



SPECIAL ADVISER
TO THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON SPORT FOR
DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

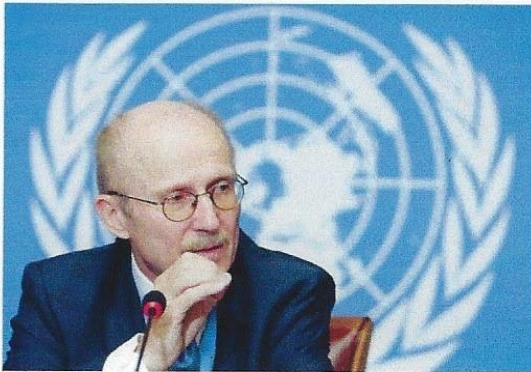


Message by Mr. Wilfried Lemke

Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General
on Sport for Development and Peace

Under-Secretary-General

Ethiopian Kids' Tennis Programme 2009



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The United Nations considers sport as a powerful tool to promote education, health, development and peace. Sport unites people of all social classes, cultures and religions in a fun and educational way.

As the Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, it is with great pleasure that I offer my patronage to the Ethiopian Kids' Tennis Programme in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Arising from the efforts of Tariku and Desta Tesfaye, this programme represents an exemplary model of development aid leading to sustained assistance for impoverished youth. Established in 2002, the programme not only instructs children in tennis techniques, but also emphasises the importance of a balanced education through supplementary foreign language and social courses. Working with limited resources, the programme has successfully trained dozens of children, several of whom have been invited to international tennis tournaments. Through hard work and unrelenting determination, the programme has thrived for seven years and it is my hope that the programme will be able to build upon these monumental achievements with the assistance of other bodies or actors seeking to promote positive change in less fortunate communities.

I wish you continued success and all the best on the courts in 2009!

Wilfried Lemke