spanish. In Spain, the FAO Gala was broadcasted for seven hours in all regions of the world: Africa, Asia,

Europe and Latin America. The WFD TeleConference was broadcast globally with the assistance of the US Information Service.

An important role was also played by the distribution of the WFD materials, i.e. poster, issues leaflet and information note, which were translated in local languages and distributed. In Thailand, the WFD information note, issues paper and message by the Director-General were produced in Thai language, in Iran the FAO leaflet on this year's theme was translated into Farsi and disseminated. This year's World Food Day theme saw the launching of indigenous food recipes particularly in Latin America and around the world: Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Chile where 57 indigenous recipes of different Chilean indigenous ethnic groups were produced, Haiti with 10 000 brochures prepared on 12 different recipes for sweet potatoes. In Equatorial Guinea ethnic groups prepared typical dishes, and in Canada, an event was organized in which soup was served to some 350 people and a table was prepared of multicultural spices and condiments from Central America, North Africa, and South Asia, and other places.

In countries such as Italy and Hungary, this year's World Food Day theme "Agricultural and Intercultural Dialogue", was widely disseminated through symposia, round tables, conferences, exhibits, fairs, seminars, courses, and workshops organized by ministries, universities and schools, where students and farmers could have debates, discussions and colloquia. Experts could exchange their experiences also through field visits and visits to the project sites. In Cuba, a discussion on "Food culture and national identity" was organized with the participation of 30 specialists and in an exhibit 80 producers exchanged their experiences. In Ethiopia, some 600 hundred people visited the farm Awassa Green Wood, in Sri Lanka the Swarna Hansa Foundation on the occasion of World Food Day 2005 wanted to have a formal dialogue with the peasants who were presently working in the reconstruction of a long-time abandoned water tank (wewa) at Katagarama.

On the occasion of WFD, awarding ceremonies were organized all over the world to hand over medals and certificates to producers and farmers, students and experts. The role of rural women had also been recognized in some countries.

Mori Kanté, FAO Goodwill Ambassador, participated in a concert in favour of TeleFood during the World Food Day celebration in Guinea. In Lebanon the official WFD ceremony included the screening of a documentary "Awwal El Gheith" filmed with the participation of Magida El Roumi, FAO Goodwill Ambassador. In Spain, Raúl González, FAO Goodwill Ambassador, participated in the FAO Gala. Indeed the role played by the FAO Goodwill Ambassadors during WFD at global and national levels, has been growing.

The promotion of the National Alliance Against Hunger was one of the focuses of this year's World Food Day: in Angola the NAAH was actively prepared to be launched and discussed during the World Food Day; in France, the creation of the National Alliance Against Hunger was an important element for the coordination of World Food Day activities; in Burkina Faso the technical coordination of the National Committee for WFD was in the hands of the National Alliance Against Hunger and it was one of the organizers of the activities. The Sierra Leone Alliance Against Hunger was officially launched in Freetown where it organized a march of farmers, and in Cameroon the responsible persons of the NAAH were present at the WFD celebration. In the Republic of Congo, an Alliance Against Hunger Club was created, while in Gambia the Alliance Against Hunger participated in the WFD celebrations. In Nicaragua, some 300 people attended the main ceremony which was organized together with the launching of the Alliance Against Hunger.

On this occasion informative materials and brochures were produced with a reference to NAAH, in Honduras, the World Food Day was organized by FAO and the Members of the National Alliance Against Hunger and all of the institutions which have collaboration with FAO and the NAAH. The President of Switzerland gave a speech on World Food Day mentioning the constitution of an Alliance with NGOs/CSOs and a meeting had been organized to create a National Alliance Against Hunger. In addition, in Guinea flags were produced on this year's WFD theme and with the slogan, "JMA/TeleFood Guinée 2005 "Agriculture et Dialogue des Cultures", Bâtissons une Alliance Internationale contre la Faim!", in Cambodia a remarkable number of people participated in the TeleFood marching campaign under the slogan "March for Alliance Against Hunger".

With the active participation of many countries around the world, World Food Day continues to serve as FAO's major tool in promoting public awareness and advocacy on the problems of world hunger, malnutrition and poverty, with a view to reaching "food for all and universal food security". Lastly, it may also be noted that the World Food Day web site, in the month of October 2005 alone, had received 1.1 million hits with a daily average of 32 600 hits.