

MEDIA RELEASE

Gazprom's Football for Friendship International Children's Project Debuts in Timor Leste

Young footballer from Timor Leste to play in Moscow global football event which will unite kids from 211 countries and regions.



Timor Leste, April 2, 2018: Gazprom, official partner of FIFA and the 2018 FIFA World Cup™, announced the opening of the Sixth Season of the Football for Friendship (F4F) International Children's Social Project. The project has been launched in Timor Leste for the first time. The goal of the programme is to involve the young generation throughout the world in promoting the most important human values among their peers - friendship, equality, peace and respect for different cultures and nationalities.

The Football for Friendship (F4F) Open Draw was held in Moscow. The program has expanded from 64 countries in 2017 to 211 countries and regions in 2018. 32 International Teams of Friendship were formed during the Open Draw, as well as playing roles for each Young Player from each country (goalkeeper, defender, midfielder or forward) were determined. These 32 teams will compete at the Football for Friendship World Championship 12 June 2018.

As per the Open Draw, the young ambassador from Timor Leste will play as a "defender" in the International Team of Friendship. The final events of the season will be held in Moscow, Russia from 8-15 June 2018.

The teams are organized using the "football for friendship" principle - athletes of different nationalities, different genders and different physical abilities will play in one team. Age of players is 12. Each International mixed Team of Friendship will be trained by Young Coaches - football players of 14-16 year olds from different countries. More than 5000 media from around the world will cover the programme events, as well as the F4F International Children's Press Center, consisting of young 12-year-old journalists from 211 countries and regions. National selections of participants who will become Young Ambassadors of peace, friendship and equality in their countries have started all over the world.

The day after the Football for Friendship World Championship, Young Ambassadors will meet at the most important event — The Sixth International Football for Friendship Children's Forum, where they will discuss ways of promoting the programme's key values across the globe.

During the International Friendship Camp, Young Players under the guidance of Young Coaches and under the supervision of famous players will be learning of F4F key values in the Nine Values School. The UN considers this initiative as a unique educational programme.

As an ecological initiative of Football for Friendship all the 32 International Teams of Friendship named after endangered animals of all the continents of the world.

"The 6th season of the International children's social programme Football for Friendship is officially open. This year, F4F is supported by 211 countries and regions! For the very first time, young athletes from all parts of the world where football is played will meet on the same field. We live in an age where people all over the world seek to unite behind the principles of equality and respect for each other. The project is a crucial element in this process.

Football for Friendship gives that opportunity to everyone," notes Viktor Zubkov, Chairman of the Board of Directors of PJSC Gazprom.

"We were glad to support this unique initiative from our FIFA partner Gazprom," said Fatma Samoura, FIFA Secretary General. "The forum is a perfect example of how football can be used to open doors for girls and boys from all backgrounds, a mission that FIFA supports actively."

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ENTERTAINMENT

Dwayne Johnson: The Rock speaks about row with Vin Diesel



If you were to list the people you wouldn't want to get in an argument with, Vin Diesel and The Rock would probably be fairly near the top. The pair have apparently clashed with each other, though - with The Rock (aka Dwayne Johnson) confirming they didn't shoot any scenes together for *The Fate of the Furious*. One scene in the 2017 film starred both actors - but this was in fact due to clever editing. The Rock, speaking to *Rolling Stone*, said he wasn't sure if they'd work together for the ninth

instalment of the apparently never-ending *Fast and Furious* franchise. **No ill will?** He told *Rolling Stone* the pair had a confrontation on set last time. "Vin and I had a few discussions, including an important face-to-face in my trailer," he said. "And what I came to realise is that we have a fundamental difference in philosophies on how we approach movie making and collaborating. It took me some time, but I'm grateful for that clarity. Whether we work together again or not." The last week of filming saw Johnson, 45, post a message on Instagram denouncing a co-star (who he didn't name at the time) for failing to "conduct themselves as stand-up men and true professionals". It later became apparent he'd been referring to 50-year-old Diesel. Asked by *Rolling Stone* if he might return for the next film, Johnson replied: "I'm not quite sure... "But I wish him all the best, and I harbour no ill-will there, just because of the clarity we have." But he added: "Actually, you can erase that last part about 'no ill will'. We'll just keep it with the clarity." **'Learning' about politics** The success of *The Fate of the Furious* meant the pair were named 2017's highest-grossing actors. Johnson also addressed speculation that he could run for political office - saying while he had been having "under-the-radar" meetings with politicians, he had no plans to stand for president. Yet the father-of-two said he was "just soaking in and listening" about politics. He said he was "trying to learn as much as I possibly can", adding: "I entertain the thought, and thank you, I'm so flattered by it. "But I feel like the best thing I can do now is, give me years. Let me go to work and learn." *BBC*

MEDIA RELEASE

Prioritize Universal Health Coverage; provide quality health services to all: WHO

New Delhi, 4 April 2018: The World Health Organization calls upon countries in its South-East Asia Region to step-up efforts towards universal health coverage, to provide quality health services to all people when and where they need them, without having to suffer financial hardship.



World Health Organization

Timor-Leste



"Universal health coverage is central to improving health and well-being – a fundamental human right. It is also imperative for a country's well-being as healthier populations create more productive economies," said Dr Poonam Khetrpal Singh, Regional Director of WHO South-East Asia, on the occasion of the World Health Day celebrated on 7 April every year. The theme of this year's World Health Day is Universal Health Coverage: everyone, everywhere.

Universal health coverage (UHC) is a flagship programme of WHO in the Region since 2014. In recent years, all Member States have taken several initiatives which have helped improve access to essential health services. However, challenges remain.

Nearly half of the WHO South-East Asia Region's population still lacks full coverage of essential health services. Significant inequalities persist.

Poorer people, and those in rural areas, have lower access than richer people, and those living in urban areas.

Some 65 million are pushed into extreme poverty, mainly due to paying out-of-pocket for medicines, especially for non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, diabetes etc, and other common ailments.

Dr Khetrpal Singh said more efforts are needed to increase human resources for health, enhance skills of health workers and aid staff retention in rural and hard-to-reach areas, to ensure quality health services are available for everyone, everywhere.

Health services must be planned around the needs of the people, she said, highlighting that by 2020 more of the Region's population will be over 60 than under-five. Hence, ageing population, reversing the growing burden of non-communicable diseases, and early detection and timely treatment of infectious diseases, should be the focus of frontline services.

Increasing access to quality and affordable essential medicines is also fundamental. Paying out-of-pocket for medicines is the leading cause of financial hardship from health care spending in this region, the Regional Director said.

UHC includes the full spectrum of essential, quality health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliative care. Ensuring universal health coverage will help strengthen health security by making it easier to contain the spread of infectious diseases and respond effectively to natural disasters that the WHO South-East Asia Region is prone to.

Countries in the Region have committed to monitor who is not being covered by health services and why, and review annually progress on UHC and SDG3 health goal until 2030.

UHC is feasible and can be achieved progressively, sometimes with rapid, ground-breaking strides; sometimes via gradual though crucial reform, the Regional Director said.

On the World Health Day, we must reflect on and resolve to work towards achieving UHC, to change the lives of millions of people across the Region and beyond. We must continue to strive for health coverage that is for all people everywhere and which leaves no one behind, Dr Khetrpal Singh said.

Information Provided by: Elisabeth Goncalves

ENTERTAINMENT

TJ Miller: US actor charged over fake bomb threat on train



US actor and comedian TJ Miller has been charged for intentionally reporting a fake bomb threat while travelling on a train, officials say. Mr Miller, who allegedly called police from the train to report a female passenger with "a bomb in her bag", was arrested in New York on Monday. The incident, which happened on 18 March, led to the Amtrak vehicle being searched without a device being found. Mr Miller faces up to five years in prison if found guilty of the charge. The actor, who is best

known for his role as Erlich Bachman in the US comedy series *Silicon Valley*, has featured in a number of Hollywood films such as *Deadpool* and *Cloverfield*. According to a statement released on Tuesday by the US Attorney for the District of Connecticut, the 36-year-old allegedly initially told officers that a woman with "brown hair and a scarf" was carrying a device on a train travelling from Washington DC to New York City. When an investigator called him back, he said the woman had "red hair and a red scarf" and was clutching a black suitcase. He said, according to the statement, that the passenger "kept checking her bag without taking anything out" and seemed to want to alight the train without it. "I am worried for everyone on that train, someone has to check that lady out," he is quoted as saying. The officer on the phone reportedly detected slurring in Mr Miller's voice and asked him if he had consumed any alcohol, to which he replied: "One glass of red wine." The Amtrak train was later inspected further on at a stop in Connecticut and was found not to contain any explosive devices or materials. During the stop, Amtrak officers interviewed a member of staff from the first class area where Mr Miller had earlier been sitting. The member of staff said that Mr Miller appeared intoxicated upon boarding in Washington, that he had consumed multiple drinks on the train, and that he had been removed in New York owing to his state of intoxication. Amtrak officers were also told that Mr Miller had been involved in "hostile exchanges" with a woman in a different row in the same carriage. Mr Miller, who has been released on bail, has not yet commented on the charges. Officials said that the charges reported on Tuesday were allegations and not evidence of guilt. However the case is being treated as serious and is being investigated by the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Connecticut State Police, Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police Department, Amtrak Police Department, and Westport Police Department. *BBC*